

# READ

## Rosemount Expansion and Development Group

### Meeting #4

#### Approved Notes

Monday, March 9, 2015

7:00 pm

Hintonburg Community Centre, Basement Meeting Room

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#### Notes

Present: Richard Van Loon, (Chair), Bonnie Campbell (WBCA), Barb Clubb (a/recorder), Linda Hoad, Alayne McGregor, Jeanette Rule (Champlain Park), Lindsay Setzer, Valerie Stam

Regrets received: Emilie Hayes, Megan Therrien, Katie Alexander

Action List: see minutes for details

**Action: Chair Van Loon** to follow-up with a more formal meeting with the Mayor or designate.

**Action: Chair Van Loon** to set up meeting with FOPLA president,

**Action: Valerie Stam** will invite Dick Stewart (well versed in Section 37 and Development Charges) to come to the next READ meeting. **Linda** to keep on researching development charges.

**Action: Chair Van Loon** will send a letter to the presidents of all the associations.

**Action: Jeanette Rule** will create a list of the names and email contacts of the President of each of the associations, for Richard to use.

**Action: Linda** will speak to Emilie Hayes liaison for the Somerset West Community Health Centre about possible help that the SWCHC could provide.

**Action: Jeanette Rule** will work with **Emily Addison** to coordinate an email and Google drive account in READ's name.

**Action: Richard** will investigate Ottawa AM Radio (CBC) and Alan Neal (CBC All in a Day-afternoon) for contact at the appropriate time.

**Action** agreed to date:

- **READ** Should try to get article in The CentretownBuzz <http://www.centretownbuzz.com/> (Possibly the April issue). Contact is Archie Campbell.
- **Paulette** will write article for Newswest
- **Bonnie** will contact EMC News
- **READ communications committee** to coordinate above activity.

**Action: Linda** Hoad agreed to take on the position of treasurer pro-tem.

**Action: Linda** will investigate if future meetings can be booked under a community association who have free access to meeting rooms,

**Action: Chair Van Loon** will consider requesting some modest funding from the 12 community associations,

**Action: Lindsay Setzer** will enquire with the Parkdale Food Centre (Located with the SWCHC) if there would be room to hold future meetings.

**Action:** All members consider participating in the OPL/City consultations on the new central library.

**Action:** continue building the partners and linkages list at each monthly meeting.

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1. **Welcome:** Chair Van Loon opened the meeting welcoming all and especially new attendees Alayne McGregor and Lindsay Setzer.
2. **Note taker:** Barb Clubb agreed to be the note-taker, pro-tem.
3. **Notes of previous meeting:** were approved with no changes. The final version will be posted on the Google Drive.
4. **Activity update** since Feb 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.
  - City Wide Budget Meeting Feb 9<sup>th</sup> (Hoad): Linda spoke to her written report (attached). She noted that there were only about 25 citizen attendees. There were many questions on the need for washrooms in LRT stations, a presentation by the Ottawa Sport Council, and the Ottawa Museums Network. She did get an opportunity to introduce READ but there were no questions for her. She was able to clarify to the Treasurer how Development Charges are allocated to the Library.
  - OPL Board meeting Feb 10<sup>th</sup> (Van Loon with Dozois). Richard spoke to his written report attached to the Feb meeting notes and re-attached to these notes. He stressed that the OPL was in a difficult financial position as a result of the Pay Equity Tribunal decision recently handed down to the OPL Board. Following the formal meeting he had a very good conversation with CEO Danielle McDonald who indicated that the \$100k previously allocated for Rosemount planning was something she hoped to protect going forward; outside the room he also had an opportunity to chat with Mayor Jim Watson and quickly briefed him on READ.  
**Action: Chair Van Loon** to follow-up with a more formal meeting with the Mayor or designate.
  - OPL Board Meeting March 3<sup>rd</sup> (Hoad): Both Linda and Valerie Stam attended the meeting. Linda made the presentation (attached) in record time (< 5 minutes).
  - Budget Speak Councillors Budget Consultation (Leiper, McKenney and Chernuschenko) (Stam): Valerie attended this at the Tom Brown arena attended by about 120 people. It was facilitated by the Citizens' Academy with the area councillors observing; it was more like a workshop. Participants were seated at discussion tables and encouraged to provide feedback on various parts of the budget. Unfortunately there was no pulling together of the ideas, thoughts and any recommendations at the end. The facilitator is compiling notes and they should be available soon.
  - FOPLA: Barb reported that she had met with FOPLA president Colin Plows. Mr Plows indicated that he had consulted with lawyers and had determined that it would not be possible to provide any financial support or to receipt donations for READ. He did say that he would like to meet with Chair Van Loon and that meeting will be set up in the near future. FOPLA raises almost \$500k for the library each year; it is used for materials, facilities (e.g. furniture) and literacy.  
**Action: Chair Van Loon** to set up meeting with FOPLA president
  - READ one-pager and mandate statement: no changes  
**Action: BC** to ensure posting to the Google Drive
  - Development Charges: **Linda Hoad** is continuing to seek out information on how DC funds apply to the OPL, especially Rosemount branch. Linda advised that there should be some

