

# Bay Ward Council

## Meeting Notes

September 9, 2009

**Attendees:** Joe Hager, Barry Spratt, Bert Foulds, Michele McLean, Judy Patterson, Rich Nelson, Tim Stutt, Clarence Dungey, Marlene Rivier, Dave Grosvenor, Steve Hopwood, Ruth Tremblay, David Keen of City of Ottawa Parks and Recreation, Cst. Maria Keen, Dan O'Hagan, Councillor Alex Cullen.

**Associations in Attendance:** Ambleside Condo, Woodroffe North Community Association, Park Place Condominium, Glabar Park Community Alliance, Crystal Beach-Lakeview Community Association, Queensway Terrace North Community Association, Park Vista Condo, Woodpark Community Association.

### Police Services Report by Cst. Maria Keen

Recent crime and policing statistics, including recent activity reports, are available on the Ottawa Police Services website.

The STEP program (selective traffic enforcement program), part of the Integrated Road Safety Program, chooses a different priority each month. STEP priorities for the month of September are school zones, school bus safety and speeding

In 2008, 3,592 reportable collisions occurred on Ottawa roads as a result of drivers exceeding the speed limit or driving too fast for conditions. These collisions resulted in nine deaths and 990 injuries - including 55 serious injuries.

School zone and school bus safety are also serious issues. Over the past five years, 40 collisions occurred on Ottawa roads involving school bus traffic control violations, resulting in 13 injuries - one of which involved a school-age child exiting the school bus.

The penalties for a driver passing a stopped school bus with its upper red lights flashing include fines ranging from \$400 to \$2,000 and six demerit points for a first offence. A second offence yields the driver a fine between \$1,000 and \$4,000, six demerit points and a possible jail sentence of up to six months. Penalties may not be limited to the driver. The vehicle owner may also be charged for school bus traffic control violations, with fines ranging from \$400 to \$2,000.

Citizens who witness such occurrences can contact the police and provide the make, model, colour of vehicle; license number; location, date and time of the incident; and, if possible, a description of the driver.

Cst. Keen pointed out that theft from vehicles is up 40% year over year in Ottawa, and that prevention is a major key to controlling this problem, which is largely a crime of opportunity. Residents should remember to lock their doors, even when their car is parked in their own driveway, and to be conscious of what is left in the car, especially what is visible.

Additional information about the reports referred to above, and other information, can be found on the OPS website. Crime statistics can be analyzed using the new Google based crime analysis tool available to the public through the OPS website ([www.ottawapolice.ca](http://www.ottawapolice.ca)). This tool uses the crime statistics compiled by OPS and allows anyone to do an analysis of the crime statistics in their part of Ottawa. This tool is now available for use, and will be updated as new statistics are available.

## **Community Associations Update:**

### **Woodroffe North Community Association – Dave Grosvenor**

Dave reported that residents are worried about increased bus noise on the Parkway, and reported that there seem to be more empty buses on the Parkway than in the past. Councillor Cullen noted that with increases in service and bus ridership (service levels have increased by 7% this year) some increase in the number of deadheading buses in the system can be expected as more buses are often needed on particular routes and at particular times to deal with rush hour.

The issue of rezoning on the Honda dealership site is still of concern to members of the community, and they would like to meet with the Councillor soon to discuss concerns over the use of land fronting on Richmond Road for the dealership, including noise, and the large trucks which deliver vehicles, and sometimes block traffic on Richmond Road. Joe Hager noted that this is an issue to Park Place residents as well, and suggested that the Park Place condo be included on any mailing about this meeting.

Dave reminded people at the meeting of the 200th anniversary of settlement in the Woodroffe North community. A number of events and celebrations will be held to celebrate this anniversary over the next few months.

### **Crystal Beach-Lakeview Community Association – Ruth Tremblay**

Ruth reported that the West Transitway extension, and its placement, continue to be a matter of concern to residents of Crystal Beach-Lakeview.

She noted that while the City's preferred route, as presented at a meeting earlier in the summer, is the north side of the 417, many residents feel that the City should also examine a route along the south side, or the option of running the extension on the highway median. She noted that the route on the north side of the highway would affect the TransCanada Bike Path and the natural urban forest in that area.

