

Convent Glen Orleans Wood Community Association Meeting Minutes, March 7, 2016

1. Introduction of Board

Present: Miranda Gray, Karen Chow, Lindsay Bradshaw

Absent: Ebenezer Ntjenjem, Karen Dufton, Lisa Whittleton, Mark Johnston

2. Approval of agenda : approved by consensus

3. Approval of minutes of last meeting: Unable to approve due to lack of quorum
Note at item #6, Bob Monette's name is spelled incorrectly (to be corrected).

4. Orientation to meeting

Stick to the agenda. Respect time limits. No speeches. Speak and listen with respect.
Build on ideas (use "and" not "but").

5. President's Update - Miranda

5.1 Federation of Citizen Assembly meeting update, motion to reimburse \$25 fee was deferred until a meeting that achieves quorum. Miranda has been to two meetings so far. Discussed coach houses (granny suites) and affordable housing.

5.2 Tree Planting - Beauclaire Park is approved for a community plant - proposed dates are May 28 or June 4. Feedback from the room: May 28 is the Ottawa Race weekend and June 4 is the Big Give weekend. Miranda will go back to them with this information and see if an alternate date is available.

.5.3 Items requiring champions to proceed

Ottawa2017 -- Funding is available but need to apply in advance. Looking for volunteers.

Spring garage sale -- Looking for people to distribute fliers,

Movie in the park night -- Possibly in Hiawatha Park, need about 8 volunteers.

6. Communications team report

Actions over the past 2 months Lindsay is the only one on committee present. She reported that Lisa has created a survey for Facebook to determine interest in a garden tour. Louis Caron did not receive the email about tonight's meeting.

7. Neighbourhood Watch

Canvassed from May until snow started. Need 50% participation to get Neighbourhood Watch. Pete Weston is police rep. So far, for Voyageur, without the inner streets, they have 66%. Watches on St. Terese and Fortune Dr are going well. Doug Carney mentioned that the signs face the park rather than the street and wondered why. Someone else mentioned that they were told that the city wants people in the park to know the street has a Neighbourhood Watch.

8. Dog parks in the community

Background : because of the way the last dog park discussion went down in Voyageur Park, the city's bylaw department is reviewing their whole policy about how off leash parks are designated. This report is not due out until the first quarter of 2017. Discussions can occur now, but it is likely that no change would be approved by the city until the review is finished.

Ideas from community members

- 8.1 Resident from St. Moritz, long time dog owner, agrees the park has problems and dog owners want to help make it better. Would like to see signage at every entrance to the park and post etiquette rules. Also asked for clarification on poop rules, which is that dog owners are to take it home and flush it. She suggested we put signs up with that information.
- 8.2 Resident suggested signage include dog paws on paths to indicate where off leash area.
- 8.3 Resident asked why this issue came up. Answer: it started with a Facebook post and went from there. Some of the complaints include dogs out of control, dogs off leash in non off leash areas.
- 8.4 Resident has yet to see lots of people with off leash dogs in on leash areas.
- 8.5 Resident from Bernice Court asked why people are walking through the off leash area and it was explained that it is a main walking area to the schools and between streets.
- 8.6 Resident from St. Jerome, bought because of the proximity of the off leash park, finds this park is the most respectful one she has been to in the city.
- 8.7 Resident from St. Germaine, has brought pictures of people who continually bring their dogs in the playground area. Also reported that some signs have been removed by vandals.
- 8.8 Resident from St. Emanuel bought because of the proximity of the off leash park, feels people are already pretty good at calling back their dogs when children are around. Has found some children are out of control too, not supervised by parents properly, and has seen dog owner run to get their dogs when a four year old ran out into the middle of three large dogs.
- 8.9 A long time resident has seen problems and finds that because it is a multi use park it doesn't work, it's not safe. Needs to be solutions, sees only solution as separating the groups
- 8.10 Resident feels that dogs need to be managed better, not separated. People just need to be very respectful of those who come through the park
- 8.11 Resident whose backyard backs onto park, loves it there. Educated her children about how to relate to the dogs in the park. Sees children walking to school often and has never seen a problem with the kids and the dogs.
- 8.12 Resident from Timothy, reported that her dog was attacked in the park by children and is now terrified to be off leash.
- 8.13 Resident asked how many complaints to bylaw have been made. [Miranda reported that she is aware of 3 complaints in the last 6 months but added Bylaw does not report the number publically as far as she knows.] She puts her own dog on leash when a school group went through and feels most owners would do the same.
- 8.14 Resident from Voyageur suggests three large signs that would designate where the boundaries of the dog area is.
- 8.15 Resident on Voyageur suggested fencing in the walkway rather than fencing off the dog area.

- 8.16 Resident from Glen Knowles, suggested that children be taught that all dogs will bite, and also that kids don't put their hands in their pocket, don't wave things around in front of dogs, also suggested that city put bylaw officer there for a few weeks to enforce the existing rules
- 8.17 Resident from St. Germaine, feels the solution is to move the off leash park away from the paths. Also reminds us that respect is needed both ways.
- 8.18 Resident from St. Emmanuel often sees poop on her property but just cleans it up. Also sees lots of kids playing in the park and seem to be fine with the dogs that share the park.
- 8.19 Resident from St. Emmanuel uses the park with 8 kids regularly, often pick up glass and drug paraphernalia as well as dog poop. As a dog owner and a parent, she takes good care of the park.
- 8.20 Resident from St. Jovite wants to know exactly where the boundaries of the off leash area are.
- 8.21 Resident wants to know the procedure if he's been verbally abused. Miranda suggested that verbal abuse is a police issue, dog issues is bylaw matter.
- 8.22 Resident suggested a doggie awareness day in the spring
- 8.23 It was noted that signage that does exist is being vandalized, need more signs Because nothing is going to happen until the ground thaws, we will have to politely police ourselves for now.

Next steps: Miranda to discuss feedback from this meeting with Bob Monette. There will be more discussion on next steps at the next board meeting.

9. New Business

9.1 Cleaning the Capital: Any time in April to Mid May. Miranda will take volunteer names after the meeting.

9.2 Traffic lights from Paddler onto Jeanne D'Arc are really slow to turn green from Paddler, if those were fixed it would help slow things down on Jeanne D'Arc

Next Meetings

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Monday April 4th

Monday, May 2 (to be confirmed)

Coming Events:

Traffic study for Jeanne d'Arc / Fortune Drive to happen this spring