

Glebe Neighbourhood Activities Group (GNAG)
Board Meeting January 21, 2015
7 pm GCC

Present: Mary Tsai, Joanne Lennon, Suzanne Joyale, Geoff Kellow, Brad Sigouin, Kate McCartney, John Richardson, Clare Pearson, Cathy McCallion, Ian Nicol, Heather Irwin

Regrets: Michel Ouellette, Nicole Allen, Christy Oliver

1. Welcome. Quorum established.

2. Review/adopt agenda:

Geoff Kellow, Clare Pearson

3. Review/adopt minutes from meeting of September 7, 2014:

Geoff Kellow, Clare Pearson

4. Operational Overview

4.1 Chairperson's Report (Kate McCartney/Suzanne Joyal)

- SLA Update (Kate)
 - GNAG presented to the city some SLA clarifications and an updated annex to the agreement addresses all clarifications (includes them)
 - Clarifications include but are not limited to: no rent charged to GNAG when GNAG uses the main hall for a fundraising activity (house tour tea, Taste, etc) and/or community development fund activities/community events; booking requests that are received when the GCC is quite booked may be accommodated at other community centres; GNAG can provide a customer service rep at the front desk with a higher degree of flexibility - may cut down on overtime costs to city-paid customer service reps; more shared space between GNAG and city (near front desk); building maintenance tours to be conducted with GNAG and city GCC staff with a mutually agreed upon list and priorities
- Website and online registration update (Suzanne)
 - Sent website requirements to a new vendor – required too much customization
 - Went back to Dovercourt for an update on their progress (they are conducting similar exercise but are further along in the process); they are still working on their solution and are now engaged with a UK firm. GNAG met with this firm via teleconference in January and will meet with the firm's staff in February when they are planning to travel to Ottawa to meet several prospective clients. The meeting went very well; this vendor is a leader in this type of system in the UK and they are looking to break into the North American market. They present the best solution so far. No specific numbers (money) discussed yet but because they're trying to break into the market the thought is that a good price would be offered in order to crack the North American market and then GNAG and other early adopters could be used as references. Many details left for them to spec (banking, hosting) and pricing and details are to follow. All website changes on hold until February in-person meeting with new vendor.
- Post-holiday social in February (Kate)
 - Suggested date is Wednesday, February 18th for meeting and social afterwards.
- Ontario Sports and Recreation Communities Fund (Kate)
 - Tim and Mary found this fund – it's aimed at programs kick starting health and wellness for community groups. Our work with Glebe Collegiate (offering

programming) was covered by an initial grant and our teaching is currently provided free of charge but this is not sustainable in the long term (under current model) so this grant may present an opportunity. GNAG is looking for approximately 125K over two years; this would pay for instructors and a program where youth-trained leaders can participate (potential to look at student co-op program placements in conjunction with leadership program at GNAG)

- Geoff will look at agreement wording.

4.2 Executive Director's Report (Mary Tsai)

- Winter Program Update
 - We are now in week 2 of winter programming; registration has been slower than expected and we are unsure why. Mary has spoken to other community centres and they are experiencing the same thing. GNAG registration is not just down because of the new dance studio – there is also an impact due to full-day kindergarten and apparently a city-wide issue as noted that several community centres are having a similar experience. With this in mind, the spring programming is being rejigged to try to address this. Clare asks if some segments are up where others are down and Mary elaborates that fitness is up (typical at this time of year due to new year's resolutions), pottery is doing well, and general youth, child and preschool are down.
 - A brief update on Lansdowne programming – storage is an issue due to on-going construction.
 - Dance update: dance program being looked at – spring programs being worked on. A new consideration is a set of non-genre specific dance classes – simply called “dance” that may include different dance styles.
- Spring and Summer Program Update
 - Summer camp registration opens February 10th.
 - Spring program registration opens Mary 5th.

4.3 Treasurer's Report (Brad Sigouin)

Mary, Brad and Pete met to discuss numbers and overall, the projections are very accurate (Mary's projections). Brad presented the following highlights of the current look (numbers presented were not final):

- Preschool down 18%; this is an expected drop due to the full roll-out of full-day kindergarten
 - Dance numbers are down, again as expected (new dance school opened)
 - Child, family, youth, specialty camp numbers: all up
 - Some subsidies still to be paid back from the Community Development Fund
- 4.4 Community Partners Report (Geoff Kellow)
 - Glebe BIA has a new executive director, Andrew Peck
 - The GCA has put out a neighbourhood survey - all are encouraged to participate
 - Bronson between the 417 and Carling: plan to change this section to a “main street”; many details to be worked out

4.5 Standing Committee Reports

Taste in the Glebe (Mary)

- Sold out!

Building Update (John)

- Main hall and surrounding corridors: carpet being replaced next week (also in board room); work to take 4 – 5 days
- Handrails on main staircase being replaced next week with stainless handrails

5. Adjournment:

Geoff Kellow, Clare Pearson