

READ

Rosemount (Library) Expansion and Development Group

Meeting #21, Monday, October 16, 2016

Final Approved Notes

Hintonburg Community Centre, 1064 Wellington St. West

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Present: Rick Van Loon, Chair; Emily Addison, vice-chair; Christine Burke, Mechanicsville CA; Paulette Dozois; Linda Hoad, vice-chair and HCA; Josh Nutt, Hintonburg CA; Marty Plaine; Andy Billingsley, Civic Hospital CA; Bonnie Campbell WB CA; Deirdre Foucauld

Special guests: Councillor Jeff Leiper, Fiona Mitchell, Councillor's assistant

Regrets: Barbara Clubb, Blaine Marchand, Lindsay Setzer, Jeanette Rule

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1. **Welcome and introductions:** The Chair welcomed all attendees and thanked Linda for again making the room reservation. He also thanked Blaine for the media work. And he congratulated the newly-wed Fiona on her recent marriage.

2. **Agenda:** the agenda was carried.

3. **Minutes** of September 19, 2016 were approved.

4. **Update from Chair and Vice-Chair**

The Chair gave a brief summary of recent media coverage. An article will appear in the October 29th issue of Kitchissippi Times, based on an interview of Richard with Judith Van Berkom. In early October, Ottawa West News carried a piece based on a phone interview with Richard, written by Melissa Murray. Blaine has continued to provide stories to Newswest.

Looking ahead, the Chair noted that the next couple of months will be critical to the future of Rosemount Library. At the November 8th meeting of the OPL Board, the Board is expected to table its draft Budget. That document may point the way to proceeding to a Business Case exploration of the possibility of a new Rosemount library.

5. **Follow up**

a. Confirmation of population stats

Vice-chair Emily pointed out that data regarding the population in Rosemount's catchment area - recently received and distributed by Barb - is different from the OPL report of September. (To clarify, the recent data lowered the population to 40,485 while the figure given in September, 2016, was more than 43,025 and received from Ian Cross in the City of Ottawa, via Fiona Mitchell, and using the catchment area supplied by Ottawa Public Library). This discrepancy causes concern.

b. Update to Community Associations and Groups

Emily summarized the response from CAs so far. She said that we are still waiting to hear from several, one of which is the Westboro CA.

Josh has been compiling a list of community groups that can be used - and expanded if necessary - to provide updates, keep groups informed of READ's efforts and ask for support.

Action: Josh and Emily will work on drafting the letter to groups.

Action: Linda will raise the subject with the Westboro CA.

Action: Josh will distribute the list of community groups to READ members for additions.

c. Update to schools and parent advisory committees

Richard and others noted that there are three groups - the parents' advisory committees, the schools themselves (that is, the principals), and the students. Deirdre has good contacts with school councils. Richard is willing to talk with school councils if they wish.

Action: Josh and Deirdre will draft an appropriate update letter, which will include offer from Richard to meet with those who are interested.

d. Update to consultation attendees and to CAs

Richard drafted a letter that explained how the consultations formed the basis of READ's presentations in September to the Library Board. The letter thanked participants and invited them to continue their involvement with READ. The email letter was distributed to all those who participated and for whom we had valid emails. The email letters were distributed to the CAs.

e. Student count in catchment area

A discussion, with comments from Paulette and Linda, concluded that the student count was not useful and READ would not pursue such a count.

Action: Drop this aspect of data collecting

f. READ request to OPL for stats

Emily summarized the difficulties with the statistics we are getting. One issue is that when we have stats for Rosemount branch alone but lack similar stats for other branches, we are not able to make comparisons. The system-wide stats do not help us in this situation.

Deirdre added that she received data (through a request under the MFIPPA (Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act) that should help provide some statistics.

Councillor Leiper pointed out that the OPL is currently preoccupied with selection process for the new Central Library, and that in part explains delays in our getting the information we need.

Action: Deirdre Foucauld and Emily Addison, with help from those who are interested, will together work on refining data.

Action: Councillor Leiper and Fiona Mitchell will ask Ian Cross (with City of Ottawa) for current population figures and projections (including a number of demographics, but not school projections).

g. Island Park CA (Heather Mitchell's questions re future of library building)

In a brief discussion, it was noted that READ appreciates these concerns.

Action: Linda Hoad will follow up re response from Island Park CA.

h. OPL rent for leased branches

There has been no information provided by the OPL.

i. Library Month at Rosemount

Marty summarized. She spoke with librarian (with request that READ be allowed to mark occasion in main area of library). Jennifer agreed to pass on our request to her manager. Branch manager Yvonne Van Lith called to say this was not possible. READ activities in the library will require advanced planning.