Section 37 money coming to the Rosemount library but that it would be a small amount, not nearly enough for a major re-build or renovation. It will be important to work with Councillor Jeff Leiper. She will continue meeting with the Councillor and City staff regarding Section 37 money being allocated in the area. An April 14 decision of the City's Planning Committee will set out the development charge agreement for the Richcraft project at Scott and Parkdale.

**Action: Valerie Stam** will invite Dick Stewart (well versed in Section 37 and Development Charges) to come to the next READ meeting. Linda to keep on researching.

- City of Ottawa Council Budget Meeting: Will take place on March 11.

## 5. Communications:

- Community Associations: Several of the community associations have appointed representatives to READ but an ongoing communications process has not been established. The list of 10 community associations was reviewed and two more were added. The list is now:

- i. Carlington Community Association [www.carlingtoncommunity.org](http://www.carlingtoncommunity.org)  
READ liaison: Anna Du Vent
- ii. Champlain Park Community Association [www.champlainpark.org](http://www.champlainpark.org)  
READ Liaison: TBD
- iii. Civic Hospital Neighbourhood Association [www.chnaottawa.ca](http://www.chnaottawa.ca)  
READ Liaison: Andy Billingsley
- iv. Dalhousie Community Association [www.ottawadalhousie.ca](http://www.ottawadalhousie.ca)  
READ liaison: Megan Therrien
- v. Hampton-Iona Community Group [www.hamptoniona.wordpress.com](http://www.hamptoniona.wordpress.com)  
READ liaison: TBD
- vi. Hintonburg Community Association [www.hintonburg.com](http://www.hintonburg.com)  
Read liaison: Emily Addison and Paulette Dozois
- vii. Island Park Community Association [www.islandpark.wordpress.com](http://www.islandpark.wordpress.com)  
READ liaison: TBD
- viii. McKellar Park Community Association [www.mckellarparkcommunity.wordpress.com](http://www.mckellarparkcommunity.wordpress.com)  
READ liaison: TBD
- ix. Mechanicsville Community Association [www.facebook.com/MechanicsvilleCA](http://www.facebook.com/MechanicsvilleCA)  
READ liaison: TBD
- x. Wellington Village Community Association [www.wvca.ca](http://www.wvca.ca)  
READ liaison: TBD
- xi. Westboro Beach Community Association [www.westborobeach.ca](http://www.westborobeach.ca)  
READ liaison: Bonnie Campbell
- xii. Westboro Community Association [www.lovestestboro.wordpress.com](http://www.lovestestboro.wordpress.com)  
READ liaison: TBD

**Action: Chair Van Loon** will send a letter to the presidents of all the associations to introduce READ and advise them of what we are doing, and recognize their representative/liaison if there has been one appointed. If possible he will add details about READ's use of social media (Twitter, Facebook etc) and request their modest financial support (@ \$50). If possible **Richard** or another READ representative could make a presentation at one of their meetings. READ should follow-up with a communique to the associations every 2 months.

**Action: Jeanette Rule** will create a list of the names and email contacts of the President of each of the associations, for Richard to use.

**Action: Linda Hoad** will speak to Emilie Hayes, liaison for the Somerset West Community Health Centre about possible help that the SWCHC could provide (e.g. meeting space, copying etc, financial services) as SWCHC is a READ partner and is very interested providing support.

