

**Glebe Community Association
Draft Minutes of the Board Meeting
February 27, 2007**

Present: Bob Brocklebank, Martha Bowers, June Creelman, Leslie Fulton, Guy Giguere, Rochelle Handelman, Inez Kettles, Kathi Lauder, Carol MacLeod, Ian McKercher, Dale Miller, Frank Oakes, Neil Pearson, Roger Short, John Smart, Caroline Vanneste, Joyce McMahon

Others: Jim Gauvreau, Colleen Leighton, John Vincent, Clive Doucet

1. Approval of the Agenda

Additions Include:

7.1 Volunteer Canada Membership/Directors and Liability Insurance-Joyce McMahon

7.2 Public Meeting on Property Tax Assessment (MPAC)-John Smart

With these additions the agenda as circulated was adopted.

2. Approval of the Minutes

MOTION: (McLeod/Creelman) that the Minutes of the January 23, 2007, meeting be adopted.

Carried

3. President's Report - Bob Brocklebank

The Federation of Citizens Association (FCA) meeting, which is an umbrella group of community associations, was attended by Bob and Neil Pearson. Neil will report on community associations working together on planning issues.

City Centre Coalition (CCC) discussion focused on the concern that money marked for LRT would be spent on OC Transpo equipment. There was discussion about a hub and spoke approach for buses (concept of having shorter bus routes, instead of long bus routes, which are more likely to stay on schedule). Another discussion point was the use of smart cards to replace cash and tickets.

At the City budget talks, Bob gave a presentation making the point that more and more disposable income of centretown residents is going to pay property tax increases. Another point raised was what services are in fact being subsidized by taxes. There seems no clear answer; the Mayor expressed interest in this fact. There is to be further debate over the budget. The strategy was to get a budget approved to get things moving, with further discussion planned.

The Glebe Business Group (GBG) agreed to take the steps necessary to create a Business Improvement Area in the Glebe. The next step is to decide what area should be considered and to talk to all Glebe businesses. The request must go to City Council, and may not be approved if Council receives enough objections. The entire process can take up to 8 months.

Intensification/City Talks: The FCA position is that zoning by-laws provide for intensification

and the City doesn't need re-zoning to intensify. City planners and developers, feel the opposite. It's an ongoing struggle.

Preston Street will soon be facing sewer improvements and would like to consult with someone in the Glebe. Frank Oakes and Diane McIntyre represented the GCA at city consultations. Inez Berg was the expert on the Browns Inlet area.

Web Site: www.glebeca.ca is up and running. Jim Gauvreau has volunteered to act as web master.

Action: Put notice of new site on GCC bulletin Board - Joyce

4. Councillor's Report - Clive Doucet

Budget and Light Rail were the two major issues. The LRT went down on a procedural motion. The \$175 million law suit potential was not considered new information; therefore, not publicly debated or voted on. Clive said there was a lot of lobbying and the vote, if one had taken place, would have been close.

On the budget, Clive feels it is a giant step backwards. It will set the record for road construction. It was brought about quickly to achieve a zero percent tax increase. It is not a good budget, but was the best choice given the options. Funding for the older parts of the city gets worse every year.

The GCA expressed its appreciation of Clive for his hard work in trying to bring about the approval of the LRT project.

5. Committee Reports

5.a Environment/Anti Litter - Carol McLeod

The EnviroFair is progressing: March 24, 2 Monk at Fifth Ave. The main reason for the fair is to educate the community on pesticide-free lawn care. A panel to discuss this is being arranged for mid-day.

Tables have been re-jigged to host 46 exhibitors, and at this point it is full, but the committee is in the process of confirming participants. Coinciding with the Home Show causes some problems for participants. At this stage, the committee anticipates table rentals will cover many expenses, limiting the need for GCA financial support.

Ian Boyd is handling publicity and will contact local newspapers, radio and ensure there is a sandwich board on Bank Street. The Committee is concerned that the facility can only comfortably handle a certain number of people so is hesitant to publicize too widely.

Volunteers will be needed to set up, help on the day, and with clean up at the end.

Action: Bob will set up an e-mail address on glebeca.ca to enable Carol to receive volunteer commitments and handle other communications concerning the enviro-fair.

Graffiti - Colleen Leighton

The February 8 meeting was very helpful. All committed participants showed and the information shared was very useful.

- Colleen is trying to follow up with a graffiti clean-up company.
- Police are to follow up with the owners of the old Olympic shop to see about cleaning it up.
- The Vice Principal at Glebe Collegiate will communicate with parents. Not that all graffiti done by Glebe students, but it is likely that graffiti artists start at home, or doodle in their notebooks, before moving on to outdoor, public sites.
- The City will contact Canada Post about maintaining their boxes.
- Rep from Diane Holmes' office talked about the study she initiated which is moving through the City process.
- Police are frustrated as they arrest graffiti vandals, but cases get dropped as prosecutors already have too much on their plates. A suggestion to lobby prosecutors was made.
- The Committee has started to document graffiti in the neighbourhood.

Next step will be to organize a follow up meeting. Thought is being given to a spring clean up to get all graffiti removed, making monitoring easier.

5.b Membership

Doreen Drolet sent her regrets. Bob advised that they are talking about bringing together area reps, before the March break if possible, to redesign the membership campaign for this year, rethink some things and talk about how other things could be improved.

5.c Traffic - Guy Giguere

Guy talked about the MTO decision to improve the Bronson exit off the 417 east. It would involve demolishing the former OBE building and realigning traffic on Chamberlain. Local worries were noise and increased traffic. The impacts on Chamberlain are the result of Provincial changes, but Chamberlain is a City street. The MTO said deal with the City; the City says it can't do anything. An environmental study was undertaken and recognizes these same points.

