

Greely Community Association
 Minutes - Regular Meeting
 September 24, 2024
 7:30-9:30PM Greely Community Association

Item and Speaker	Key messages	Action items
1. Welcome and introductions <i>All</i>	Meeting included President, Treasurer, VP, Volunteers responsible for Communications, Volunteers, Civics Affairs (2), Beautification, Garden and representative from GYA in addition to community residents	n/a
2a. Reports - Treasurer <i>David Frost</i>	Treasurer summarized the year end financial outlook and confirmed the starting financial position (see attached statement). Also, Treasurer explained that G-YA accounting would appear like a subcommittee on the statement to maintain separation from GCA budget. Question was posed about the reporting of the Taylor Swift Dance - treasurer explained that the GCA did not incur any actual costs the full revenue (from tickets sold) was issued to the sponsor as they managed their own costs.	Treasurer to supply communications with a copy of the final report to post on the website
2b. Reports- Feedback on Canada Day <i>Linda Brayman</i>	Opened the floor to feedback on July 1st event. Feedback included: -need more activities for older children/teens; suggested scavenger hunt. geocaching, some expected carnival rides -suggested a 2nd or 3rd ice cream truck and more food vendors/options -positive feedback on experience as a booth vendor (logistics were well done) -suggestions for disc golf (9-hole) and axe throwing	Linda to take note of suggestions and carry forward to organizers of 2025 event Linda to try and secure vendors early.
2c. Reports- Library Garden <i>Lyndi McDonald</i>	Lyndi conveyed that several members of the community have expressed their appreciation for the library garden. She explained the level of effort that it takes to maintain and expressed deep appreciation for the volunteers. Lyndi explained that more volunteers were needed and that anyone can contact her if they are interested in helping. She described some vandalism that had occurred in the garden including breaking the water barrel, which has put into question the security of further investments. It was noted that the group was successful in receiving a small grant from the City for the purchase of native plants and that the team was still looking for a way to secure a storage shed. Reminder to all that Saturday October 12 8-4:00 is Fall clean-up day.	Isabelle to send Julia and Colleen info about volunteering for October 12 (to contain Lyndi's contact details) Julia will post on several Facebook local gardening groups to try and get the word out.

<p>2d. Civics Affairs</p> <p><i>Kecia Peters and Rod Penney</i></p>	<p>volunteers took on the work of staying abreast of City and local development affairs and preparing updates for the GCA and community as appropriate.</p> <p>Kecia reported on Tomlinson's Community Liaison meeting, held Thursday Sept. 12, where they shared information on their quarry blast history. Tomlinson reported one blast over the limit. Isabelle shared feedback that was communicated via social media from some residents, including those in the mobile home communities.</p> <p>Kecia listed the upcoming City Committee meetings and indicated that either she or Rod would aim to attend ARAC and Emergency Management.</p>	<p>Kecia will follow-up with Tomlinson to receive specific instructions for residents on how to report blast related incidents/observations and prepare a communication for residents.</p> <p>Isabelle to set up a GCA gmail account and Google workspace for the subcommittee to facilitate comms/info sharing.</p>
<p>2e Greely Youth Association</p> <p><i>Dan O'Blenis</i></p>	<p>Secretary of the Greely Youth Association shared an update on the G-YA's efforts and first drop-in event. On Sept 17 the first drop in was held for youth in grades 7-12 at the GCC. 23 youth participated. Dan recognized the contributions from Councillor Darouze and Greely Hot Pizzeria. Drop-ins will continue weekly over the fall. More adult volunteers are needed, vulnerable sector police check is a requirement and first aid/other training will be supported. G-YA is looking for storage space at the GCC.</p>	<p>All in attendance were encouraged to share the news about the weekly Wednesday drop-ins.</p> <p>Isabelle will follow-up with the City about possible onsite storage options; the need for greater storage is shared by the GCA.</p>
<p>3. Vandalism at the Greely Community Centre</p> <p><i>Isabelle Skalski Kerry Charron</i></p>	<p>Recently several incidents had been brought to the attention of the GCA about vandalism at the Greely Community Centre - ranging from concerns about youth riding dirt bikes in parks to bonfires, destruction of property, street racing up Meadow Dr. and excessive littering. It was observed that the people are not always the same but the recent crew appears older and gather in expensive vehicles. The concerns were conveyed to the City Councillor and the Ottawa Police Community Officer (A Worth). Upon review of the City's police report data it seems that while people have made observations (e.g., posting on Facebook or calling 311) they haven't been appropriately reported to impact City policing. Residents need to report the incidents to the Ottawa police non-emergency line in order to drive resources and target enforcement attention to these issues.</p> <p>In addition to these incidents, concerns about youth climbing onto the roof of the GCC was raised as well as options to limit access. This has been a recurring issue for many years and is not new. Residents were upset that this behavior informs how and where benches and tables can be placed onsite.</p> <p>A resident noted that there wasn't general</p>	<p>Isabelle to follow-up with the City / Ottawa Police to provide instructions to create a social media campaign to improve incident reporting.</p>

	<p>awareness of the incidents and that efforts should be made by the GCA to increase awareness via social media.</p> <p>It was noted that the Police moving to the GCC might have a positive effect to reduce these incidents.</p>	
4. Communications Report	<p>Maureen noted that only 17 residents have completed the survey on GCA website preferences- results so far show that people seek info on events and news in the community, they rely on social media for updates but visit the web periodically.</p> <p>Residents asked that the calendar of events be kept up to date and that information about meetings, agendas and minutes be available.</p> <p>It was explained that there is also a feature on the calendar that allows outside organizations to add to the calendar of events.</p>	Maureen to continue to monitor survey results and to test the calendar feature to ensure functionality.
5. Lookahead for 2024-2025	<p>GCA upcoming events includes: Halloween Haunted Hike at the GCC on October 26 (day time hike from 1-4 and evening youth dance from 6:30-9:00PM) posters will go up 1st week of October; Breakfast with Santa (led by Councillor Darouze and Greely Lions) and Greely Treelighting (led by GCA) held Dec. 7th; Greely Winter Carnival held January 30 to Feb 2. Spring event TBC.</p> <p>Volunteers are needed for the Halloween and Holiday Committee - those interested should contact volunteer@greelycommunity.ca.</p>	NA
Open Floor	<p>Amy (resident) who is leading the ‘beautification’ subcommittee asked if there were any eye sores that should be the focus of an upcoming call for proposals for funds to pay for murals. Amy identified the Greely signs entering Meadow Dr. and walls of the GCC as possible sites for improvement.</p> <p>Bruce (resident) raised the need to follow-up on flower planters, signs and sidewalks which were included in the Community Design Plan as they have not yet been implemented. It was noted that volunteers would be needed to tend to any plantings.</p>	Isabelle to work with Amy on a social media campaign to solicit ideas from residents for potential areas to beautify.

Items requested to carry forward to the next agenda:

- Discussion on volunteer appreciation to recognize the significant efforts being made by our volunteers, especially in the garden.