- Mailing lists and Gmail account: It was agreed that READ would maintain a Gmail account and establish its mailing list there. **Emily Addison** has already begun the process of setting up an email; the current READ Google drive space is attached to Emily's own Google account  
**Action: Jeanette** will work with **Emily** to coordinate an email and Google drive account in READ's name. This needs to be done before READ can promote itself using Facebook and Twitter

- **Action: Chair Van Loon** will investigate Ottawa AM Radio (CBC) and Alan Neal (CBC All in a Day-afternoon) for contact at the appropriate time.

- **Facebook and Twitter: Jeanette** has set up both accounts and will provide details on use, authorization etc once the harmonization with Google drive and email have been finalized.

- **READ** needs to: make up a list and set up linkages with all community newspapers in the area; investigate options for articles and notices. READ now has a one pager and a mandate statement and a file on the Google drive has been set up to collect testimonials.

**Action** agreed to date:

- **READ** Should try to get article in The CentretownBuzz  
<http://www.centretownbuzz.com/> (Possibly the April issue). Contact is Archie Campbell.
- **Paulette** will write article for Newswest
- **Bonnie** will contact EMC News

**Action:** READ communications committee to coordinate above activity.

6. **Finances:** Up until the present, expenses such as meeting room rentals have been paid by individuals. It was agreed that READ may need a small amount of funding for such things as room rentals, printing, a brochure, a pop-up stand. If READ makes appeals for funding it will also need to set up a bank account and identify an address for cheques to be sent.

**Action: Linda** Hoad agreed to take on the position of treasurer pro-tem.

**Action: Linda** will investigate if future meetings can be booked under a community association who have free access to meeting rooms in some community centres. She will also investigate with **Emilie Hayes** if SWCHC might be able to provide some financial services.

**Action: Chair Van Loon** will consider requesting some modest funding from the 12 community associations when he writes to them with an update. It may be premature at this stage.

**Action: Lindsay Setzer** will enquire with the Parkdale Food Centre (Located with the SWCHC) if there would be room to hold future meetings.

## 7. Next Steps:

- New Central Library Consultations: Chair Rick urged all to consider participating in the new central library consultations, the first of which is March 31, 2015. Those who wish to sign up

should go to the website: <http://ottawacentrallibrary.ca/> There are three ways to get involved: attend the live event; join the webcast; visit the main library. The event will be facilitated by Susan Kent, Consulting; Ms Kent is the former City Librarian for the City of Los Angeles.

- Partnerships and Community Development: the following were suggested for the list of groups and organizations with which READ could explore linkage:
  - i. Friends of the Ottawa Public Library Association
  - ii. 12 area community associations
  - iii. SALUS: Supportive Housing and Mental Health Services
  - iv. Ottawa Community Housing (OCH)
  - v. Parkdale Food Centre (located in the SWCHC next door to library)
  - vi. OCISO (Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization)
  - vii. Area school associations
  - viii. Area BIAs (Business Improvement Area)
    - ✓ Westboro BIA
    - ✓ Welling West BIA
    - ✓ Preston Street BIA
  - ix. West Fest festival
  - x. Taste of Wellington festival
  - xi. Construction and Development companies.
- **Action:** continue building the partners and linkages list at each monthly meeting.

#### **Next Meeting**

**Monday, April 13, 2015**

**Time:** 7 pm – 9 pm

**Location:** Hintonburg Community Centre, Basement 1 (the first room on the left of the hallway)

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Richard Van Loon, Chair

Approved at the READ meeting of April 13, 2015

#### **Attachments:**

- ✓ Chair Van Loon's Report on Feb 10 OPL Board meeting
- ✓ L. Hoad's report on Feb 10 OPL Board meeting
- ✓ L. Hoad's presentation to Mar 3 OPL Board meeting

**Attachment:**  
**Notes on the City Wide Budget Meeting February 9 2015 at City Hall**

Prepared by Linda Hoad

Present from Council

Mayor Jim Watson, Eli El-Chantiry, Diane Deans, Mathieu Fleury, Tobi Nussbaum, Catherine McKenney, Jeff Leiper, Riley Brockington, David Chernushenko, Jean Cloutier

Mayor Watson suggested that if one excluded all staff present, there were about 25 members of the public present.

