



VCA Fall General Meeting

Wednesday, November 18, 2020; 7pm via ZOOM

PROPOSED MINUTES

1. The meeting was called to order by President Mona Babin, with quorum and governance guidelines confirmed.
2. Sue Henry explained the procedures for commenting and voting for this Zoom meeting.
3. Members approved proposed changes to the agenda (eliminating Village development update and adding two committee reports) unanimously.
4. Proposed minutes from meeting of Oct 16, 2019 were approved.
5. **Executive Reports (finance and communications) were posted on the VCA website:**
 - a) Finance: (Joseph Allevato)
 - i. Jim Wallace has agreed to review the VCA 2020-2021 financial statements prior to the AGM in April, 2021.
 - ii. Joe thanked Jim on behalf of the members for his review last year and also for reviewing this year.
6. **Committee Reports (membership, social, gardening and holiday decorating posted on VCA website):**
 - a) Street lights (Mona Babin) - As reported in the September newsletter and the Town's press release posted online, LED lights will replace the current light bulbs on the streets east of Murray. The streetlights currently without lens covers will now have a warmer, less harsh LED light.
 - b) The Little Libraries (Ardeth Staz):
 - I. An exchange box that works via the honour system, such as the one currently on private property at Front and Simcoe streets. Ideally, installation in the Village would be at the post boxes or in the parkettes, since high visibility and location are two of the criteria for success.
 - II. Preliminary enquiries and next steps outlined, contacts with the Town of NOTL (several departments), John Hawley, and "one call" (call before you dig). We have product plans and have consulted with several people who have built little libraries.

- III. Some concerns were expressed by the Town related to Covid; i.e. gathering, sanitation, etc. As a result, we have decided to put this project on hold until next year, when safety concerns have declined.
- IV. There are two volunteer builders available at the moment. In the meantime, some materials (shingles, plexiglass, exterior white paint, caulking, plywood, etc.) are needed. If you have anything to add or donate please contact Ardeth at 18 Colonel Cohoe. ardeth.staz@gmail.com 905-964-4660

7. New Business:

- a) The Village Entrance: (Dee Stahlman) and her committee have initiated a project to establish a soft entrance at the CIBC corner of the Village that would be agreeable to the residents, developer, visitors, the Town and the region. She has spoken to the Town's Director of operations, and John Hawley re: budget, safety, aesthetics, etc. Consultation with residents is just beginning. Please go on to the VCA website if you wish to be involved, and contact Dee directly.

8. VCA Recognition Awards:

- a) Introduced in the Fall of 2019, the VCA Recognition Award goes to a person or a group that has gone over and above their expected responsibilities, to foster a harmonious community, serve residents of the Village, or provide a stronger voice for Village residents within the municipality. Past recipients include Membership and Gardening Chair Randy Churchill, and the entire Social Committee.
- b) Lord Mayor Betty Disero made the first presentation to Dale Desllets, for "Excellent management of the Village Decorating Committee and creativity in designing new elements." Congratulations and thank you, Dale for your hard work as well as your team's dedication to inspire us all. Dale thanked his thirty plus volunteers who get out there in all sorts of conditions to make The Village such a special place.
- c) The second recognition award went to Sue Henry, for "Creating new ways to reach all members of The Village". Congratulations, Sue, and thank you for the exceptional work you do all year round communicating with our members with great humour and graphic design.

9. Greetings from the NOTL Council:

- a) Lord Mayor Betty Disero spoke about what the Town Council and staff have been busy with over the last year, including a strategic plan, and a wellness plan.
- b) She also announced the appointment of a new CAO, Marnie Cluckie, whose job it is to look at those plans and set us on a path toward that collective vision. Marnie comes to the Town with a background in business, architecture, the environment, and finance in other municipalities.

- c) Betty also mentioned the parking restrictions that were removed this year and said that a budget has been approved for playground equipment, location to be determined, somewhere in The Village, once further discussion and talks with Kevin Turcotte and others involved are held. Nothing has been decided yet. The VCA will form a committee to look further into this project. More to come on this. Please reach out to Ardeth Staz (ardeth.staz@gmail.com) if you want to work on this.
- d) Luba Fraser asked about a grocery store. No particular company has been identified so far, as the discussions of the site plan are not part of an open public process. The Town Urban Design Committee under Craig Larmour is leading this process. Size is one of the factors under discussion. Another, bigger, challenge has to do with coordination with the region in terms of the entrance on 55. Once that gets worked out the site plan is complete can be completed and submitted for approval.
- e) Thank you, Betty, for taking the time for investing in our community and being with us this evening. If anyone has more questions, please send them directly to Mona so they can be included in a future newsletter.

10. Meeting adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m. Thanks to all who attended.