



**Emerald Woods Residents' Association
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Minutes of meeting – November 2022**

Present: Councillor Jessica Bradley, Goretta Pernitzky, Mark Vuotari, Keely Storr, Christine Guptill, Christine Lowe, Kim Tytler. Chair: Mark Vuotari

Residents in attendance: Janet Borzecki, Dave Matheson, Jen & Tom Beaudoin-Brandt, Kuther Ahmed, Frank M, Wil Côté, Anne Asselin, Jo-Anne Saikaley Harris

- Meeting called to order at 8:03 p.m.
- City Councillor report: New office being set up. Has two staff: Rachel Weese main point of contact for the office. 2nd person is Laura Dragone, supporting associations; she will attend the next meeting. During the transition from Diane Deans, all contact information was deleted, so Councillor Bradley will need to re-establish contacts. Anyone with open cases with Diane should please send information and/or email chains to Councillor Bradley. There will be a new ward website: www.gloucestersouthgate.ca. Residents can opt-in to the newsletter through that website. You can reach the Councillor at Jessica.bradley@ottawa.ca, and the office phone number (613-580-2480) is the same as it was for Diane Deans. The Councillor's staff will be in-person while building the team. Mon-Thurs in-person at City Hall; working remotely on Friday. She will be re-opening the office at the Greenboro Community Centre in the future.
- Files Councillor Bradley is working on: Airport Parkway twinning; there is a meeting happening during the time of our AGM, and another on the Walkley portion on Dec. 6th.
- Community events that are planned: International Women's Day in March, Seniors' Tea in June, Family movie in August. Snow Tour: In November, Diane would bring winter staff around to see snow removal issues. 178 people signed up! Will be sending out a follow-up with more context as they are unable to visit 178 people in-person.
- Planning to hire 2 more full-time people, esp. seeking people who speak Arabic or Somali.

Questions for Councillor Bradley:

- Anne Asselin: traffic speed. Lives right in front of Emerald Woods park; speed on Alderwood seems to have gotten much worse.
- Councillor Bradley acknowledges that this is a significant problem in the city. Trappers was the first street to receive flex gates. The mayor plans to double the budget for temporary

traffic calming measures. There is funding to do traffic studies and for putting in a solution; but there is no budget for follow-up studies to determine how well the mitigation tool worked.

- Neighbourhoods that have a concern are added to a list, and compete against other areas of the city for permanent calming measures. The list doesn't move in a linear fashion because more urgent concerns are addressed more quickly.
- Frank M: Google maps offers our neighbourhood as a short-cut when attempting to access Hunt Club. Wanted to make city aware. Acknowledges that it is likely very difficult to influence; wanted to flag it as an issue that might be added to move neighbourhoods up the list.
- Dave Matheson backs onto the NCC property. After the Derecho, NCC has piled trees 20 feet high about 100 feet back from his back fence. These are unstable and do shift. Have been communicating with NCC management since then. They will be doing something next spring. Dave feels that they could be doing some things right now; including repairing a fence that they took down. Asking for City and Emerald Woods RA support.
- Councillor Bradley will be going for a walk on Monday on some trails. Offered to coordinate with Dave on this.
- Goretti noted that she has seen a change in traffic in recent years; seeing stunt driving and dangerous driving – donuts, side-by-side racing, stopping in the middle of the road to chat, being pulled by a car on a skateboard
- Councillor Bradley noted that councillor David Hill from Barrhaven East has the same issue with stunt driving and is trying to find ways to mitigate. She will take this back for consideration.
- Kuther Ahmed: Trying to find a doctor in the city is really an issue. Nearby clinics are all full, closest place that had availability was in Kanata.
- Councillor Bradley indicated that this issue had come up a lot during the municipal election; the Mayor met with Premier this week. Bradley will be meeting with him tomorrow and she can come back to Kuther about this.
- President's report: It has been a busy year. We have been updating the website. We are actively engaged in moderating the Facebook page and have updated our rules of use. We want to ensure people are comfortable and that it is safe and fun. If you have comments/concerns, we are always open to suggestions. We also fixed up the bulletin board in the park. Since we have increased our boundaries, we are looking to have a bulleting board installed at Baden Park. We held a photo contest on Facebook. We also held a garage sale, although the turnout was lower than in the past, but this was the first since COVID began that was initiated and organized by the EWRA executive. The last one that took place in the fall was organized and driven by residents. We held a neighbourhood spring cleaning event, and had about a dozen volunteers come out to help. They worked for several hours in the heat. We thank you for your help in making our neighbourhood look

beautiful! Mini-soccer: We had approximately 17 participants. Two residents stepped up to coach, and there were also three youth volunteers. Fun Day in the Park: We have not had an event since before the pandemic began; had to cancel due to the winstorm, so it was moved to fall. About 100 people attended, lots of children came, and it seemed that residents appreciated this event. Spring and fall newsletters were circulated; EWRA is pleased with the number of volunteers who stepped up to help. We are currently planning for our holiday party; registration starts next week. We are always open to new ideas and suggestions. Please email us your comments, suggestions and ideas for new activities.

- *Message the group about dedicated leisure skating time in the parks?*
- Anne Asselin expressed thanks to the executive for active engagement and bringing back some favourite traditions. Seconded by several residents.
- Jo-Anne: Could we do a foodbank drive? This will be discussed by the Executive for possible implementation at a future event.
- Treasurer update: Fun Day is our most expensive event. We do have a lot of food donated from neighbourhood restaurants; cost to rent the park is a significant cost. Soccer was our other expense this year, because we had to purchase a batch of new t-shirts this year, and we will recover this expense over the next few years.

Treasurer's Report

Events			
Family Fun Day			
Income			613.25
Expenses:			
	Fun Day Permit	125.15	
	Ice	29.52	
	Noise Bylaw exemption	61.19	
	BBQ	180.8	
	Food	279.36	
	Popcorn	24.28	
	Supplies	89.34	
	Reimbursed purchases	-48	741.64
Net Income (Loss) on Event			-128.39
Soccer			
Income			350

Expenses			
	Soccer Field Rental	57.75	
	Soccer Shirts	385.88	
	First Aid Kit	41.01	484.64
Net Income (Loss) on Event			-134.64
Children's Christmas Party			
Expenses			
	Room Rental	168.8	
Net Income (Loss) on Event			-168.8
Administrative Fees			
Bank Fees (\$2.50 per month)			25
Newsletter printing			512.75
Director's Insurance			780.84

- Jo-Anne asked if we have a sponsor for t-shirts? Gorette responded that we have not in the past and can look into this. Jo-Anne also asked if the city contributes to insurance, or to the community associations. In regard to Directors' insurance, no, they do not. Jo-Anne asked if there might be funds we could apply for? Keely indicated that we would ask Councillor Bradley's office.
- Kuther offered that the city does contribute to community centres; it is possible that there are funds we could access.
- Dave Matheson coached mini-soccer 15 years ago; suggested we should approach local businesses about sponsorship.
- Mark reminded people that they can email us any questions. Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm. Next meeting is Dec 14th at 7:00 p.m.