After a brief presentation on the capital budget – sources of revenue, assumptions, attendees were invited to speak to the councillors – presentation or questions.

- At least 3 presenters spoke about the need for public toilets at LRT stations.
- One presenter with disabilities indicated her problems with using OC Transpo.
- Climate Change Action Plan – where is it in the budget? The Council priority setting in May-June will establish funding priorities
- One presenter indicated that 2% increase is artificial, needs are great, would accept a slightly higher increase in taxes
- One presenter noted the discrepancy between the increase for property taxes and fees – increase the property tax in order to reduce the fees
- One presenter indicated that we need a better budget process
- Ottawa Museums Network stressed the need to fund the Renewed Action Plan for Arts, Culture, Heritage

I (Linda Hoad) introduced the READ group and our commitment to a renewed Rosemount Library, based on the one-pager available at that time

**Attachment:**

**Ottawa Public Library Board  
Meeting February 9 2015  
Report by Richard Van Loon, READ Chair**

I have had the anticipated opportunity to make a presentation on our behalf to the Board. With me was Paulette Dozois although she had to leave to chair another meeting just before I spoke. Linda Hoad was also on the roster but disaster struck just before we were to go to city hall: she dropped her keys down the elevator shaft of her condo. Linda; we all hope this turned out OK.

I presented pretty much what we discussed Monday evening. I would say the Board was attentive and seemed supportive: nodding heads and a supportive comment from Marianne Wilkinson. Of course, as expected, no formal Board action was forthcoming.

BUT. The Board and especially staff have a really big problem. A pay equity decision came down late last week and it requires that OLB pay \$2.3 million in back pay immediately and take on an additional \$250,000 in annual base (salary) costs. This was not anticipated so from the Board, and especially staff, point of view it is a big and urgent problem and it calls the 2015 budget into question. Unless some source can be found elsewhere in the city budget, the OLB is on the hook. There are city contingency funds so this is not an unreasonable request on the part of OLB.

After the meeting OPL's CEO Danielle McDonald confirmed to me that since the \$100K for Rosemount study was approved as part of the 2014 budget and is currently in the capital works in progress (WIPS) account, it did not need to be part of the draft 2015 budget documents. However, the pay equity decision calls any discretionary money into question. It must be complied with, so until the 2015 budget is adopted by City Council on March 11, no promises can be made with respect to the Rosemount study funds. She will try to preserve all or part of planning money but we do have to recognize this problem may have an impact on us for this year.

I expect we will be advised of the staff advice when the draft revised budget is being submitted.

In spite of the pay equity elephant in the room, our discussion was a helpful one. The CEO assured me that Rosemount does remain the highest branch renewal priority. In this context we have to remember it is a *branch* renewal priority and the first priority is the Main Library. That will inevitably consume pretty much all planning effort until May. After that, work on Rosemount planning could begin again. This will mean exploring all options and costs to determine the best approach for the facility. The CEO also emphasized - no surprise - that OPL has adopted a project management approach for review of all facilities and the review will need to come before the Board before project funding can be approved, so first step will be to develop a feasibility study to build a business case for possible options. This will provide a sense of complete capital and operating costs for Rosemount. This is not work that we would be expected to do ourselves but we would want to provide lots of input. How much of that can be done in the immediate future will thus depend on how the pay equity problem is to be dealt with.

In sum, this is kind of a good news, bad news story. The Rosemount branch project is the highest priority branch renewal project. It can proceed into planning later this year if planning funds can be preserved. But the money to do the planning is in some question and timing of our renewal is uncertain.

**We do need to keep up pressure that all or most of the planning funds be saved.** The argument is simply that if we do not have defined options for Rosemount then we will not be ready when an opportunity to get building funds arises. It inevitably will arise but we will only be able to compete for the money if the OLB has in front of it detailed plans required for actual implementation.

I do not think we should waver from our objective to have a renewal in place for 2018 and to support and work closely with Board planners in defining the project. But we also need to recognize that they have unusual difficulties over the next few weeks at least.

