

Minutes of Annual General Meeting of the Kanata Beaverbrook Community Association, 16 April 2018

KBCC 1st Floor Main Room at 7:30PM

Present: Neil Thomson, Kevin McCarthy, David Brown, Steve Hines, Karen Bennett, Tom Lawson, Robert McAulay.

A quorum of community members was present at the AGM.

This meeting was called and chaired by KBCA President, Neil Thomson, as the Annual General Meeting of the Kanata Beaverbrook Community Association. Presentation slides (In Google Drive) including the agenda, were distributed to the Directors prior to the meeting. The meeting followed the agenda and the accompanying PowerPoint slides were presented by various Directors.

Although Hydro One had planned to attend the meeting, they could not attend due to the inclement weather.

President's Report: The President's report began with a review of the projects completed by the KBCA in 2017/early 2018; the Beaverbrook signs were replaced, and the Hydro One Vegetation Management program is nearing completion (~~the private land portion — the City of Ottawa land has yet to be initiated~~ Agreement between Hydro One and the City of Ottawa on City land in the Beaverbrook Hydro One corridor is still being negotiated). The cordial nature of the discussions with the community made this project much more transparent, with Hydro One's representatives.

The 2018 priorities include the door-to-door campaign, the City of Ottawa portion of the Hydro One vegetation management project, community centre improvements, community outreach (eg. churches, schools), and community driven projects (Community Gardens, Dog Parks, coordinated Garage Sales).

The recruitment of volunteers will also be a priority in 2018; there was a brief discussion of the volunteers needed and their respective skills.

Community Centre Status: We have seen an increase (as compared to 2015-2016) in revenue from the KBCC; there are more one-time events, whereas more long-term rentals are needed. There has been high turnover for daily/weekly/monthly clients. Increased use is expected with the lockable storage project, painting, and flat pack chairs (easier storage/availability).

Accessibility and storage will be priorities for the community centre in 2018. We will also address the painting needed on the 2nd floor.

The city will do a heritage study on Beaverbrook in 2019 – they are looking for community participation - up to 25 people are needed.

- Bill ~~Heron~~-Teron tribute is scheduled for April 30
- Clean up Day in Early May

- Kanata/Carleton provincial candidates meeting on May 24

Communications: After a brief introduction, Karen presented her communications pilot project, and its initiatives introduced in early 2018. As a result of her gap analysis, Karen found that there was a disconnect between the community and its residents. Her project found a way to survey the community, and find out what the community wants and needs. It also serves as an introduction of the KBCA to its residents. This also drove data collection, and a demographic study of Beaverbrook's residents.

We would like to get a street captain infrastructure in place, in order to better study Beaverbrook and discover its residents' skills and abilities (democracy of community). The data collection can be done at the captain's own pace, and can help turn insights into action. This data collection can help us build a volunteer network and improve community involvement.

Marianne also mentioned that KBCA should have a table at her annual picnic this summer; this would serve as an opportunity to drive more surveys.

45 surveys have been completed, and the research database has been growing. This database will also include community concerns, trade skills, and other unknown skills in the community. This will increase overall awareness for the KBCA.

Facebook has been a great community-level tool for the KBCA. We have been centralizing our communications to Facebook, and have seen an increase in activity on our page (The Facebook statistics were reviewed).

Bylaws: Kevin McCarthy presented the By-Laws. Amendments (Additions):

- Give the board expanded tools to meet unexpected expenditures (up to \$6000)
- Budget to be reviewed ~~by the board of directors annually~~ and approved annually by the general membership at the AGM.

Motion: To approve the updated KBCA Bylaws as written. Moved by Steve Hines and seconded by Lise Bishop. All agreed.

Tree Inventory: Rob presented the Neighbourwoods in Beaverbrook project, and discussed the pressure that the emerald ash borer has put on our forest resources. The priority of this project is to collect information of the types of trees, size of trees, and health of the trees in our community. The main challenge is the fact that most of these trees are on private property. As such, this project will need to be driven by volunteers.

The project was started in 2017 (pilot project) with an inventory of about 50 trees initially. For 2018, we will have a hands-on training session (June 9-10) and hope to have several teams working across Beaverbrook this summer. For this project, we will collaborate with the city of Ottawa and other groups.

Champlain Park and Beaverbrook have driven a new city-wide initiative to develop a Neighbourwoods Stewardship Plan. This will align with the City's Urban Forest Management Plan (20-year plan approved last year).

This is a community-based urban forest inventory, which aims to understand the extent and condition of the trees in our community. It is a scientific method (consistent, comprehensive), but has been developed for use by lay people. This is community-building project, which can also be educational for both the volunteers and homeowners.

The data gathered can be used to provide information/advice to the homeowner, or develop a dataset at both the individual tree and aggregate level. This project can also be used to optimize the value of trees (also share our data with the city).

Marianne also mentioned the arboretum near the south end of the Beaverbrook pond.

Street Sign Project: Tom presented the Street Sign project (Marianne mentioned that the city would not help with the refurbishment of the signs). 70 signs were originally installed, but only 59 remain. 2/3 are lit, 1/3 are dark. Since most of the light standards are serviceable, we decided to replace the lit boxes only.

Majestic Metal Work/Koffman Signs were selected, at a cost of \$690/sign (installed). This will introduce energy savings, as the lighting pots will be simplified and replaced with LEDs.

Funding – KBCA will front the funds to complete the project by the end of summer 2018 – The fund will be paid back by optional community donations (plus larger individual donations, and local business donations). If the AGM authorizes the budget, the remaining materials will be ordered, and the installation will run from April to July. The (optional) next phase would be to investigate the unlit signs, and/or reinstalling removed signs.

The reimbursement of these costs will likely come from a door-to-door campaign (the street captains will help with this outreach).

Community Demographics: Tom Lawson presented the Community Demographics. The population of Beaverbrook in 2016 was 5158. The number of total dwellings remains unchanged at 2150. The median age moved from 45.1 to 46.2 in the five years between 2011 and 2016.

Treasurer's Report: There is still a desperate need for a KBCA treasurer after an 18-month vacancy.

Rental revenue is back to 2015/2016 levels, and we are also looking at revisiting KBCA funding (membership fees, project donations). The financial plans for this year are focused toward securing funding for current and future projects.

The financial details and budget were reviewed in detail. Cam McNeil moved to approve the budget; Pat Burn seconded. All agreed.

Gary Sealey moved that the board of directors be approved as appointed. Peter Chapman seconded. All agreed.

Marianne's Comments: After the conclusion of the agenda review, Marianne mentioned the city's exploratory discussions about a possible light-rail extension to Kanata; this extension will run parallel to the Queensway, under Moodie Drive, under March Road, and have a station behind the OPP station. The train would then run to Terry Fox, Canadian Tire Centre, and then loop around to Hazledean. This is further to the complaints of OC transpo service in Kanata; commutes from central Kanata to the business park sometimes take up to 1.5 hours.

Autonomous vehicles are also being discussed for a pilot project in 2020; a vendor from England (in addition to Carleton University) is exploring this initiative.

Adjournment: With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:07pm.