READ

Rosemount (Library) Expansion and Development Group

Meeting #6 Final Approved Notes

Monday, May 11, 2015 7:00 pm

Hintonburg Community Centre, Basement Meeting Room

<u>Present</u>: Richard Van Loon, (Chair), Emily Addison (HCA), Jim Bennett, Andy Billingsley (CHNA), Jennifer Birta, Christine Burke (Mechanicsville CA), Bonnie Campbell (WBCA), Barb Clubb (a/note taker), Jim, Cragg, Paulette Dozois, Deidre Foucauld, Rob Frater, Linda Hoad (HCA) (Treasurer), Blaine Marchand, Alayne McGregor, Jeanette Rule (Champlain Park CA), Lindsay Setzer, Megan Therrian (Dal CA), Barbara Woodward.

<u>Guests:</u> Councillor Jeff Leiper, Kitchissippi Ward <u>Regrets received</u>: Sally Rutherford; Valerie Stam

- 1. **Welcome**: Chair Van Loon opened the meeting welcoming all especially new attendees and asked all participants to introduce themselves.
- 2. **Notes of previous meeting April 13, 2015**: were approved with no changes. The draft of current minutes and final version of all minutes are posted on the READ Google Drive.
- 3. **Special Guest:** The Chair introduced Kitchissippi Ward Councillor **Jeff Leiper** to the group. Councillor Leiper advised that discussions between OPL and Taggart Group have resumed with regard to possibilities for Rosemount Library and that the community, including the READ group would definitely be consulted regarding programs, options, buildings etc. He said that there was a great deal of energy and work being dedicated to the possibilities of improvement at the library/city level. READ members had a number of questions and comments.
 - ? Does Taggart know about the \$100K for planning and options development. Answer: Yes
 - ? Will Taggart contribute funds (beyond any possible rent reduction) for the development of Rosemount. Answer: not likely but it was noted that Taggart does contribute funds to other community initiatives
 - ? Would relocation of Rosemount in the Taggart/Tamarack Wellington condos result in more and better space? Answer: this is not known at this time.
 - Noted by READ attendees that the community really loves the current building even though at a size of 6,089 sf and a first time circulation of 256,914 (est in 2014), it is too small. If relocation does not result in a significant increase in size and functionality then there would be little if any benefit in moving.
 - Noted by READ attendees that READ members do not want there to be competition between the new central library and Rosemount redevelopment; they are complementary, not competing.

- Noted by READ attendees that there are six OPL branch libraries with more space than Rosemount but with less 1st time annual circulation (circ): Centennial: size 9,444 sf, 2014 circ @184,638; Elmvale Acres: 7,493 sf; 2014 circ @196,904; North Gloucester: 14,300 sf; 2014 circ @225,377; Rideau 7,277 sf, 2014 circ @162,288; St-Laurent: 13,540 sf, 2014 circ @238,745; Stittsville: 12,700 sf, 2014 circ @207,170. [Note the circ figures are estimates based on 8 months to Aug 2014; actuals for 2014 have been requested]
- 4. **Roles and Responsibilities:** It was agreed that READ needs a vice-chair but that anyone in that position would not be expected to move to the chair automatically if the chair had to step down. Chair Van Loon asked for all to think about it and contact him if they would be interested in the position.

Action: All to consider if they would like to be the READ vice-chair and advise chair.

- 5. Chair's Update: Chair Van Loon briefly recapped his activities since the April 13 meeting
 - FOPLA (Friends of the Ottawa Public Library): he and Barb met with them on April 21 at their monthly meeting. Rick spoke for about 5 minutes, stressing that READ was not asking for their endorsement but wanted FOPLA to know what was happening. They seemed interested and sympathetic but, they cannot get involved in advocacy.
 - Mayor's Office: has been contacted and is setting up a meeting
 - Paul Dewar (MP): has been contacted and is setting up a meeting
 - Yasir Naqvi (MPP): has been contacted and the chair is waiting for response.
 - **OPL Chair and CEO:** Chair is meeting with them on Wed May 13. READ members suggested the following items for the meeting:
 - i. READ wants expansion and modernization
 - ii. READ would have reservations if any proposed option resulted in only marginally bigger facility
 - iii. READ is eager to be involved in the study of options
 - iv. Any study of options should consider the big changes taking place in the area e.g. changing demographics; changing nature of the community

Action: The Chair will report back to the READ group following the meeting with OPL Chair and CEO.

