

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Stuart Holmes Arena Tuesday February 20th 2024 @ 7:30 pm

-Attendance was recorded at the door

-The OVCA Board met before the meeting and voted in the new bylaws at 7:23pm – All in Favour

1. Opening of meeting and welcome (7:35pm)- Rob McLellan
 - a. Rob indicated emergency exits, bathrooms, and snacks/drinks available.
 - b. Rob provided a Land Acknowledgement, discussion of 7 generations philosophy, and discussion of where will Osgoode be in 7 generations.

2. Introduction of the current Board and thank you:

Board members below were introduced and then certificates for past members were presented (Emily Dozois, Sarah Ciametta, and Joseph Boushey).
Certificates of appreciation will be hand delivered.

Officers

Chair: Rob McLellan

Secretary: Adriana Hulse

Treasurer: Wendy Mussell (interim)

Communications: Ashley Koning-Smith

Past Chair: Emily Dozois

Directors- at-Large

Brian Warren

Ashley Warren

Pierre Decaire

Rob Smith

3. Agenda

Agenda Item

Introduction of Invitees and their reports (~5 minutes each), questions at the end.

- MPP Goldie Ghamari (via Zoom)
- Councillor George Darouze
- Community Police Officer Andrew Worth (via Zoom)

Notes

Notes from Goldie: She wasn't able to access the zoom option due to technical issues. She forwarded a written update to Rob and he read it to the group offering local updates.

Notes from George: George offered his appreciation for the Board, and mentioned a few of the local OVCA events he is looking forward to including Porch Fest! Road improvements are coming for Osgoode on a few major roads. As well, there will be meetings coming up specific to Osgoode with the City Roads Dept. to address interior streets that are in disrepair. Speed cameras and improved safety in the OPS school zones is also an important aspect of his focus. A Rural Summit is coming to rural Ottawa this year and is being led by the 4 rural Councilors to cover topics specific to rural life. Rob, the OVCA Chair, is on the 2024 Rural Summit Committee. CCIP – insurance for the Community Associations is going to City Council tomorrow and next year OVCA will be included in this insurance coverage. George opened the floor for questions and verified that the Mayor is in support of helping OVCA with this insurance.

Notes from Andrew:

He discussed fatal accidents on rural roadways. There has been some work by the City to improve stop signs and realignment of some intersections and this should reduce some of the accidents. In 2026, there will be a new station on Prince of Wales Drive. This will result in more rural officers being deployed to Osgoode. The Chief has more of a genuine focus on rural issues and sees the need for policing in rural communities. Traffic is the #1 issue in the Ward currently due to public reports. Reporting is key from the public or Police

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services / presence will not increase in Osgoode. Deployment is based on stats generated from public reporting and incidents/accidents. There has been more auto theft as well as more arrests relating to auto theft across the City. Crime in Osgoode Ward hasn't increased and is fairly status quo this year.

The police will be present at Osgoode's Canada Day this year and in other rural villages, rather than all being deployed to downtown Ottawa.

Andrew opened the floor for questions.

Andrew has 'open door' office hours on Tuesday from 1 to 2 to come in person to discuss community issues with him.

Approval of 2023 AGM minutes	Moved: AKS 2 nd : AH All in favor
Election of board members ● Nominations	Motion to approve these Board Members to stay on the Board/ become members that were 'interim'. The following people are approved to be OVCA Board Members: Rob Smith, Brian Warren, Ashley Warren, Wendy Mussel -All in favor
Motion to approve new OVCA Bylaws	Ontario Not for Profit Corporations Act was discussed and key info was shared by Rob to list the things that Board members need to follow including the requirement to have Bylaws. Also noted was that OVCA has shared the financial info to the village via social media and on the OVCA website to increase transparency. The Board is making sure that OVCA meets the requirements of this legislation. The new bylaws were created with a lawyer. These are on the website. Members are no longer defined as living within a specific boundary – rather members need to be registered/signed up to participate. There is no fee for membership. A main reason for this is so that members can have a special meeting to vote out Board members or other Board decisions should the majority of members want to change something. The legislation is clear that members must be registered/ sign up on a form. Q from the community: What if the members don't adequately represent the actual Osgoode community, rather they could have a specific agenda? Rob explained the info about validating membership and the Board must validate each membership. Q. from the community: Is every community association operating under the same bylaws? Rob explained that, No, each group writes them and ensures they are compliant with ONCA.
Updates from OVCA Board, ● Chair/Events Report - Rob McLellan	Motion to approve the new Bylaws: All in favor Rob outlined many events in 2023 and how successful they were and how much volunteer work it takes to achieve these. More volunteers would be welcome to collaborate on these fun events. -we are sponsoring the Outreach group to allow for more regularly activities in the village under OVCA's insurance

