

**Heron Park Community Association (HPCA)
Community Zoom Meeting
June 7, 2022 7:00 pm**

Present: Susan Carbone, Rosella Mac Neil, Peter Heyck, Julia Driedger, Keltie Robertson, Clément Berthiaume, Robert Lacroix

Guests: Shawn Menard (Councillor), Mélanie Boyer (Councillor's staff), Tania Mushka

Absent with regrets: Mike Little, Linda Gama-Pinto

Absent: James McLaren, Nick Wilson

1. Welcome (Susan)

Susan opened the meeting at 7:02.

Rosella moved to approve the agenda, Peter seconded.

2. Councillor's update (Shawn)

- Lansdowne 2 will go before city council tomorrow. He's been working to slow the progress of this so the next council can decide on it. It's kept him busy for a while.
- A social event for Capital ward is planned for June 11. Meet at Sylvia Holden Park (off Fifth Ave.), cycle to Windsor Park (just a little north of the river) for a barbeque at 11:30 - or just come for the barbeque.
- There is a new bench at 1455 Clémentine (Clémentine Towers). He met with Cathy Hamilton in that building; she has started an emergency food cupboard for residents who can't access food banks. He and his staff held a garage sale; the funds raised went to the Clémentine Towers food pantry.
- Richard & Clémentine stop sign – He requested staff to move the 4-way stop signs at Aldéa to Richard. This would align the stop with the transit stop at Richard, making it safer to cross Clémentine to catch the bus. It would also be a traffic calming measure for those crossing at Richard, slowing vehicles going around the corner to Aldéa.
- Work on the Kaladar splash pad is under way! He was able to accelerate the work needed for Hydro Ottawa to repair the storm damage in that area.
- Heron cycle track: The green bike lane markings have disintegrated across major intersections along Heron Road (installed last year). This is still under warranty and repairs should be underway at the moment.
- The grass along Heron Road was planted last Fall (green spray seed) but is now just mud. A request for it to be reseeded has been sent to staff, along with a request that pollinators be considered instead.
- He got City staff to change the timing for the signals (traffic lights) at intersections with Heron, where traffic on the side streets used to wait a very long time. It is now shorter.
- New trees are being planted in Heron Park: 2 on Secord, 1 on Chasseur, 1 on Traverse. If you'd like a tree on your property, you can apply to the Trees in Trust program on the city's website.
- The contra flow cycle lane on Clover is in the hopper.
- Julia asked if there is a maximum portion of a city lot that can be paved. SM: Yes. Older properties with existing paving are grandfathered but other than these, there is

a minimum amount that must be softscaped. Contact David Wise to ask about the specifics at david.wise@ottawa.ca.

She also asked who is responsible for the trees in the ravine. She is concerned about some that are growing at a very steep angle. SM: contact 311 to ask if they are on city property, cc Mel.

- Peter asked about trees that were removed from city property: can we request replacements? SM: Yes. The work gets done once a year by Forestry, requests can be made at any time.
- Susan said that all we really wanted was a sign saying bicycles are exempt from the one way traffic direction. A sign saying "Bicycles excepted" would be great.
- She also acknowledged that June is when most communities in Canada celebrate Pride month (Ottawa does is Aug. 21-28).
- Rosella asked what is happening on the 1097 Richard Ave lot. A resident asked us, the last update was in April when we expected something would be done soon. Mel will look into this.
- Julia asked if the Wednesday night drop-in BBQ will restart this summer. Rosella will ask Randy. [Reply received: yes, beginning July 6.]

3. Approval of Agenda & minutes from April/May meetings (Susan)

When we asked for approval of the minutes, Julia said that no one other than HPCA board members has seen the minutes yet, so can't comment on them. We'll circulate both the May and the June minutes, then ask for approval at the September meeting. All approved minutes should be posted on the HP FaceBook page; we'll ensure all minutes from this year are posted there.

4. Community Benefits Agreement for Confederation Heights (Susan)

The Confederation Heights master plan affects a very large tract of publicly owned land adjacent to Heron Park, Riverside Park and others. There are two public meetings being held this week, tonight and Thursday afternoon. Next week the HPCA, Capital ward Councillor Shawn Menard and Ottawa Community Benefits Network (OCBN) will co-host a town hall on a Community Benefits Agreement for Confederation Heights. The intent is that a broad coalition can push Canada Lands Company and Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) to a Community Benefits Agreement to ensure meaningful community collaboration and accountability. Linda is an active part of this, will represent HPCA at next week's meeting. To be continued...

5. Better South Keys community walk through (Mike)

Deferred to next meeting

6. Other business

• Clémentine Towers food pantry

Tania Mushka told us she is not a resident of Heron Park but is attending on behalf of Cathy Hamilton of Clémentine Towers. She described the food pantry Cathy set up in the building to assist the residents, many of whom live on a very small pension and cannot get to the Heron Road food bank. Cathy asked the food bank to allow her to bring food from their location to the seniors' building but they can't, as this could lead to many other requests for other locations. When Cathy realized how the combined difficulties of Covid restrictions, rising food prices and people's disabilities meant that

people in the building had little or nothing to eat, she set up a food pantry in two small rooms off the lobby. We asked her to send us a short note for us to send to all Heron Parkers, inviting them to support the operation.

Julia recommended Tania try both the Heron Park Buy Nothing and Being Neighbourly Alta Vista to spread the word, as well as the HP community.

- **Mural in Timmermans Park**

Robert asked about adding a mural to the large blank canvas that is the back of the strip mall that backs on Bruce Timmermans Park. Rosella said this was proposed years ago when the mall was new, as we were afraid of graffiti and tagging. We talked about getting a grant to pay for it, getting approval for it, getting arts students to do the painting, but the project never got under way. Is anyone interested in taking this on? Rosella will ask Al Ghossein, the owner of West on Bank plaza, if we can paint the back of his building. Robert is willing to help, but not lead the projects.

Rosella moved to end the meeting. Julia seconded it, mtg ended at 8:00