She also reported that a meeting will be held on Monday, September 14, at Maki House, at 7 pm to discuss the infill proposal for 3358-3362 Carling Ave. This is a re-zoning application to permit a number of semi-detached homes at 3358-3362 Carling Ave. The architect, Barry Padolsky, will

meet with residents and present the proposal for discussion and questions, including issues related to tree cutting.

Ruth reported that the community has raised over \$3200 for a new snowblower for the community rink. This will be in operation this winter.

### **Ambleside Condominium – Barry Spratt**

Barry noted that the application to rename the park adjoining Ambleside III as Sara Beth Therien Park is going through the approval process. A plaque outlining her contribution to public life by raising the profile of organ donation for transplant, is expected to be installed next spring. Councillor Cullen noted that, for reasons related to 911 calls, the park will simply be named Therien Park, but the plaque will give her full name and explain her importance.

Barry also noted that an Open House was recently held for the new residential facility on Richmond Road (Larga Baffin) for people from Northern Canada in Ottawa for medical treatment. Some work is still ongoing on landscaping and infrastructure, but the facility is operational. A number of residents of the community attended the Open House.

Residents of Ambleside are not happy about public transit changes which were put in place recently. These changes have resulted in the disappearance of the #50 Bus and an increase in the number of transfers required to get downtown from Ambleside, or home in the evening. Councillor Cullen noted that changes in demand, changes in demographics, new extensions to the Transitway and an ongoing need to increase efficiency and control costs has led to some route adjustments and to some concerns during the transition period to the new routes. He also noted that overall there has been a 7% increase in bus service as a result, and that there will be a further opportunity for members of the community to voice their concerns next spring when a new round of consultations on bus routes will be held.

### **Queensway Terrace North Community Association – Tim Stutt**

Tim reported on the work on Pinewood Crescent which has resulted in the rebuilding of the roadway and the reclaiming of some public land that, over the years, had been taken over by some residents and used for parking. Councillor Cullen noted that intensification, in this community and elsewhere, means there will be higher population density, more cars, and issues regarding parking and the use of public space. The response in the Queensway Terrace North community, including a series of consultations leading to a Community Development Plan, is a model for how to respond to similar issues in other communities.

Tim also asked about the future of the Grant school building, which will be used by the City to house community groups. Councillor Cullen noted that the building is a heritage property and will remain on the site; the City is currently evaluating proposals for the building and will hold a community meeting when more information is available.

### **Glabar Park Community Alliance – Judy Patterson**

The community association will hold a special general meeting on September 28.

Judy noted that the renovations to the YMCA on Lockhart Avenue, which cost roughly \$600,000, have now been completed, and the building, including the renovated gym with new equipment, is open for business.

She also asked about the status of Fairlawn Plaza. Councillor Cullen noted that there is no new information on what the property owner intends for this site. He also noted that some parts of the site, on the eastern edge, are zoned residential and might be treated separately from the parts of the property with commercial zoning. He also noted that if a rezoning application were to be filed for any part of this property, members of the community would be notified and meetings would be held to explain any application and answer residents' questions.

## **Woodpark Community Association – Steve Hopwood**

Steve noted that the community, as with Woodroffe North, has concerns about the Honda dealership on Richmond Road. Residents are not happy about the disruption caused by big delivery rigs containing vehicles for the dealership being driven through residential areas of Wood Park. Councillor Cullen noted that residents of the community would also be notified of a public meeting that will soon be held to discuss re-zoning and other related issues regarding the Honda dealership.

Steve noted, as well, that members of the community were also concerned about bus route changes, especially the disappearance of the #50 and #18 buses, and the increase in transfers and travel time that has resulted.

## **Councillor Cullen's City Hall Report**

Councillor Cullen indicated that the City's Fall Cleaning the Capital will take place from September 15 to October 15. As with Spring Cleaning the Capital, community members should register their cleanup projects and will be provided with necessary equipment by the City. More information is available on the City website.

