

**Convent Glen Orleans Wood Community Association  
Minutes for December 12, 2016**

**1. Introduction of Board and guests**

**2. Approve agenda - Approved by consensus.**

**3. Approve minutes – Moved by Lisa, seconded by Miranda. Approved**  
**Amend to say “Others may be willing to help out.” In 6.5 add “remove old board members.”**

**4. President's Update**

4.1 Motion to **appoint Nick Gadbois to the CGOWCA board** until the next AGM. Moved by Lisa, seconded by Christine . **Approved**

**4.1 Federation of Citizen Assembly meeting update**

- OMB discussion
- **Motion to approve paying 2016-2017 \$30 membership fee.** Moved by Karen, seconded by Lisa . **Approved**
- Comments on safety survey that was posted to our Facebook page: Many members felt it was a poorly constructed survey with questions that were too vague and generalized.
- Police Service response to Miranda’s communication: the changes to community policing are not a done deal yet, but that the end numbers may not be as low as originally proposed.

4.3 **Rink team planning update.** David Jean-Laniel is out working on the rink as we speak. Bad news: There was a full roster of volunteers returning from last year, but they have all since dropped out. So now only David remains. A request for volunteers was posted on Facebook, but we will need to send it out to the mailing list too. Students can be helpers but an adult must still be with them.

4.4 **Update from Habitat for Humanity:** They have not done any of the work they said they were going to do and have posted no other info.

**5. Website redevelopment**

5.1 The website is now quite badly out of date.

5.2 Nick and Miranda met with Mario Deller (Tech teacher at St Matt’s) to discuss how we can involve his students in the redevelopment of the site. Keith Merlot came along too. Nick has created an account for himself and Mario and Miranda to access the website. The students have turned out to be more advanced than he thought so this will be very helpful to us. The students will help create new content and clean up the existing site. Nick is also thinking that

down the road the website may include youth content input. We expect step one (clean up of existing site) to be completed by the end of January. We may possibly reach out to other high schools for youth input, including Marc Garneau for some Francophone input. Mario's first language is French and can check over the French content. Mario also suggested we could use the school's photo resources to create professional looking, similar pictures and similar bios. The website will eventually have static content (such as minutes and board bios) and current events content (such as Wild Parsnip info in summer) as well as community resources info. Nick also mentioned several other features that can be a part of the website. Nick's goal is to create an events email address that is generic to our association that he will use to receive input. Miranda suggested that next month, Nick come with a site map of where he is thinking the site will be going.

## **6. Winter Carnival**

6.1 Lisa has done some research on the supplies available for running a Winter Carnival. Lisa doesn't think we need too many volunteers to prepare for it, mostly just to work on that day. Suggesting Jan 21 or 28 or Family Day. The equipment is still available for those dates. Nick and Karen suggested Jan 28. Lisa will check on equipment availability for that day. Lisa found out the city offers grants for these events. We missed the deadline for this year, but the city will send her info to apply for next year.

6.2 We need to decide if we will do this and pick our date: Aiming for Jan 28, 10am to 2pm. There will be no alternate date if the weather is bad. It will just be cancelled if that happens.

## **7. Green's Creek Point : Louis Caron / Jean Lepage / Ian Gadbois**

7.1 Update on NCC response to preliminary idea. The latest info is that the city is on board with this and they have already repaired the bench that was needed.

## **8. New Business**

8.1 Louis Caron spoke to the new owner of the Orleans Star. He is always looking for stories and wants to increase the content. Circulation is 43 000 and is distributed to those who are currently receiving the Ottawa Citizen. Miranda suggested a story that tells how much work it is to maintain and run a community rink.

8.2 **Communications Strategy:** Louis Caron has suggested that we have a strategy document that outlines where we are going with communication, including email, Facebook, newsletters. Nick had already thought of doing something like this. Miranda would like to see this happen by February but focus right now on cleaning up our website.

8.3. **Federal Official Language consultation** – Jean Lepage and Louis Caron attended this meeting. Jean is pleased that Nick has already thought to reach out to francophones. The meeting was well attended. Our MP did fairly well expressing himself in French and seems to

be very interested in seeing French needs addressed. The majority of the people at that meeting would like to see Ottawa become an officially bilingual city. The feeling was that there is a lot of positive feelings about this issue and it may be a good time to move forward and capitalize on the goodwill.

**8.4 Cross Country Ski Trails:** On our current trails people make their trails for cross country skiing but they are being ruined by people walking on them, and people not picking up behind their dog. In western Ottawa, they solved the problem by using track setter machines to create two trails, one for cross country skis and another for walkers and snow shoe enthusiasts. We should pay attention to what happens at the SJAM winter trail and possibly try to replicate it here next year.

**8.5 Reporting of suspicious activities:** Louis Caron suggested we put info on the website and Facebook about how to respond to people going door to door insisting on seeing your furnace or water meter etc. Lindsay has already posted some info on the Facebook page about reporting this kind of info. We will prioritize an article about how to report things and when to report things to police and to the city. The Community Policing Association has recently posted info about how to report things online for incidents that are not an emergency.

## **9. Next Meetings**

- January 9, February 13 (Family Day), March 13, April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, September 11
- AGM Monday September 25