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- a Slide Show was provided with the discussion
-advocacy, OVCA worked on safety issues at the Bramble Lane playground, bank closure, advising on the new park in South Creek, advocating on the issues in the unpaved parking lot at the Arena and issues with mobility.
-Ugly sweater party, the hampers and fundraising for the Osgoode Emergency Food Cupboard were also taken on by OVCA
Looking forward to 2024:
Many repeats of favorite and successful events are happening in 2024. A survey was recently circulated locally on social media to assess the priorities of the Community. We are looking forward to building partnerships with other agencies and groups.
The OVCA income was mostly from grants, partnerships and donations from businesses and from people in our area.
- Treasurer's Report – Wendy Mussell
Overall the Net Income Tax was: \$2120.25
Bank balance is \$22 071.52
OVCA is tracking assets such as the popcorn machine, and sea can. The financial report is available on the OVCA website.

Updates from Community Groups and OVCA Committees - A call to the floor for others.

(2 Minutes each maximum)

Organization

Notes from Discussions

Osgoode Outreach
(Elizabeth McNee)

The Osgoode Outreach Started 4 years ago as a luncheon. During Covid they switched it to drop ins. Not only for seniors, it's welcoming to anyone who is home during the day and would benefit from socializing in person. They have a new postcard outlining their group. Last year, Elizabeth came to OVCA and told them that the Legion was failing and she noted that Rob Smith and Pierre Decaire found new ways to improve the legion/funds/use.

Fitness for Positive Aging
and
Osgoode Garden Club
(Sheila Beichler)

Fitness club: meets twice a week in the hall above the arena. They focus on low impact fitness and cover a full range of fitness in 1 hour. 34 members are registered. Sheila has certification to provide this service and lead seniors through fitness. Her focus is to help people maintain strength and mobility to enjoy life and contribute to positive mental health. Sheila continues to take courses regularly to keep her certifications. She discussed the importance of fitness in relation to cognition and memory as well as disease prevention and disease management.

-It's never too late to get moving! Everyone is welcome.

The Garden club meets regularly and does projects and fundraising. The biggest project in 2022 was the big garden project at the library. Thank you to Yates for putting in the sprinkler systems. A new donation from Yates was recently received: 3 years of spring maintenance! They have a social media volunteer, speakers at meetings including master gardeners, floral arrangers etc. They are noting the gardens that are appreciated in public spaces like at the playground and OYA etc and they are hoping to find a way to improve them in the coming years. The membership of the garden club is 35 members.

Osgoode Youth Association
(Carley Scharf on behalf of
Nicole McKerracher)

The OYA runs programs for youth ages 7 to 18. They currently have after school care available. They have a youth drop in for teens for free. They have a new program for grades 5 to 12 called Cultures in the Community to share info to

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	<p>kids about various cultures: such as German Christmas, Indigenous beading, etc. A local indigenous youth has sponsored the indigenous events. Next week at 7pm Wed. is the OYA AGM and everyone is invited. Sat. May 11th is the Goode Run, this is a fundraiser and offers al 2km or 5km race for running or walking. Volunteers needed. All info is on the website. This year is the 100th anniversary of scouting in Osgoode. Beavers membership is full and very popular. The plan is to open a 2nd Beaver colony in Osgoode to provide this opportunity to more kids. There is now a Scouts troop in the village, there hadn't been one for a few years. Last year the Beavers painted under the guidance of Bonnie from 'Art with Bonnie' and sold painting to raise money for CHEO (over \$300 raised) The Scouting programs are run by local volunteers.</p>
Osgoode Scouts (and Cubs and Beavers) (Chris Davis)	<p>-an update was read at the meeting: Sparks, Embers, Guides are well attended by local kids. -they did some activities to support of our City's homeless populations -sold cookies seasonally to fundraise The Guiding program is run by local volunteers.</p>
Osgoode Guides (Jackie Allen)	
Osgoode Fish & Game Club and Osgoode Outdoor Rink (Scott Faris)	<p>Fish and Game Club: planned an ice fishing day, but the conditions were unsafe this year. AGM is April 16th at the Legion. Kids fishing day will be on 6th of July at Taylor Park and it is always well attended. In November they do a fundraiser by hosting a Game Dinner. They are working on a few other ideas and also support things such as skeet shoots, teaching kids to hunt, etc. Members get an annual subscription to Ontario Outdoors magazine as well as insurance. Membership is done via paper – reach out to Scott if you would like membership. They also have a Facebook page and an email distribution list.</p>
	<p>ODR: Last year they rebuilt the ice 4 times. This year they are currently rebuilding it for the 2nd time. Conditions have been difficult and the ground is not staying frozen. They have a new piece of equipment to help edge the ice and make the surface of the ice much better. Additionally, they have access to new snowblower. Geoff Grimwood has the contract with the City to clear the snow, and has been able to upgrade to a better snowblower. Currently missing a hockey net. They are looking forward to next year now that all the right equipment is in place.</p>
NROCCRC / Nepean Rideau Osgoode Community Resource Centre (Carley Scharf) Osgoode Township Museum (James Jensen)	<p>Carley works 7 hours a week to offer seniors programming and resources to Osgoode. She has partnered with OVCA on many events including the Christmas lunch at the legion. NROCCR offers many other services such as counseling services and helping people apply for credit cards etc. James Jensen - was unable to attend and Carley offered a short update) -pop up markets are happening you can shop or be a vendor at the OTM -info can be found on the website or FB page</p>
Ottawa South Choir (Jennifer Cogswell)	<p>Rob discussed a slide provided by Jennifer There is an active Youth Choir and a new Adult Choir based in Osgoode. Both are huge and very popular. They are looking for a volunteer pianist for next year.</p>

