



Vars Community Association
Meeting Minutes
April 3rd, 2009

Opening:

The General Meeting of the Vars CA was called to order at 7:05 p.m. on April 3rd at St-Guillaume School by Jean Séguin.

Present:

Jean Séguin, Gary Larocque (*off site*), Darlene Brown, Barb Lavictoire, Linda Payant, Suzanne Sanford, Mark Wall, Linda Ablack, Louise Saumure, Jim Heidinga, Morley Verdier

Excused: Hélène Manning-Lemieux, Christine Flood

Absent: Nicolina Kingston, Scot Lemieux

A. Approval of Agenda

The following items were added to the agenda:

- May 1st & 4th meetings
- Rural Affairs Office report
- Directorship of Mr. Scot Lemieux

B. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

C. Conflict of interest

- o No issues of potential conflict of interest were raised.

D. Open Issues:

• **Cenotaph update:**

- o Morley Verdier made a presentation on the refurbishing of the Vars cenotaph which included a preliminary estimate of costs which could run up to \$21,000 or higher depending on the preferred repair option and labor costs.
- o Linda Payant confirmed that the Councillor's office was looking into obtaining trees and top soil to assist in the landscaping.
- o An application could be sent to Veterans Affairs Canada to provide some funding, however, a detailed cost estimate must be completed.
- o The VCA will support the application to Veterans Affairs Canada as soon as all the information on costs is submitted. As the VCA has limited funds available, the community will have to determine how to finance the outstanding balance, including the provision of volunteer labor to complete the project.

- Suzanne Sanford will explore the possibility of using some of the remaining funds from the Legacy Fund to assist in the financing of the project.
- Morley Verdier will return at the June Committee meeting with an update and decisions will be made at that time.
- **Canada Day Event Funding:**
 - Jean informed that he had submitted the VCA application for funding from the City for the Canada Day event at the park.
 - Barb advised that Ginette Hamilton, resident of Vars, was available for the event at a cost of \$600.00
 - Jean suggested that she verify if the band would split their show in two with performances in the afternoon and then in the evening.
 - Once City has confirmed funding, bands and equipment will be chosen.
- **May 1st & 4th events:**
 - Jean circulated the draft flyer prepared in consultation with City officials to be sent to all residents inviting them to the VCS fundraising supper planned for May 1st at the St-Guillaume School as well as the community consultation on the Neighborhood Plan that will be submitted to City Council in mid-September.
 - Jean is still waiting for the City's response in possibly financing part of supper costs.
 - Linda Payant confirmed that Councillor Jellett will be paying for the mailing of the flyer.
 - Once Gary & Jean have sorted out the workload for these events, a call for volunteers will be made to VCA as well as CCC members for assistance.
- **Directorship:**
 - Jean advised that Scot Lemieux had not responded to the Board's March 20th letter seeking confirmation that he could still be available to sit as a director of the Vars.ca as well as to continue his tasks in managing the website.
 - As per the letter, should Scot not respond before March 31 with his intentions, under the Vars.ca constitution, it is deemed that Scot has resigned from his position, which the Board accepts.
 - Therefore, as of this day, Scot Lemieux is removed from the Board of directors of Vars.ca.
 - There now being a vacancy on the Board, the motion introduced at the previous meeting suggesting that Mr. Mark Wall be appointed to the Board of directors was entertained and approved. Mark is therefore a Board member until the next AGM scheduled for the fall.
- **Website:**
 - With Scot Lemieux no longer available to manage the Vars website, the task was handed to Mark Wall to ensure that the website be managed and updated.
 - Jean signed off the request to ensure that the website "Vars.ca" be under the control of the Association and accordingly, changing the names of the administrators.
 - Mark is to review the service providers' agreement put in place under the Scot and possibly move to a new service provider to support the revamped Vars website.

- **Signage in Vars:**
 - Jean informed that the request for VCA to take over the signage at the Trudeau Park as well as the Bearbrook Community Centre had been forwarded to the City.
 - Suzanne Sanford confirmed that the City would be repairing the two signs as well as an agreement/protocol document for the VCA to sign. Lettering will then be supplied.
 - Mark & Jean will be responsible for changing the signs and requests will be forwarded to them through the Vars website.
 - Suggestions were made that individuals could ask to post different messages (i.e. anniversaries, community events, etc.) at a cost which could be generate funding for the VCA.

E. New Business (items from the floor)

- **Lions Club monument:**
 - Discussions were held on the possibility of relocating the Lions' monument located in front of the Vars Cenotaph.
 - Suggestions were put that it could best be located in the Alcide Trudeau Park in recognition of the contributions made by the Lions Club to the park.
 - It was made clear that this would have to be a community decision and not solely made by the VCA.
 - Morley Verdier was asked to check with the consultants working on the Cenotaph what needed to be done to proceed with a possible relocation and possible costs.
- **Drainage:**
 - The issues of proper drainage from the ditches, especially behind the school, is inadequate and a serious mosquito breeding site.
 - Linda Payant will investigate and Jean will write a note to the Councillor's office to have area cleaned by the City crew.
- **Agriculture and Rural Affairs Committee Meeting:**
 - Linda Payant advised that the said committee, chaired by Councillor Jellett, will be meeting at the Bearbrook Centre on May 14 at 7:00 p.m.

E. Agenda for Next Meeting, June 4th 2009

- *Update on website*
- *Financial statement*
- *Results of May 1st & 4th meetings*
- *Canada Day event preparations*
- *"Day in the Park" event (September 12 2009)*

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. by Jean. The next meeting will be at 7:00 p.m. on June 4th in the St-Guillaume School Library.

Minutes submitted by: Jean R. Séguin
 Approved by: Darlene Brown