The CCC will be recommending a "bump-up" of the environmental study. A bump-up means an enhanced look at the situation - an environmental look at the project going beyond the basic study. The Traffic Committee met and recommends that the GCA also submit such a request, on behalf of the GCA, noting that mitigating measures should be considered. These include:

reduction of speed limit on the central (section going through the centre of the City) portion of the 417, enhanced safety measures to protect pedestrians, especially school-aged children, noise buffers, and addressing increased street traffic.

MOTION (Giguere/Creelman) that the GCA supports the request of the CCC in their request for an Environmental bump-up on the widening of the 417 (covering all central city areas). **Carried**

This puts the onus on the Government to pay more attention and triggers action even to address the request.

- **MOTION:** (Giguere/McKercher) that the GCA, on its own behalf, writes a letter to the Ministry of the Environment requesting a bump-up, citing the needs and concerns which are more specific to the GCA (noted above). **Carried**

On another matter, the Traffic Committee will be meeting with representatives of the Dows Lake Residents Association to talk about increased traffic as a result of recent changes on Carling Avenue.

5.d Neighbourhood Planning - Neil Pearson

Neil Pearson was welcomed as the new Co-Chair of the Neighbourhood Planning Committee.

At the FCA meeting, it was learned that other community associations are having problems similar to those faced by the GCA. An initiative is underway whereby a number of community associations will come together to form a single response to the city on zoning issues. Five different community associations were represented at the first meeting. Planning is underway to meet with Nancy Schepers, Deputy City Manager for Planning, Transit and Environment. Resources will be pooled to respond at the next stage in consultations for the revised zoning by-law.

Others planning issues include:

- creating our own development and community design process;
- OMB powers have been changes as of January 1, 2007 so will be watching for ramifications and City reactions;
- identify soft spots in the Glebe (areas that will be developed).

It was suggested that a process improvement could require City planners to advise community associations of development meetings with planners.

Neil will see if there is any word on development at the KFC site

The Sunnyside Library site development as reported at the last meeting is just an idea. The new library/community centre property would not be given to the City, but would be rented on a long-term lease.

5.e Bank Street Reconstruction - June Creelman

There has been no action/meeting. Word was received before Christmas that the consultants were hired. It is likely delayed awaiting budget/funding approval and will hopefully now proceed. Consultants have been advised that to have meaningful consultations, such consultations have to take place in the spring or fall.

5.f Business - Bob Brocklebank

As reported earlier, the GBG is taking steps to have the Glebe declared a Business Improvement Area

5.g GNAG Update - Inez Kettles

The application for City grant to help with renovations to create a teen centre jointly with the St. James Tennis Club was denied. The project will not be proceeding.

Upcoming Activities include:

- brochures are out for spring and summer programming
- a committee struck to look at improvement of the sound system in Scotton Hall.
- May 11-12 - First Annual Jewelry Show
- September 16 - Glebe House Tour
- March 30-April 2 - Musical: Oliver

5.h Seniors Report - Ian McKercher

A group of researchers at Ottawa U will be undertaking a "walkability study". The Glebe will be one of 4 neighbourhoods studied. Ian responded to the researcher that it would be a great idea and directed them to the Glebe Centre/Abbottsford House. It was discovered that this study is part of a PhD thesis, and will be looking at the neighbourhood whether it is a good place to walk as well as if there are fears facing our seniors which keeps them from going out to walk.

5.i Great Glebe Garage Sale

MOTION: (Bowers/Short) that the GCA approves the purchase of a half-page ad promoting the Great Glebe Garage Sale and the GCA's AGM (June 12) in the April and May editions of the Glebe Report, for a total cost of \$508.80 (\$254.40 each, including GST). **Carried**

5.j Dancing in the Streets - June Creelman

June was seeking some direction from the Board on the matter of a date for this year's event. The GBG would like to have the event during the Ex. Recognizing that this is not a GCA event, but is just taking place in the Glebe, the Board felt that it was better to host the event during the Ex, rather than causing disruptions to another, different, weekend.

Clive pointed out that last year this event conflicted with the Folk Festival and they were not pleased that there had been no consultation. The fact that this event was not good for business was another question which could be addressed.

5.k 40th Anniversary - June Creelman

June has not yet had an opportunity to call a meeting, but was looking for some thoughts from the Board. Options to create a separate event, or combine with an existing event such as: the membership Wine & Cheese launch, a "drop-off" donations to the food bank following the GGGS, AGM, or a separate event.

Generally the Board felt combining with another event best, but not following the GGGS. Need to check the Mayor's availability.

6. GCA Governance

Just a heads up that Caroline Vanneste will lead a group to examine how the Board operates. Let Caroline know if you are interested in this issue.

7. Other Business

7.1 Volunteers/Insurance - Joyce McMahon

MOTION (McMahon/Giguere) that the GCA authorize a \$100 expenditure to renew its membership in Volunteer Canada, and that the GCA further authorize \$375 to renew its Officers and Directors Liability Insurance. **Carried**

7.2 MPAC - John Smart

MPAC has suspended assessments for a 2-year period and will come back in 2008 with a better system. John was worried that they will return with the same system if unchallenged and suggested that the GCA put together a public meeting.

Action: The Board thought this was a great idea and asked John to pull together a fuller proposal for consideration by the Board at its March meeting.

8. Adjournment

MOTION (Handelman/Short) that the meeting be adjourned at 9:50 p.m. **Carried**

GCA Board Meeting Schedule - *7:30 start unless otherwise indicated

Tuesday, March 27, 2007

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

Tuesday, May 22, 2007

AGM - Tuesday, June 12, 2007