

**Glebe Neighbourhood Activities Group (GNAG)**  
**Board Meeting November 20, 2013**  
**7 pm GCC**

**Present:** John Richardson, Michel Ouellette, Clare Pearson, Nicole, Geoff Kellow, Christy Oliver, Heather Irwin, Mary Tsai Davies, Kate McCartney, Cathy McCallion, Ian Nicol

**Regrets:** Brad Sigouin, Joanne Lennon, Suzanne Joyal

**1. Quorum established.**

**2. Review/adopt agenda:**

Cathy McCallion, Michel Ouellette

**3. Review/adopt minutes from meeting of October 16, 2013:**

Accepted with one change (to separate out the motion that an addition 6k was approved for program subsidies) by Clare Pearson, Christy Oliver.

**4. Operational Overview**

*4.1 Chairperson's Report (Kate McCartney)*

- Pantry update
  - The pantry has a petition to extend their current operations and agreement (their lease/agreement expires this year).
  - Counselor Chernushenko is working to find a compromise that would enable the space to be more openly shared by various groups during the house the pantry is not operating.
  - Several scenarios are being considered.
  - GNAG is confident that with several neighbourhood groups working together, an acceptable solution will be found for the use of the space.
  - Clare Pearson notes that while working as GNAG rep (wearing a GNAG board badge) at the recent craft show, she received an overwhelming amount of questions and feedback about the pantry as it had just been featured on local CBC radio.
  - GNAG has been out of the lease portion of the Pantry for two years and will participate in meetings as would any other neighbourhood group.
- St. James Tennis Club – Ice Rink Year 1!
  - All groups in across the neighbourhood donated money to make the rink happen – truly a community effort (First Avenue Public School, Corpus Christi, as well as other community partners).
  - The liner for the rink is on its way.
  - It was not a slam dunk to pass the rink as there were obvious concerns about protecting the tennis courts under the liner. There were questions about the integrity of the courts, liability, effect on the club house.
  - GNAG is the contract holder and our insurance covers us for damage and liability.
  - Note that the city has been great to work with on this initiative. There was initially a group of naysayers but the city took the approach of “how do we address concerns and move forward”. Big compliments to the City as they had to do plumbing adjustments to the clubhouse.
  - Water to create the rink will come from Mutchmor; water to maintain the rink will come from St. James’s.
  - City contributed \$4700 towards building the rink, flooding staff, some maintenance and some monitoring.

- Rink size is approximately 80 x 175 which is close to NHL size.
- No boards.
- All immediate neighbours are aware and there are some concerns; note that this is a pilot project.
- When the rink is drained, the liner facilitates a controlled drain and neighbours will not be flooded.
- There is plywood on the porch, windows are protected by mesh to protect against flying pucks, rubber mats will be used in various spots, rink will be heavily supervised and participants must sign a waiver to use it, no shooting of pucks – passing only, all hockey must be supervised and nets will be removed during unsupervised hours.
- Attempting to predict what might hurt the liner and thus damage the court so that it can be addressed now.
- Waivers are an experiment – start with them and see how it goes.
- City is providing a portable or trailer so if the clubhouse is in use skaters can change in the trailer.
- Bathrooms and water fountains open while *Be in the Band* is on, and there is a dividing wall, but changing will take place in the city trailer.
- Some fundraising might be necessary – to put towards extended hours or an extended season – and there is a drop box in place.
- Many of the logistics are to be sorted along the way; goal for now is to get it up and running

#### 4.2 Executive Director's Report (Mary Tsai)

- Winter registration
  - Board pre-registration reminder went out.
  - Registration dates are: dance = Dec 10, other programs = Dec 12
- Glebe Report back page
  - GNAG updates and news items appear on half of the back page of each issue of the Glebe Report and this is considered a community announcement for which there is no charge; it has never been considered an advertisement. Glebe report costs are increasing and advertising revenues have decreased so the Glebe Report approached GNAG (Mary) about paying for the space while recognizing that many of the events are genuine community announcements, some of which are free events for the community put on by GNAG as a way to give back to the community. Several options exist:
    - Option 1: Cost is \$540/month – we can keep status quo and pay for the space (11K/year)
    - Option 2: Phase in the cost over a five-year period.
    - Option 3: look for a new neighbourhood sponsor for the page to help pay for it, for example, This month's GNAG back page brought to you by McKeen's. John cautions that if this option is chosen, we need to ensure the wording of the sponsorship is crystal clear – the advertisement is sponsored, not the event featured in the advertisement.
  - Several other ideas are floated at the GNAG meeting, such as:
    - Occupy half or a quarter of the back page
    - Is the space sellable if we shrink our real estate on it?
    - Could/should we consider less frequent advertising – say 4 times/year

- Ask to reduce the amount charged and if this is not feasible then consider decreasing the number of issues we appear in to 4/year.
- Mary will:
  - Propose lower fee.
  - Consider decreasing the number of issues we appear in if the reduced cost does not fly.
- At a GNAG team meeting today, there was a proposal to move up camp announcements even further. Normally we put out a brochure in February with registration in March and Mary is now doing a summer camp guide to be release in January with an early-bird discount for Odyssey camps; something along the lines of registration opens in late January with the discount available until the other camp registration dates open, no refunds, select # of spots only. The discount might be significant, or perhaps set aside a maximum amount of discounted spots (base on dollars) and shut down registration when it is reached. This launch is two months earlier than normal.

#### 4.3 Treasurer's Report (Mary for Brad)

- Highlights of the numbers:
  - House tour brought in a net of 14K
    - 12K will go towards subsidies which is redistributed into revenue under various camps and programs.
    - Other money to the community development fund.
  - Admin costs are increasing year over year, based on rent to the city for CSRs and rent at satellite locations. Discussion about changing name of admin to admin/rent as rent is a significant portion of this.
  - Summer numbers up due to specialty camps.

#### 4.4 Community Partners Report (Geoff Kellow)

- GCA: Lansdowne traffic meeting coming soon – to include Kent/Chamberlain intersection as it's not a great pedestrian crossing.
- Parking garage at Bank and 2nd/3rd: could the top floor be a green space or a community use space or park. BIA pushed back and reinforced their view that parking IS needed.
- No parkette at Pretoria Loblaws – GCA and NCC against it (NCC factors in as the canal is right there).
- McKale's is for sale – needs remediation.
- The rooming house on Fourth Avenue is being returned to a residential building as there were incorrect or no permits.
- GCA escalated some concerns about dust and dirt at Lansdowne – issues that were to be addressed better/differently by building site.
- Peak construction at Lansdowne has hit – it should being to taper off now.

#### 4.5 Other Standing Committee Reports

##### Taste in the Glebe (Nicole):

- No big updates – all but five alcohol vendors have confirmed and the premiere tasting even is sold out already.

##### Craft Show update (Clare Pearson):

- Successful show and good response from vendors.
- There were some concerns about the high number of jewelry vendors and the lack of vendor parking.
- Many Pantry questions for Clare.

- Raffle was an issue as it turned out they needed a gaming license – this was flagged for next time. Raffle made \$913 as it ended up being funded by generous people as it was unable to proceed as a traditional raffle so people just contributed.

**5. Adjournment:**

Cathy McCallion, John Richardson