

**READ Rosemount
Meeting #38
Final Minutes
Monday April 23, 2018
Time: 7-9 pm**

Location: Hintonburg Community Centre, 1064 Wellington W. Lower level.

Present: Josh Nutt (Chair), Bonnie Campbell, Paulette Dozois, Deirdre Foucauld, Linda Hoad, Blaine Marchand, Marty Plaine, Larry Hudon, Carol Lethbridge, Richard Van Loon, Julia Huband

Regrets: Barb Clubb, Emily Addison, Fiona Mitchell

1. **Welcome:** Josh welcomed the group, including a new meeting attendee, Julia Huband.
2. **Agenda:** The agenda was approved as circulated.
3. **Minutes Approval:** The minutes of March 12th were approved with minor corrections. A final version will be posted on the READ website.
4. **Update from Chairs and Vice-Chairs:**
 - Mtg with Dennis Van Staalduinen of the West Wellington BIA: Chair Nutt, Vice-Chair Plaine and Linda Hoad participated. READ proposed that a panel be included in the Giant Tiger heritage display to commemorate Rosemount's 100th birthday. The WWBIA was receptive to this idea and willing to allow one of the panels to include photos/text about Rosemount. The WWBIA was interested in collaborating with READ on a movie night in June. The tone of the movie night was to be celebratory, in part recognizing the value of the proposed renovation. READ members felt that it was inappropriate at this time for the group to take a position completely in support of the renovations. Members wished to maintain reads position as an advocate for the community, pushing for a better Rosemount. The chair will inform the WWBIA of this decision.
 - Mtg with OPL representatives on Thursday, April 19th, 2018: Chair Nutt and Vice Chair Plaine met with Monique Desormeaux, Elizabeth Sampson, and Richard Stark of the OPL management team.
 - The OPL is completing a Request For Proposals (RFP) which will be sent out to architects by earlier May 2018. The OPL expects to allow 4-6 weeks for responses and then it will take 2-4 weeks to review and evaluate the proposals. Once an architect is chosen, public consultation can begin. There will be public consultation prior to the design phase.
 - They discussed the selection of the former chocolate shop at 1207 Wellington West as the site for the depot while Rosemount undergoes renovations (beside the bowling alley). Rosemount Library patrons will use the depot when the branch is closed for renovation in late 2018 and most of 2019. There will be self check-out, book returns, holds, wifi, and a small collection for browsing. Programming off-site is to be determined.
 - The 3 priorities driving the renewal are heritage, community engagement, and sustainability. Ideally, there will be a bookable room that will also be used for OPL programming in the basement. A culled, but better-curated smaller collection will allow for better utilization of space. The children's area will likely move to the back of the building.
 - Planned closure length was stated by Monique to be 18-24 months, but corrected by Richard and Elizabeth to be 8-12 months beginning in late November 2018 and re-opening by end of December, 2019.
 - The newly-updated library is foreseen to last for two generations, i.e. 50 years.
 - Monique stated that OPL has never spent this amount of money on a renovation. She likely meant from the OPL's own budget, as other renovations have included grants and contributions

from other sources.

- There was discussion around programming at Rosemount and READ's critiques of the renewal. READ will continue to convey to OPL staff, and in particular Rosemount staff, that READ is nothing but complimentary and indeed impressed with what the staff does within the branch's limits and constraints. Any criticism has been about the inadequacy of the facilities and the limited improvements the renovations will bring. READ values the Rosemount staff and the important work they do in our community.
 - A tour of the Rosemount Branch was requested, but refused for safety reasons. Monique explained that back area of Rosemount's basement has a low ceiling and can only be used as a work space for staff. Rosemount is built on bedrock and unfortunately the back part of the basement cannot be transformed into useable space without significant cost.
- Rosemount 100 Report on April 21st, 2018 event.
 - Event was well attended with our representatives from 3 tiers of government: Councillor Leiper and MPP Naqvi in person, and Ottawa Centre MP McKenna via video message.
 - City Council and OPL management were also well represented by Danielle MacDonald (CEO), Monique Desormeaux, Councillor Tim Tierney (Chair of the Library Board), Deputy Mayor Mark Taylor, Councillor McKenney, Councillor Wilkinson, Branch Manager Karen Bayless, OPL Board members, OPL staff, and many others.
 - The language and tone was all very positive and focussed on the library as an important hub in the community. Speeches commented on the library's role over the past hundred years and how it will continue to be so for the next hundred years. There was little to no reference to the upcoming renovations, but the community and READ were cited and lauded for their passion and commitment to Rosemount. Much was said about the how the library was really the people of the community and the staff delivering services, not so much the space in which it is housed.
 - The event was well organized with events, performances, and refreshments throughout the day.

