

Glebe Neighbourhood Activities Group (GNAG)
Board Meeting April 16, 2014
7 pm GCC

Present: Kate McCartney, Suzanne Joyal, Michel Ouellette, Mary Tsai, Cathy McCallion, Clare Pearson, Nicole Allen, Christy Oliver, Joanne Lennon, John Richardson, Heather Irwin, Nicole Allen

Regrets: Brad Sigouin, Geoff Kellow

1. Quorum established.

2. Review/adopt agenda:

Joanne Lennon, Christy Oliver

3. Review/adopt minutes from meeting of March 19, 2014:

Brad Sigouin, Michel Ouellette

4. Operational Overview

4.1 Chairperson's Report (Suzanne Joyal and Kate McCartney?)

- GNAG social date change (Suzanne)
 - Date change to include Tim and Ally who will be working at a GNAG on the originally planned date
- Community survey (Suzanne)
 - Would like to do another community survey as input for the strategic planning session coming up. Survey to include questions about registration process and to solicit website feedback. Revised question and ideas to be submitted to Suzanne by April 25th.
 - Kate asks if survey will be sent home in kids' backpacks, as another method of circulating the survey. Also online.
- Pantry (Kate)
 - The pantry is meeting regularly with the city and things are progressing well. Multi-use space drawings exist. Accessibility and multi-use needs requirements are going well.
 - The contract is with the City's legal department.

4.2 Executive Director's Report (Mary Tsai)

- Dance Program Coordinator Update
 - Kailena resigned and will be starting up her own dance school. The GNAG board is aware, as are the other dance teachers and participants in dance classes. Any discussion of private business (new dance school) will be done on Kailena's own time.
 - This change will have an effect on summer dance camp. Leadership dance and teen intensive camps will be cancelled; current enrollment is low and other offerings do exist (like the non-dance leadership, for example).
 - For future planning, the focus will be on recreational dance programming.
 - Kailena is working on a framework for fall programming as well as a job description.
 - The current fitness coordinator is part time and this position will likely be eliminated and replaced by a new role to address both fitness and dance, with the idea being that we will the expand health and wellness fitness programme.
 - An appropriate good bye will be planned for Kailena.
- CSR Hours Update

- The plan for GNAG staff to cover extended hours (desk CSR duties and closing) will not proceed as there are union issues, such as timetable “shifting” and the appearance that GNAG is replacing city staff. Technically this is someone’s shift and it needs to stay that way. We will continue to work with the city to find an acceptable solution that makes the best use of the CSR time and budget and union.
- AODA (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act) upfit update
 - Training for GNAG staff occurred last year and the next step is to make/upfit the building with respect to accessibility. This will include things like push buttons for doors, lowering sinks, adjusting hand rail heights. A plan is underway for several modifications and implementation will be in phases, along the lines of:
 - Phase 1: Signage, braille, colours and light
 - Phase 2: Easy mill work (lowering things)
 - Phase 3: Stairwell work to lower handrail, plumbing to lower sinks. Some of these larger items may require temporary closure of the centre. Closure is recommended but not a done deal. Mary has suggested Christmas/New Year as a good time for this work, or June. Mary also suggests that if a disruption is necessary then we should work to include at the same time all other updates or upgrades (paint, elevator). The elevator issue is not considered an accessibility problem and we are not sure it will be addressed at the same time.

4.3 Treasurer’s Report (Mary for Brad Sigouin)

- Mary presented the number for Brad and the board reviewed and discussed the July 2013 – March 31, 2013 actuals and the forecast for the current quarter, April 1, 2014 – June 30, 2014. Discussion highlights included:
 - Preschool numbers are down. Reasons for this include a changing demographic in the neighbourhood, and changes in program expenses, for example, with Paul not teaching as many classes, he is replaced by two younger instructors whose cost comes under preschool.
 - Children and family numbers down. Soccer registration is on-going but slightly low at the moment, and this falls under this category. Also, after school shinny hockey was purposely priced very low this year (new program) and it too falls into this category. Kate mentioned the idea that t-ball might be worth considering, if soccer numbers are slightly down.

4.4 Community Partners Report (Geoff Kellow)

No updates this month.

4.5 Other Standing Committee Reports

- Community Development Fund (Christy)
 - Christy presented a few ideas for the CDF money, some of which included:
 - Free activities for community outreach exercise...if we offer GNAG classes in new spaces/times (school gyms b/f school, for example) we will initially do it for free. Suzanne would do spilling, Mary would do bootcamp, etc.
 - The First Avenue Public School booksale winning class (class that donated the most books to the booksale) is coming to GNAG for pottery and/or art as a special activity.
 - We are looking to school partnerships as a growth opportunity – great possibilities exist as school budgets no longer allow for as many “clubs”.
 - Christy presented a recommendation for a Christopher Griffin community art project – raccoon sculptures. Their construction would involve members.

They will have a foam core and a coating of concrete and additionally there will be art added to a wall near the Second Avenue GCC steps as part of the community project. Christopher is donating most of his time and skills for this installation. Some costs (materials) will come from the CDF. Board voted unanimously to accept this recommendation with the following notes made:

- Should we receive an inquiry about why public consultation was or was not considered for this project, we did this a couple of years ago and it was not successful enough to repeat.
 - Jewelry Show/Glamour in the Glebe (Clare Pearson)
- AND
- Strut Your Stuff (Clare Pearson)
 - All on track for both.

5. Adjournment:

Michel Ouellette, John Richardson