The City is currently looking for volunteers for a wide variety of City Advisory Committees and Boards. Advisory Committees and Boards provide advice to Council, help in the development of policy and programs, and provide an opportunity to get involved and play an active role in the life of the city. A number of Open Houses will be held around the City during the month of September to explain what is available and what is involved. More information is available on the City website, or through Jamie Lalonde at 613-580-2424 ext. 28717.

The Councillor noted that a survey on the new Community Development Framework, now known as Hand-in-Hand Bayshore, will be distributed in the Bayshore area in early September to get some feedback on what residents think of their neighbourhood, what problems they see, and what programs they feel are needed in the community. The results of this survey will be compiled and a report will be presented to a future Ward Council meeting. More information about the program, and the survey, are available on the Pinecrest-Queensway CHC website at [www.pqchc.com](http://www.pqchc.com).

Councillor Cullen presented a short video on the new Batterycycle initiative, which will provide battery recycling depots at schools and libraries across the City, including Carlingwood Library. The disposal of batteries with hazardous chemicals is a serious environmental problem, and up to now many residents have not had an easy way to dispose of their old batteries. Many schools in the community have been working on increasing awareness and collecting batteries in their schools and neighbouring communities. This is a major environmental initiative of the City that should address a problem encountered by many residents. More information is available on the City website.

Councillor Cullen also outlined the Lansdowne Live proposal for the redevelopment of Lansdowne Park. This proposal, which was recently presented to Council, will be presented for discussion and questions at a number of public meetings this fall, starting with a public meeting on September 28. A complete schedule of meetings and background material is available through the City website.

Councillor Cullen noted that the Belltown Dome renovations, which had been scheduled to start this year, will now be delayed until next spring.

A new community association has been formed in the area west of Lincoln Heights Galleria between Regina Public School and the Parkway. This community association was born out of a concern in the community about a possible new development on the site of the 12 unit group home at the end of Regina, close to the Parkway. A proposal, being put forward by WindMill Development, would see two condominium towers being added to the property. Issues related to this development proposal will be the first major priority of the new association.

Councillor Cullen noted that he is currently a member of the Mississippi-Rideau Sourcewater Protection Committee (formed under the auspices of the Ontario Clean Water Act), and that the committee will be meeting in late September or early October to look at developing guidelines for intake protection zones for water treatment plants on the Ottawa River (such as Britannia), an issue that concerns many community members. Anyone interested in more information, or with information to contribute, should call the Councillor's office in advance of these meetings.

The procedure for the next round of discussions leading to a new 2010 City budget will be discussed at Council in September. Details on the new City budget process, dates and timelines, will be available on the City website once they have been approved by Council at a meeting later in September.

The City is reviewing the method used to recover costs for the delivery of drinking water, sanitary and storm water services. A number of options for changes to rate structures for these services were presented at a meeting of the Planning and Environment Committee in June and will be undergoing public review until late September. The proposed changes are intended to be rate neutral (the same amount of money will be collected, and is designed to recover costs, not contribute to other programs), to improve revenue stability, transparency and fairness. More details, including the dates of meetings on this issue, are available on the City website under Rate Study.

Councillor Cullen finished off the meeting by presenting an amended version of the Bay Ward 2009 Calendar of Issues, which takes into account changes over the past few months. This list of issues represents the Councillor's list of priorities over the next few months, and is intended to improve transparency by providing an easily accessible list of project and issues that are currently being worked on. This list will be updated and amended from time to time, and is available on the Councilor's website at [www.alexcullen.ca](http://www.alexcullen.ca).

## **Next Bay Ward Council Meeting:**

Next Bay Ward Council meeting will be held Wednesday October 7, 2009 and will start at 7:00 p.m. at the Ron Kolbus-Lakeside Centre in Britannia Park.

This document and related information is also available on the Councillor's website ([www.alexcullen.ca](http://www.alexcullen.ca)). If you need to have this material in hard copy, please phone our office (613-580-2477) and let either Sheila or Lara know.

If you wish to be added to our mailing list, or if you know someone else who should get this material, please phone, or email me ([alex.cullen@ottawa.ca](mailto:alex.cullen@ottawa.ca)) and let me know the e-mail addresses. We will add them to our Ward Council e-mail list.