Other OPL Board members: it was agreed that READ needed a personal contact strategy for
each of the board members. It could be a very short meeting (possibly a telephone call) to
include the following points: that READ exists; that READ is serious; give or send them the twopager; invite them to tour the branch (possibly at 4 pm when it is really busy).

Action: READ members agreed to the following contact work before the June mtg:

| 0 | Steven Beggs | Van Loon |
|---|----------------------------------|-------------|
| 0 | André Bergeron | L. Hoad |
| 0 | Kathy Fisher | B. Campbell |
| 0 | Allan Higdon | B. Clubb |
| 0 | Pamela Sweet | L. Hoad |
| 0 | Councillor Catherine McKenney | P. Dozois |
| 0 | Councillor Scott Moffatt | L. Hoad |
| 0 | Councillor Marianne Wilkinson | Van Loon |
| 0 | Councillor and Chair Tim Tierney | Van Loon |

6. Advocacy:

- **Community Associations:** Paulette Dozois attended Councillor Leiper's gathering of the community associations in Kitchissippi Ward in April. She took the revised READ 2-pager and got some questions at the table.
- i. Hampton-Iona Community Group: AGM June 8th,7-9 pm St George's Parrish Hall

Van Loon to go

ii. Civic Hospital Neighbourhood Association: Wed, May 27

Andy Billingsley to go

- Community Events: There are other events where it would be good for READ to be represented Action: Paulette Dozois agreed to make up a schedule, secure a table and coordinate READ volunteers for the following:
 - i. HCA's Arts Park, May 30th: Deidre Foucauld, Emily Addison, Lindsay Setzer, Megin Therrian
 - ii. **Prose in the Park June 6th:** Lindsay Setzer, Bonnie Campbell, Blaine Marchand, Alayne McGregor
 - iii. Westfest, June 13th and 14th: Volunteers needed

All

- **Expanding Partnership List:** Emilie Hayes is working on this list. Attendees had suggestions to expand the list
 - **Action: B. Clubb** to contact Emilie regarding list and list expansion and prepare for discussion at next READ meeting in June.
 - **Action: B. Clubb** to ask Emilie to touch base with Jennifer Johnson about other potential partners e.g. Ottawa Community Housing facilities in the area.
- **Expanding the READ list:** Agreed that we need a members/participants list and another list for those who don't want to be actively involved but want to keep up with what's happening. These would be called "Friends of READ".
 - **Action: B. Clubb** to send notice to all READ participants asking them for names to add to either the "Friends of READ" list or the regular "READ participants' list.
- **Central Library Citizens Action Group:** Agreed to invited action group Sara Anson-Cartwright to attend next meeting and make small presentation.
 - Action: B. Clubb to send invite.
- DC and Section 37 Funds follow-up: L. Hoad reported that she has asked for a breakdown of DC funds within and outside the greenbelt. She is also seeking clarification on whether DC funds are available for library facilities inside the greenbelt and how READ can be involved in the review of Sec 37. She will also secure a copy of the most current DC funds library bylaw and the number of projected new units in the Rosemount catchment area.
 - **Action: Linda** to report back by or before next meeting on the above.

7. Communications:

Google Drive Account in READ's name: Emily A and Jeanette are working on this and are
optimistic that it can be done without having to duplicate or copy what is in the current drive
inked to Emily's personal account.

• Facebook and Twitter Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/READRosemount Twitter: @READRosemount. Both accounts are up and running with 63 and 83 followers respectively.

Action: Jeanette Rule requested members to send her photos of events that could be used on the FB page. **ALL**

Website: Alayne reported that we could register a website domain name [readrosemount.ca] for \$15. The next big step is to determine how to host it for no or small fee. Wordpress is an option. Agreed that a website needed new content at least every two weeks and this could include letters (already received), photos and perhaps a section of true stories about "What Rosemount Library means to me."

Action: Alayne McGregor will register the website

Action: Alayne McGregor and **Jeanette Rule** to bring final proposal and costs to next meeting.

Bookmark: Emily reported that it's at the printers. Print run is 2500. Yeh!
 Action: Blaine Marchand to ask owner of Bridgehead (Tracy Clark) if bookmarks could go in the outlets in the area.

Action: Emily A to bring supply of bookmarks for members at next meeting.