As for the March 3 budget meeting I think we (which means Paulette & Co) should appear in order to assert what I would now call an understanding that Rosemount remains the highest branch renewal project and to emphasize that planning funds are necessary in this budget year so that we may be ready when a full funding opportunity becomes available. Whether we will need any motion to be put by a board member can't be determined until we see more information on how the Board will handle the pay equity problem. The Board staff has placed us (you!) on that agenda.

Please note that you should provide any notes or slides you will use to the Board ([julie.tremblay@bibliooottawalibrary.ca](mailto:julie.tremblay@bibliooottawalibrary.ca)) well before the meeting

Since much of our immediate success depends on the city budget writ large, it will also be helpful if we can emphasize at any budget consultation meetings how important it is that the city use emergency or contingency funds (these do exist) to cover all or at least most of the unanticipated costs faced by OPL this year.

Submitted by,

Richard Van Loon  
Chair, READ Group



**Attachment:**

**READ**

**Rosemount Expansion And Development Group  
Presentation to Ottawa Public Library Board  
Tuesday, 3 March 2015  
Champlain Room, Ottawa City Hall**

- Good afternoon everyone. My name is Linda Hoad and I am here today representing the community group READ – Rosemount Expansion And Development. You may remember that last month our Chair – Dr. Richard Van Loon was here and introduced you to READ.
- We are here again this month. Dr Van Loon is in Florida, and so I am speaking on his behalf as well as the whole READ group. We also have a few additional members present: List who is there.
- Let me tell you a little about myself (detail).
- READ is a citizens group of residents/users in the Rosemount Library branch catchment area. READ represents both local organizations and individuals. This includes over 10 community associations stretching from Centretown to Westboro Beach and from Carlington to Mechanicsville – all interested in working with the Ottawa Public Library Board and Administration as well as FOPLA to support planning and ultimately action for the expansion and redevelopment of the much used and loved Rosemount community branch library.
- And you know - Rosemount Branch is the last surviving Carnegie Library in the City of Ottawa serving the near west of Ottawa since 1918. Yes – we are all marching toward Rosemount’s 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary year!
- You have in front of you a slightly revised version of the READ information hand-out of last month. On the reverse side is our newly approved mandate statement focussing on an expanded and redeveloped Rosemount Branch library.
- The renewal of Rosemount has been consistently and continuously on the OPL’s capital facilities priority list since first approved in 2012, and reconfirmed in the 2013 and 2014 budgets.
- Our ask here today is three part:
  - That Rosemount remain the highest **branch renewal** priority with the OPLB.
  - That it be pursued in tandem with the work for a new central library; not in competition with

- That all facilities development be based on an integrated and holistic approach; branch development (any branch) must not be pitted against a new central library.
- A more comprehensive list of needs is available on the READ handout.
- READ is here to help you with this work: to help OPL connect to the community and to participate fully in the consultation and planning processes.
- READ wants to help the Ottawa Public Library to be ready as redevelopment opportunities arise for our Rosemount community branch.
- MORE ABOUT ROSEMOUNT
- I know that Dr Van Loon gave you all a photograph last month of what a typical after school afternoon looks like at Rosemount. All chairs are filled and people are sitting on the floor to read!!
- It is ALSO good to remember that Rosemount has the third highest circulation/per square foot of all the branches and the HIGHEST circulation/square foot of the priority facilities branches.
- Rosemount is a local branch library and community hub that serves a diverse inner-city population. It works with local schools, supportive and community housing organizations such as SALUS; health organizations such as Somerset West Community Health Centre, and many others groups and organizations to connect the Library to the citizens and to expand opportunities for literacy and learning.
- Over the past couple of years OLB has initiated and/or completed many of its capital priorities at Hazeldean, Beaverbrook, Emerald Plaza, Bookmobile and Constance Bay branches. We have been advised by the CEO Danielle McDonald, and are very pleased, that the \$100,000 committed to Rosemount Branch in a previous budget to study development options, remains available.
- On a final note – We were here last month when the Board was made aware of the financial impact of a recent ruling from the provincial Pay Equity tribunal. We understand this will have a great impact on what the Board will be able to do in the coming years. READ strongly recommends that the Board ask the City of Ottawa to fund this ruling from its contingency funds, just as it did in 2005.
- Thank you for your time this afternoon and we would like to remind you once more - We are here to help you with the Rosemount Branch redevelopment and expansion.