

Minutes of Board Meeting



Date: March 11, 2026

Board Members in attendance: Stephanie Lines, Lynne Patenaude, Carol McQueen, Jon Lemieux, Bryan Orendorff, Lorella Piirik

Regrets: Ron Ridley, Jeff Blattman, Wanda Raymond

Guests: Romy Swann, Kris Nanda, Marty Carr, Lise-Andrée Payette

Topic	Discussion	Action Item
Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 6:50 PM Declaration of conflict of interest: None	
Agenda Approval	<i>Motion: Approval of Agenda (see Annex A)</i> First moved: Jon Seconded: Lynne Approved by: All	
Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting	<i>Motion: Approval of December meeting minutes</i> First: Lynne Second: Stephanie Approved by: All	
Welcome Guests	Welcome to Romy Swann, Kris Nanda, Marty Carr and Lise Andrée Payette	
Riverview School	There has been an announcement that kindergarten enrollment will open again at Riverview for 2026. There is currently extra capacity in Alta Vista's OCDSB schools in the primary grades overall, but some schools offering French Immersion are overcapacity. It has been stated that all schools will have EFI and this will be taken into consideration in the upcoming accommodation review. Kris mentioned it will be important to also think about how Riverview can be more fully used in the community. In April people may wish to start planning our communications and next steps. Sherry McPhail is doing a longer article for RPR to build on the momentum generated over the last few months.	
Councillor Carr's update	At the Transit Committee tomorrow there will get an update on addressing Line 1 reliability issues. Marty met with the Parks and Rec department on a number of issues including water drop for the pollinator garden and use of Dale Park field house. There is support for the Dale Park Garden.	
Treasurer's Report	Budget and Financial Statements Treasurer will provide Feb financial statements shortly	
Special Report	Communications See Annex B for the report. 120 people open the newsletter of the over 300 to whom it is sent to.	Stephanie to look at Parks, Recreation and



Topic	Discussion	Action Item
	Ron and Lynne followed-up with RPR to discuss hosting their archive; however, more discussion is needed as the RPR is figuring out what they need. We will buy a pop-up tent, but will not spend \$1500 for a printed one	Environment and suggest how to update.
	Planning and Development See Annex C	
	Green Spaces No news on the grant yet. Community Led Greening initiatives thought our application was better suited for Forestry. FoRPGS met with Forestry last week and are expecting a draft contract this week. Hoping to start removing buckthorn from Coronation Wood this summer.	
	Social Committee See Annex C	
	Membership We have gained to new members and two new FoRPGS volunteers	Handover to Lise-Andrée is still underway.
President's Report	Ron is looking at a sub-group to examine neighbourhood community care for elders. This is not to replace any of the programs in place but more to just make sure no one is forgotten in the neighbourhood. If you are interested let him know. Ron is looking at submitting a proposal for the City of Ottawa's Community Environmental Projects Grant Program to build a large (~10' x 20') building in Riverview Park to store all of our FoRPGS equipment and provide a covered workspace for community events like Seed Exchanges, Repair shops, Picnics, etc. Ron will circulate more details as he develops this. The deadline is April 10th.	
New & Ongoing Business	Lorella is planning to use the RPCA volleyball net in Balena Park to organize a once per week drop in this summer.	
Approval to Adjourn Meeting	Motion: Adjournment of Meeting First moved: Bryan Seconded: Lorella Approved by: All	

Annex A

Agenda Items

1. Call to Order and Declarations of Conflict of Interest (5 mins)
2. Agenda Approval (5 mins)
3. Approval of Minutes from previous Meeting (5 min)
4. Welcome to any guests
5. Future of Kindergarten at Riverview School
6. Councilor's Update (15 minutes)
 - a. Balena fieldhouse keys
7. Monthly & Special Reports (25 minutes)
 - a. Treasurer's Report
 - b. Communications Report
 - c. Planning and Development Report
 - d. Green Spaces Report
 - e. Social Committee Report
 - f. Membership Report
8. President's Report (5 min)
9. New & Ongoing Business (10 min)
10. Recap of Action Items and Adjournment (5 min)

Annex B

Communications Report

Statistics for February 11 – March 11, 2026

Newsletter/E-mails

1. Two e-mails sent out: Feb 5 reminder for Winter Carnival, February 25-Newsletter
2. Feb newsletter stats: 356 recipients, 33% open rate