5. READ Strategic Planning

a. **Strategic Action Plan:** Draft 3 was discussed. There was a wide-ranging discussion on whether the direction and focus of the SAP were still valid and indeed whether READ's mandate itself required revisiting and re-validation. There was some concern about READ being seen as too adversarial and obstructionist. Suggestions were made that READ should re-brand as something more like the "Friends of the Rosemount Library" and return to partnership activities with community associations, schools, and other stakeholders. There were discussions around focusing on establishing a set of programming and service requirements for the community based upon the services available at other branches in Ottawa. Politicians, library management and many in the community see the library renewal as a done deal. The group discussed READ's role from the perspective of whether it had a mandate from the community or whether it was an advocate for the community. The discussion also covered re-energizing other stakeholders, such as community associations. There were differing opinions and viewpoints on where READ should go next. The discussion was candid and fruitful.

There was some agreement that if READ correctly identified 21st Century service and programming requirements for the community, then the inadequacy of the current location and renovations would be obvious to stakeholders.

After this lengthy discussion, Chair Nutt asked that folks have a good reflection and submit any proposals to him and the rest of the group for consideration and discussion at the next meeting. The hope is to come to a conclusion for the strategic plan in May and for everyone to "get on the same page."

Action: Chair Nutt to lead online follow-up discussion, with the Strategic Action Plan serving as a guide for discussion.

b. Official Long Range City Plan: Some members filled in the city survey. It was agreed that the survey was wide-ranging and that different READ members contributions would vary. It was good that those that did complete the survey stood READS goals in good stead.

c. Review of rolling list of action items: This review was deferred to next month.

6. Advocacy, Outreach, and Research

a. OPL April Board Meeting: No one attended. The Main Library partnership was the dominant agenda item.

b. Development Charges: Vice-Chair Plaine and Linda Hoad to follow up with MPP Yasir Naqvi. Chair Nutt offered support as well.

c. Councillor Leiper Ward Forum April 30th. Theme is Light Rail. No need for READ to be represented. HCA members of READ will be in attendance.

d) CFM Green Grants: Vice Chair Plaine reported on this item in regard to the meeting with M. Desormeaux and OPL staff.

e) NewsWest: Format and frequency has changed. Blaine contacted editor for deadline and has not heard back. Topic for next article will be about service levels and timelines during the closure of the Rosemount Branch.

f) 100th Anniversary: Committee to meet before next meeting.

g) Advocacy letter to OPL board and elected officials: To be tightened up using bullets and limited to 3/4 of a page of text. A bulleted sheet may be attached to a short letter to make READ's key points.

7. Future READ Meetings. The meetings for the remainder of the Spring 2018 will be as follows:

- **May 15**, Tuesday
- **June 11**, Monday

8. OPL Meetings as per [OPL website](#): READ attendance

Jan 16	Hudon/Lethbridge	May 8	Dozois	Sept 4	
Feb 13		June 12		Oct 9	
Mar 13	Hoad	July 10		Nov 13	
Apr 10	Dozois	Aug 14		Dec 11	

Submitted by

Larry Hudon, Acting Secretary

Note: Action List will resume with May 2018 minutes.