Meanwhile, library month activities are underway at the library. A treasure hunt for children was planned for October 22. Everyone is invited to fill out chevrons, to post on library walls, on theme of Discovery at the Library.

Looking ahead, Marty relayed a suggestion that READ consider planning a 99th birthday celebration for 2017. There was interest in pursuing this, although no action was taken. For follow-up at next meeting.

j. Search for new members

Richard stated that the group is functioning well. New members are always welcome.

He raised a new subject. He said that the two vice-chairs, Linda Hoad and Emily Addison, have been extremely busy with work and commitments in addition to their significant READ work. He suggested that READ name an additional vice-chair to help with the workload and nominated Marty Plaine.

Moved by Paulette and seconded by Emily. **Carried**

6. **Advocacy, outreach and research**

a. 2017 Budget Process: OPL and City

Councillor Leiper explained the City Budget Process. At the library board Nov 8th meeting when the 2017 budget will be tabled, library staff will recommend that (1) City Council spend \$1 million in repairs and renovations to Rosemount branch, **OR** that (2) the board direct the staff to with pursuing a Business Case plan for a new library for Rosemount.

A month later, on December 6th, at the scheduled OPL Board meeting to approve the budget, the Board is expected to direct its staff to proceed with the selected option.

Councillor Leiper said there is unlikely to be any opportunity for discussion when the OPL staff table the budget at the board meeting on Nov 8th. However several members of READ plan to attend as a show of support. They will be prepared to respond to the recommendation from OPL, in case news media ask for READ's reaction. It may be necessary for READ to appear at the Dec 6th board meeting where the board approves the budget to forward to City Council's deliberations on Dec 13.

Action: Josh and Jeanette will prepare appropriate social media responses to go out immediately after the November 8th OPL board meeting.

b. Video project update

Action: Put video project on hold.

c. Data group report

Meeting attendees indicated that the statistics being collected by READ are very important. There are several sources: Ottawa Public Library annual reports; OPL administration reports to OPL Board; specific requests to OPL administration; City of Ottawa; CULC - Canadian Urban Libraries Council annual statistical compilation of the major public libraries in Canada; requests through MFIPPA (Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act). Josh expressed his wish to look at all data.

Councillor Leiper will forward any projections and clarifications regarding population stats as he receives them.

Action: The data group and Emily A and Deirdre will work to compile the data and analyze it. The results will be available to all.

Action: Councillor Leiper will provide us with the statistics he and Fiona receive.

d. Media

Richard summarized that thanks to Blaine's efforts media coverage is ongoing, with Newswest, in particular, carrying articles that Blaine submits.

e. Response to Rosemount library songs

Deirdre told the group that there were two submissions, one in French, one in English, both high quality. The French song was set to the tune of O Canada. Paulette suggested asking NewsWest to print both. Emily urged the group to consider shooting a video (a la YouTube), but that effort was put on hold.

Action: Deirdre will thank the two songwriters for their contributions. She will ask News west to print the lyrics to the songs.

f. Other

Deirdre purchased a special book as a thank you to the translator who has been proofing her French writing. She asked all present to add their thanks by inscribing the book. The book was inscribed by all.

7. **Financial Report**

Pauline and Linda recounted recent expenditures, which included a somewhat hefty fee for room rental. Councillor Leiper is able to book the meeting room in the future. The financial updates were accepted.

8. **Dates of next READ meetings**

Monday November 14

Monday December 12

Other meetings:

Tuesday, November 8th: Ottawa Public Library Board meeting, 2017 budget will be tabled

Tuesday, Dec 6th: Ottawa Pubic Library Board meeting, 2017 budget will be reviewed, approved and forwarded to City Council

Tuesday, Dec 13th: Ottawa City Council debates 2017 municipal budget including OPL budget.

Submitted by
Marty Plaine
Secretary (pro tem)

Attached: October Action List

Agenda #	Topic	Action	Status
5.b	Consultation follow-up	Action: Josh and Emily will work on drafting the letter to groups.	
5.b	Endorsement	Action: Linda will raise the subject with the Westboro CA.	
5.b	Consultation follow-up	Action: Josh will distribute the list of community groups to READ members for additions.	
5.c	Consultation follow-up: schools	Action: Josh and Deirdre will draft an appropriate update letter, which will include offer from Richard to meet with those who are interested.	
5.e	Student Count	This will be dropped	
5.f	OPL data request	Action: DF and EA will work on refining data received	
5.g	Island Park	Action: L Hoad will follow up on questions and endorsement	
6.c	Data Analysis	Action: Data group and EA and DF will work on data analysis.	
6.c	Data	Action: Councillor Leiper and Fiona Mitchell will forward any statistics they receive	
6.3	Song Contest	Action: DF will send letter of thanks to submissions.	