Website

- Updates: News Item about Riverview School, updated with news of JY intake, Added March 9 Event for Alternative Kindergarten Rally, and notice of its cancellation, February newsletter to Archive
- To do: update to Riverview School page, on Coronation Park, on FoRPGS
- ACTION for Board: consider Riverview Park Review request to host the community paper and its archives

Social Media

- RPCA Private Facebook Group has 507 members (up 6)
 - Added posts about OCDSB meeting about Riverview Alternative School, rally and then updates on both, Seedy Saturday, Plant Your Place Tree program, Theft Info Session
- Main RPCA Facebook Public Profile has 159 followers (up 2)
- Friends of Riverview Park Green Spaces Group has 269 members (up 2)

Outreach

ACTION: Confirm final Board decision about pop-up canopy tent for sun and rain protection at events
- Decision was to not move forward with \$1500+ custom tent with logo but find a good quality plain colour tent? Options below:

Canadian Canopy: Canadian-made in Cambridge, 10*10 Pop-up 40 mm steel 600D tent \$596+ tax and \$58.08 shipping - purchase colour (green, blue, white) – storage bag but not clear if wheeled

Deluxe Canopy: (American company?) plain 40 mm Aluminium 600D waterproof polyester tent \$1088 (printed tent \$1496) -15%

Outlet Tags Canopies: plain steel heavy-duty 420D PVC tent \$479, weight 25 kg
Plain light-duty tent \$275

Tent Depot: plain 30 mm steel frame tent, \$759, 40 mm aluminum frame \$1009

Annex C

Planning and Development Update from the Riverview Park Community Association:

By Kris Nanda, Chair RPCA Planning and Development Committee

The Riverview Park Community Association (RPCA) tracks and advocates for the community on planning and development matters in and around the local community, and elsewhere around Ottawa. The RPCA supports initiatives that enhance active transportation in Riverview Park and elsewhere, including filling in gaps in pedestrian and cyclist infrastructure and improved maintenance of sidewalks and pathways. Recent issues have included proposed changes to enrollment at Riverview Alternative School and a proposed affordable housing project at 1460 Riverside Drive.

Riverview Alternative School Kindergarten Intake

On March 9, 2026, the Ottawa Carleton District School Board (OCDSB) announced that it would open junior kindergarten registration at all four Ottawa Alternative Schools, including Riverview Alternative School (RAS). This announcement represented a change from the Board's mid-December 2025 letter to parents of Alternative School students informing them that there would be no September 2026 Kindergarten intake at RAS.

This December letter resulted in active campaigns by parents and other community stakeholders, including the RPCA, calling on the OCDSB to reinstate kindergarten at the four Alternative Schools. In response to a request to discuss the issue, OCDSB Supervisor Bob Plamondon and OCDSB Director of Education Stacey Kay agreed to meet with representatives from elementary school parent councils in Alta Vista and , from the RPCA.

During the March 2 meeting, participants urged the OCDSB to reconsider this decision and retain a Kindergarten program at Riverview. They noted that several elementary schools in the Ward (including Vincent Massey) are severely over capacity. Participants suggested that some students could be diverted to Riverview to relieve overcrowding – particularly those living close to Riverview – thereby also reducing busing costs. Encouraging pupils in the neighbourhood to walk to Riverview is also consistent with Ottawa Student Transportation (OSTA) goal to supports active transportation (walk zones) where possible. The OCDSB was also asked to consider having an Early French Immersion program at Riverview in 2026 or 2027

In its March 9 announcement, the Board indicated that over the next 24 months it would “confirm the specific program model, grade structure and final boundaries for the four Alternative Schools, following comprehensive accommodation review around these sites.” The RPCA and parent groups have asked for a follow-up meeting with the OCDSB this Spring. The RPCA has offered to work with the OCDSB to enhance and optimize the value and use of Riverview in the years to come to make it into an even stronger community hub, which in turn would make it more attractive to parents of prospective students.

1460 Riverside Drive - Affordable Housing Development

In 2025, the National Capital Commission (NCC) in collaboration with the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) publicly announced it was seeking a proponent to construct residential housing at 1460 Riverside Drive (the NCC-owned 0.89-hectare empty lot directly across from the Cancer Survivors Park). Two (2) proponents have now been identified who will be co-tenants -

Nesting Ground (a Canadian non-profit housing corporation) and the Ottawa Community Housing Corporation The proposed project involves the development of a **minimum of 220 residential housing units** under a long-term (up to 99-year) lease. .

