



## Greater Avalon Community Association

### MINUTES Annual General Meeting

**Re:** Meeting of November 16, 2017

**Location:** Aquaview Community Centre  
318 Aquaview Drive, Orléans Ontario

**Time:** 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

**In attendance:**

Danick LaFrance  
Rachelle Lecours  
André Arsenault

Brendan Walker  
Alain Bourgeois

**Regrets:**

Nadia Elajjouri

**Guests :** Marlene Dalanca on behalf of MP Andrew Leslie  
Maryam Mustafa on behalf of MPP Marie-France Lalonde  
City Councillor Stephen Blais  
Cst. Megan Arbuthnot, Ottawa Police Services

#### 1. Welcome

President Danick LaFrance welcomed everyone. The agenda was approved as distributed.

#### 2. Reading and Approval of Minutes of November 17, 2016 AGM

A motion to accept the minutes as read was proposed by Alain Bourgeois and seconded by André Arsenault. All in favour. **Motion carried.**

#### 3. President's Report

The President summarized the activities undertaken by the GACA in the past year. The complete report is available on the GACA web site. In particular, he noted that the Association has received its Certificate of Incorporation under the Canada Not-for-Profit Corporations Act and thanked the firm GrandmaîtreVirgo Evans for their assistance.

He thanked all of the partners that support the GACA including The Cooperators, Minto, Metro, Enbridge, CAA North and East Ontario, CIBC at Innes and Belcourt, Distinctive Baths and Kitchens, Ray Smiley Re/Max Hallmark Realty Group, S&R Plumbing, Tiny Hoppers, Myers Orléans, Councillor Stephen Blais, MP Andrew Leslie, MPP Marie-France Lalonde, and the City of Ottawa Recreation Department. He also thanked the many volunteers, the 3018-33 Army Cadets, 8<sup>th</sup> Orléans Scouts, 632 Phoenix Royal Canadian Air

Cadets, Firestation #22, the Ottawa Police Department, High School students and members of the community for their support and contribution.

He thanked the local restaurants and businesses who provided Gift certificates for the BBQ and door prizes for the AGM including Home Depot, St. Martha's Brasserie d'Orléans, Broadway Bar and Grill, Yalla Yalla Lebanese Restaurant, Chocolats Favoris, Mandarin Restaurant, Mr. Lube (Brian Coburn) and Avalon Family Hair Centre.

The President read the plans for 2017-2018. He highlighted the main events that the association will continue organizing such as the Winter Family Fun Day in February, the May community garage sale and hosting our popular community BBQ in September.

#### **4. The Treasurer's Report**

As of October 31, 2017 the closing balance was \$4,564.19. The closing balance includes \$1,000.00 earmarked for the future 'Edible Forest Project'. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was proposed by Brendan Walker and seconded by Gérald Lecours. All in favour. **Motion carried.**

#### **5. Message from MP Andrew Leslie**

Marlene Dalanca expressed regret that MP Leslie could not attend and read the report prepared by his office. A copy of the report is available on our web site.

#### **6. Message from Ottawa City Hall – Councillor Stephen Blais**

Councillor Blais provided the members with an update on the city budget. Seventeen new double-decker buses will be purchased with the 2018 budget. Route 235 will change cutting the trip downtown by approx. 6 minutes. The new fire station on Portobello Blvd/Brian Coburn will open in the Spring 2018. The master plan process for the expansion of the François Dupuis Recreation Centre will be starting soon for sports fields (soccer and cricket) and the possibility of a library in the future. Roundabouts are planned for Brian Coburn and Strasburg starting in Spring 2018. One is also planned at Brian Coburn and Gerry Lalonde as well.

Councillor Blais answered questions regarding the flooding on Brian Coburn Blvd. after heavy rainfall. He mentioned that the sewers were running at full capacity however sometimes debris or ice can clog the sewer in which case one should call the City. The streets are also designed to hold water so that flooding does not happen in people's homes or yards. In response to a question regarding OC Transpo and the use of signals to re-enter after a designated stop, he advised members to call his office or OC Transpo with the bus number and leave a message. A traffic light is planned for Brian Coburn and Aquaview Dr. possibly in 2019.

The Secretary thanked Councillor Blais and the City of Ottawa for the grant the GACA received in support of the Edible Forest Project.

#### **7. Vote on Constitution Change**

It was proposed to create a 5<sup>th</sup> Director position. Proposed by Rachelle Lecours and seconded by Margarita Iraheta. All in favour. **Motion carried.**

## **8. Election of GACA Executive**

President Danick LaFrance opened the election for the Executive Committee. According to the Association's bylaws, the tenure for a position is two years. The positions of **Vice-President** and two **Director** positions were identified for election.

President: Danick LaFrance – extended mandate

Vice-President: Brendan Walker – acclaimed

Treasurer: André Arsenault – extended mandate

Secretary: Rachelle Lecours – extended mandate

Director: Ian Walker-Gregory – acclaimed

Director: Alain Bourgeois – extended mandate

Director: Justin Chan – acclaimed

Director: Vacant

Director: Vacant

Member-at-large: Sandra Walker-Gregory

The Assembly voted in favour of the nominations. The President declared the election closed.

A member recommended that the positions opened for election be posted and advertised ahead of the AGM in order to give members time to consider if they would like to place their name as candidate. The President acknowledged that the Association would make a better effort to advertise beyond the information posted in the local newspaper and the GACA web site.

## **9. Guest Speaker – Ottawa Police Services Constable Megan Arbuthnot**

Constable Megan Arbuthnot gave information on the Neighbourhood Watch Program. Mr. Pete Weston is the civilian volunteer in charge of the program. He would be pleased to attend a meeting and help neighbourhoods get started. The swarmings identified recently are being investigated by the robbery unit. Members were asked to get involved and report any suspicious behaviour. Call 911 only if there is a crime in progress. All other mischief or thefts should be reported by calling 613 236-1222. Reports can also be submitted online at Ottawa Police Service or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or Crimestoppers.ca.

She cautioned against 'false messaging' where people call as a result of something they saw on Facebook. It is best to be a first hand witness instead of reporting stories handed down through a facebook page that most often have been overdone.

She referred the members to the '*Little Black Book of Scams*' available in Pdf at Google.

## **10. Message from MPP Marie-France Lalonde**

The MPP sent her regrets. Maryam Mustafa presented a report on behalf of Marie-France. A copy of her report is available on the GACA site for your information.

### **11. Additional questions, issues and concerns of members of the public**

The President opened the floor to questions from the members. There were no additional comments or questions.

### **12. Presentations and Door Prizes**

The President thanked the guest speakers. The GACA presented a gift basket to Margarita Iraheta (former Vice-President) and Valérie Assoi (former Director) to thank them for their years of involvement in the GACA.

Door prizes were drawn for a Mandarin Gift Certificate, Chocolats Favoris Gift Certificate and Gabriel Pizza Gift Certificate.

### **13. Adjournment**

Valérie Assoi moved to adjourn at 9:45pm.