BRCA - AGM MINUTES

19 November 2014

Attendees:

**Board Members**

John Dwyer, Jeff Gauthier, Inge vanGemeren, Jill MacDonald, Brad Smith, Tiiu Wallner, Maureen Wilson

**Attendees for Dedication to Jackie Jefferys:**

Carole Roberts, Bill Ross, Beryl Green, Lindsay Suthren, Victor Suthren. Howard Jefferys, Jane Kendall, Lionel Bedard, Jim & Olive Knubley

**Community Residents in Attendance of AGM:**

George & Lynn Hawkins, Erin Hawkins, Jayne Couch, Cathy Prinsep, Ann Martin, Lorraine MacCraken, Bob Walker, Patrick & Julie Gonneau, , Aileen Weston, Fairlie Ellis, Dick & Mary Hegan, Joan Simpson, Olivia Mills, John Tilbury, Deb Symonds, Kathy Knott, Helen Brazier, Janet Glaves, Dorothy Hobbs, Mel Joly, Marianne Fizet, Sean McCann, Juri Wallner, Renee Smith, Drew Avis

(Please note if you were in attendance but forgot to sign the attendance list, let me know.)

**Other:**

Lynne Ferguson-Bourguionon (City of Ottawa Parks & Recreation)

**Pre-Meeting Dedication (Jackie Jefferys)**

The ‘Group of Six’ (local residents taken under Jackie's artistic wing) presented the community a collection of prints in memory of resident and artist Jackie Jefferys.  The prints of original Jefferys’ works featuring Burritt’s Rapids, contained in one frame, are hung prominently in the Annex and will be an on-going reminder of both her artistry and her contribution to the hamlet.

**Annual Report**

**Achievement and Plans**

The Chairperson of the Association presented the Annual Report (see attached) and highlighted the achievements of the Board during the year and the proposed priorities for the coming year.

**Financial Report**

The Treasurer ran through the budget figures for the year and projections for the future. As a generality, the financial picture remains highly positive, in large part due to continued good rental income, although expenses for utilities are increasing. There was a discussion on the high costs of insurance driven in large part by the replacement value set on the Hall. The Treasurer continues to explore other options. Given the substantial increase in costs being incurred, the Chairperson noted that rental rates will have to increase in 2015.

The Chairperson and Treasurer noted the exemplary work of resident Kathy Knott and her dedicated crew of volunteers who organised a theme dinner that raised over $5,000. They also expressed their gratitude and pleasure that Kathy will organise the theme dinner in 2015.

An ambitious expenditure plan, including refurbishing the interior of the Hall was projected for 2014-2015. A resident suggested that a heritage architectural consultant be engaged to commence the process. This will be considered by the new Board.

It was moved that the Financial Report be accepted as presented. This was seconded and approved unanimously.

**Greening Committee**

The Greening Committee presented their report pointing out that much of the work this year and projected for next related to on-going maintenance. The Chair of the Committee indicated that the 2014 Plant Sale had netting about $850 and thanked volunteers for their efforts and the RWR for their support. She also pointed out that there would not be a plan sale in the coming year.

Finally, the Chair invited residents to consider what the Greening Committee might do in commemoration of Canada’s 150th celebration and to pass suggestions on to Committee members or the new Board.

**Traffic Calming**

The Chairperson ran through the various options that the Board had researched and the recommendations they had come to following this research. (The PowerPoint on this presentation is attached.)

The presentation sparked considerable discussion. In the end, the community agreed that the new Board should pursue the following options:

* A reduced speed limit with strict enforcement for a period
* Speed Humps
* Centre-line Signage

The community rejected the proposal to add curb extensions and asked the Board to look at other options like designating the Community as a “community safety zone” and/or adding visual clues, such as banners, that might calm traffic.

The Chairperson pointed out that this was the beginning of the process only and that the new Board would return to the community regularly during the negotiation process.

**Side Street and Side Walk Masterplan**

The Chairperson discussed the issues at hand – in summary a current workplan for the side streets that was based, it seemed, on complaints received with little attention paid to broader concerns.

She sought agreement to form a committee formed (at least primarily) of those living on the Island to meet with the appropriate authorities in North Grenville to develop a Masterplan that could form the basis of road and sidewalk work.

Again there was considerable discussion on the issue, and its causes and impacts. In the end a committee comprising the following residents was formed: Inge vanGereman, Jayne Couch, John Tilbury, Dorothea Hobbs and Karen Dunlop

**Other Committee Reports: BRREA**

The BRREA reported on continuing efforts to begin a micro-generation program for the benefit of the community. Recent changes to provincial payment for energy produced in this manner (an increase of 70%) means that the project has become very viable.

The Co-Chair informed and demonstrated the Association’s new website. A member ran through a recent documentary film prepared by Carleton students on the micro-generation project.

**Election of a New Board**

As required by the by-laws the existing Board stepped down.

Board Member Tiiu Wallner indicated that she would not put her name forward again; other members indicated that they would continue to volunteer if others were not interested in stepping forward. Juri Wallner volunteered to replace Tiiu. The Board thanks Tiiu for her years of service and welcomed Juri.

The new Board (John Dwyer, Jeff Gauthier, Jill MacDonald, Brad Smith, Juri Wallner, Maureen Wilson and Igne vanGemeren) will meet in January, date and time to be confirmed.