



*Vars Community Association / Association communautaire de Vars
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Minutes of the Vars Community Association (VCA) Annual General Meeting

Meeting date	September 21, 2016
Attendees	Genevieve Henrie Jenny Ashdown Jean Séguin Ivan Tanner Philip Berthiaume Gary Larocque Wayne Redsell Nathalie Sarthou Roya Rabbani Véronique Cantin Linda Ablack

Items	Summary of discussions/decisions	Actions
1.	<p>Introduction of VCA members and respective guests</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gary introduced all members as well as our guest, Philip Berthiaume. 	
2.	<p>Word from the president</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gary explained what the VCA is responsible for, he described key projects and programs that we work/worked on as well as who we work/worked with. - He also reinforced the need for volunteers. 	
3.	<p>Word from the guest</p> <p>Philip Berthiaume (Counselor Blais' Strategic Advisor) talked about the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explained some of the work that the City did in our village as well as the Cumberland ward in general. - Provided an update on the consultations currently ongoing regarding the construction of a new Community Centre in Alcide Trudeau Park. Philip 	Philip will follow-up with Suzanne to get an update on the electronic sign at Alcide Trudeau Park.

	<p>mentioned that several meetings have taken place between the City and the Feds. He added that he is very hopeful that this project will go through.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Jean and Genevieve also provided an update on this project re: conversations with M. Drouin (Federal) and M. Crack (Provincial). - Jean and Philip mentioned that a grant application has been submitted to ARAC for a keyboard to replace old pianos at Bearbrook Centre. A decision is expected in early October. - Philip also provided an update on the advertising sign at Alcide Trudeau Park. A few months ago, the VCA asked Philip to look into the possibility of getting an electronic sign for the Park (security reason). Philip had provided a submission to Suzanne at the City. He will follow-up with her. If the project of building a new community Centre in Alcide Trudeau is approved, changing the sign could be part of this project. 	
4.	<p>VARs projects</p> <p>Canada 2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gary mentioned that the submission for 10,000\$ was sent to the City of Ottawa. The VCA and the Optimist Club are joining forces again this year to organize the festivities for Canada Day 2017. <p>Youth program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jean sent the report to the VCA. Overall, Jean mentioned that the Program went really well. There was one outing per week. The kids really enjoyed visiting parliament hill. The 2 coordinators were great. Jean is ready to come back next year! - Jean also mentioned that the Orleans-Cumberland Community Resource Centre contacted him to get more information on the Program. Jean mentioned that they could perhaps help out next year, probably from an advertising/propaganda point of view. 	
5.	<p>Website</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This year, Jean has volunteered to be in charge of updating the information on the website (mostly the news section). - Stephen will continue to be the Webmaster (in 	<p>Gary will send an email to Stephen to inform him that Jean will manage the website.</p>

	<p>charge of maintaining the platform).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Genevieve, Jean and Stephen will work together to further update and modernize the website as well as keeping it up to date. All reiterated that the website is key to keeping the community informed! 	
6.	<p>Cassandra Park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Genevieve Henrie mentioned that the park is coming along nicely. She spoke to Ingrid Coney on Monday and Ingrid mentioned that the park is scheduled to be completed in a few weeks. - Councilor Blais will hold a photo opportunity in early October to open the park. 	
7.	<p>Skateboard park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ivan mentioned that several kids are skateboarding at the school. Ivan asked them why they weren't using the skate park in Bearbrook and the kids explained that it's too far and they can't get to it. If the stake park were downtown (wink Nat!) they would use it every day. - The VCA understands that having the skate park in Bearbrook is not practical. The members discussed the possibility of moving the park in Alcide Trudeau Park if the construction of a new Community Centre goes through. 	
8.	<p>Celebrations coming up</p> <p>October 16th: The Parish of Saint-Guillaume will be hosting a lunch at the Saint-Guillaume school paired with a show. The proceeds will be going to the Parish. Tickets are on sale: 10\$ for adult, 6\$ for kids.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jean briefly talked about the closing of the Centennial Celebrations. He provided a brief update of what was accomplished this year. The goal was to raise 15K and this was surpassed. Great job Jean! <p>November 6: A celebration for Remembrance Day will be held at the Cenotaph.</p> <p>Sometime in December: The Lighting of the Xmas tree.</p>	
9.	<p>Election for the executives</p>	<p>Genevieve will file required paper work with</p>

	<p>The following will be the new Executive for the year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - President: Gary Larocque - Vice President: Wayne Redsell - Secretary: Genevieve Henrie - Treasurer: Jenny Ashdown - Board members/Director: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Ivan Tanner o Roya Rabbani o Véronique Cantin 	Corporations Canada.
10.	<p>VCA meetings for the year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The meetings will be held every 2nd Wednesdays at 7:30. However, our next meeting will be on October 19th (due to availability of some members) at the fire hall. 	Wayne will verify if we can use the fire hall <u>for all of our meetings</u> .
11.	Motion to adjourn	