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Osgoode Legion
(Greg Thurlow)

O So Goode Music Inc. is also now available for singing lessons.

Additionally, there will be a musical summer camp this year for kids which will run out of both Churches on Osgoode Main.

The Osgoode Legion is no longer in debt and is paying the bills thanks to new activities and volunteers helping pull it back up this past year. Thanks to OVCA for helping with improving the Legion. Thanks to the garden club for improving the gardens.

-BBQ fundraiser is coming up – Roast beef and seafood chowder and only 80 spaces available.

Date: March 16th

-Any community group can use the legion for activities/events. You don't need to be a member/past member of the armed forces to become a Legion member. More members are welcome.

-They are planning events for Canada Day.

-They are also adding a ramp into the front of the Legion and an accessible path to the back bbq.

-activities such as:Monday:Euchre/Tuesday:Darts/ Thursday:Bingo etc.

Metcalfe Community
Association
(Marc Sauve)

Lots of new homes and new families and opportunities to find more volunteers. He found a volunteer who is handy and has recruited other like-minded handy people to volunteer on 'operations'

Events: Town Hall at the community center to discuss traffic and safety but it wasn't well attended yet they will have it again in the Fall because there are ongoing complaints and issues with traffic. Parkway and 8th line now have improved lights and signs. Victoria to Cartwright east to Russell is now similar to Dalmany corner and that took 7 years, but is now safer. They had a job fair with 72 students and many local businesses. They will repeat it again in April because it was so successful. 114 people signed up for a free online distracted driving course.

They have Veterans banners in the village and it's both decorative and meaningful and well received by the village. Youth group is now running once a week, they socialize and also offer them courses such as health seminars, life skills like cooking etc.

They just started a free family exercise program twice a week. This info is also available on the website. They typically do 1 event a month. They have had success with Chat events where kids and seniors hang out and talk under the shade of tents and enjoy refreshments, live music in the park, Shakespeare in the park, etc.

Greeley Community
Association
(Isabelle Skalski)

NEW: They want to create a medical clinic in Metcalfe because there are a number of residents without a doctor – hosting a meeting in February.

She noted that they are a bit different in that there is no mainstreet, but they are more of a bedroom community yet they do have businesses and many families who want a sense of community and local events. Canada Day and Winter Carnival are their 2 big events (54th year of the Carnival!!). They also host a few other smaller events throughout the year depending on volunteers and interest. They are hoping to plan a Mother's Day event. They hope to build momentum with annual events such as the annual garage sale. The Greeley

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Garden club has the garden experts as well as 'laborers' who don't know how to garden but will work under the guidance of the gardeners. She very much feels that there is good and helpful collaboration with the neighboring community associations and offered her thanks to OVCA.

Manotick Village
Community Association
(Irene Staron)

Did not attend. No update provided.

Meeting Wrap
up

Thank You &
Closing

-Rob McLellan

Rob acknowledged that there have been some great projects in our villages and they take a lot of time and a lot of stability in the volunteers to make change. The sense of community and the access to free/affordable events for residents is incredible. Rob thanked our neighboring community groups for attending and thanked the Community and the OVCA Board for the great work completed in 2023 and the year ahead.

Greg Thurlow also took time to address the Board and thank them for their hard work. He is happy to see that OVCA continues to be viable since his time on the Board.

Rob ended the meeting at 9:21 pm

Next Regular

-7:30 PM

Monthly

-Tuesday March 19th 2024

Meeting:

-in the Fred Alexander room at the Stuart Holmes Arena

Approved by:

Rob McLellan
Chair