Action: Paulette Dozois to ensure that the READ tables at the upcoming community events have a supply of bookmarks.

8. **Media and Momentum:** There was general discussion about how to extend READ's reach. The following actions were agreed upon.

Twitter leverage: Jim Bennett advised that the following practices could help <u>Hash Tags</u>: Ottawa federal and provincial politicians, city councillors, community advocates, and others interested in Ottawa politics tend to use hash tags in their Tweets to categorize those Tweets. Clicking on a hashtagged word in any message shows you all other Tweets marked with that keyword. One can make their own hash tag also. Hashtag letters (usually placed at the end of a tweet) add to the character count of a tweet whose limit is 140 characters.

Some hash tags that are common in the Ottawa political scene are: #ottnews #ottpoli #ottcity #ottawa

<u>Twitter Handle (Name)</u>: If one places a twitter handle at the beginning of a tweet you are talking directly to that person. Some political twitter handles that can be used in the Ottawa area to spread a message are: **@OttawaCouncil @PoliticsOttawa @ottawa_rt @ottawacity**

Community newspapers: Agreed to try to get news into *Newswest, EMC* and *Centretown BUZZ*; the deadlines are coming up fast.

Action: Paulette to do Newswest

Action: Bonnie to do EMC

Action: Megan Therrian to do CentreTown BUZZ

Action: Do a story on bookmark or ask to have it featured in the papers. **Dozois**

Other Media:

Action: consider going back to CBC in a month

Van Loon

Finances: Treasurer Hoad reported that the financial manager for SWCHA has said that they
could handle READ financial services; he is just working out a better process than he first
considered.

Action: L. Hoad to report back final details at next meeting.

10. Other:

READ Tour of new/renovated OPL facilities:

Action: B. Clubb to select date and invite members. She will also advise members how they could do an individual virtual tour and or a self-guided tour.

Canada's Sesquicentennial (2017): There seems to be uncertainty as to whether there will be federal funds available for things like new or renovated libraries. There seems to be funding identified in Canadian Heritage budget. More investigation needs to be done here. For further discussion at next meeting.

Architect Tour of Rosemount: Paulette Dozois reported that she and Linda Hoad had walked the Rosemount perimeter with Rick Sheen (Christopher Simmonds Architects) and Anthony Bruni and Jim Calezza (Calezza and Bruni) and Ken Elder). They confirmed that the library cannot be added to but that it might be possible to connect the current library with the Tamarack Wellington Condos somehow.

Clarification of READ Purpose: new attendee Jim Cragg asked for clarify on what READ is for. He also suggested that by working with the city and Taggart/Tamarack that we could help solve the embarrassment of so much vacant space available in Hintonburg. Attendees explained that the group's mandate is outlined on the READ 2-pager and that when READ was first started it was to secure the OPL's \$100k fund to study options for Rosemount which READ had been told had been reallocated to other purposes. This has been successful. Members of the group felt that in general, a lot had been achieved since the fall of 2014.

Summer Meetings: No decisions made; to be considered at June Meeting.

Next Meeting

Date: Monday, June 8, 2015

Time: 7-9 pm

Location: Parkdale Food Centre, 30 Rosemount Ave #2, lower level

Note: Meeting attendees are requested to bring new toothbrushes and/or toothpaste as a donation to the Parkdale Food Centre in exchange for having use of the meeting room free of charge.

Richard Van Loon, Chair Approved

Attachment: May Action List

Action Items: From May 11/15 Meeting Notes

Action: All to consider if they would like to be the READ vice-chair.

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Action: The Chair will report back to the READ group following the meeting with OPL Chair and CEO

Action: READ members agreed to the following contact work before the June mtg:

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Action: Hampton-Iona Community Group: AGM June 8th, 7-9 pm St George's Parrish Hall

Van Loon to go

Action: Civic Hospital Neighbourhood Association: Wed, May 27 Andy Billingsley to go

Action: Paulette Dozois agreed to make up a schedule, secure a table and coordinate READ volunteers for three upcoming community events.

Expanding Partnership List:

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Action: B. Clubb to send notice to all READ participants asking them for names to add to either the "Friends of READ" list or the regular "READ participants' list.

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DC funds and Section 37 Funds:

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Action: Jeanette Rule requested members to send her photos of events that could be used on the FB page.

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Tours of new and newly renovated OPL Branches

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