The project will be delivered through the **Federal Lands Initiative**, administered by CMHC and is intended to support federal housing objectives by increasing housing supply, including affordable housing, and promoting sustainable, transit-oriented urban development Because the CMHC is providing funding, the NCC and CMHC are making a joint environmental impact determination under the Impact Assessment Act.

The RPCA did not receive notification of the 30-day public comment period which ended on February 22. It has asked to be notified or any further consultations , given the parcel's location next to a transit arterial and a well-used pathway that cyclists and pedestrians from Riverview Park and elsewhere use heading to and from the Hurdman LRT and downtown Ottawa. The next opportunity for public comments will be after the the Federal government disposes of the land and has negotiated with the proponent and a planning application is filed with the City.

Potential Residential Housing Project at 1867 Alta Vista Drive

A new development has recently been proposed at 1867 Alta Vista Drive (a currently blank parcel between the Canadian Dental Association and Nova Network building and across the street from the Canadian Blood Services headquarters and MD Financial offices. The proposal consists of 445 units in two 9-storey buildings. A zoning amendment will be required to change the zoning from institutional to residential. If constructed, these units potentially provide needed housing for medical interns and workers at the General Hospital complex who would be able to walk to work rather than take public transit or drive. More details are available on the City's Dev Apps website. An information session will be organized by Councillor Carr's office once the project moves into the site planning stage.

Coronation Avenue Developments

The Ottawa Community Land Trust (OCLT) acquired a 30+ unit rental apartment building (700 Coronation Avenue) in early 2026 to protect affordable rents for current and future tenants. In addition, the City has approved severance of the parcel at 700 Coronation to allow construction of a ten-unit, low-rise, apartment building and seven parking spaces adjacent to the existing building.

Potential Conversion of Coronation Woods Greenspace

The RPCA is closely monitoring threats to greenspace in the community, particularly the Coronation woods east of Station Boulevard (and adjacent to the existing play structures and basketball courts.) Local residents and groups (including the RPCA) were concerned that the City was using the Official Plan and Zoning By-law processes to simply remove the designation of areas that have been Urban Natural Features for almost 20 years through an administrative process and without public consultation After the RPCA Board contacted Councillor Carr on this issue, the Councillor put forward a motion to retain Environmental Protection zoning. The motion passed at Planning Committee meeting on December 17, and by full Council on January 28.

ALTO – High Speed Rail Consultations

ALTO the federal crown corporation in charge of building the Toronto–Québec City High-Speed Rail Network, is currently consulting with the public in various communities along the planned corridor, including Ottawa. Public consultations were held in Ottawa this January 2026 with the deadline for comments until March 28 via virtual info sessions and a virtual platform. Additional information can be found at. <https://www.altotrain.ca/en/stay-updated>

Of particular interest to Riverview Park residents and other stakeholder are the proposed route and track alignment which have yet to be confirmed. Possibilities include using the federally-owned parcel north of Tremblay and west of St. Laurent which had previously been set-aside for a now-cancelled commercial and residential project. The consultation will also provide an opportunity for input regarding the improving active transportation connectivity across (above or below) the VIA Tracks which is on hold pending the high-speed rail project development process.

Traffic Safety Issues/Pedestrian Safety

The RPCA has asked the school and the City to consider putting in painted crosswalks across Knox Crescent where it intersects with the sidewalks on Dorion and Drake near the school as this measure plus better signage might encourage parents to feel safer walking their children. These measures would also help to calm traffic and make it safer for senior and parents with young children to cross Knox.

The **new Active Transportation Roundtable for the Ward**, being hosted by Councillor Carr's Office, was scheduled to hold its second meeting in March. Riverview Park residents are taking part in the Roundtable, to help identify locations where improvements are needed for cycling and pedestrian safety.

New Matthew House Warehouse at 700 Industrial Avenue

Matthew House Ottawa is a community-based charity that supports refugee claimants and furnishes homes for families in need through its Furniture Bank. In 2025, the organization signed a lease at 700 Industrial Avenue which has now been renovated and which opened in February 2026 and is now accepting donation.

Other Developments

On November 12, 2025, Canada Lands Company, on behalf of Build Canada Homes, officially launched a Request for Qualifications (RFQ), to engage **potential builders for creation of 1,100 new housing units at 1495 Heron Road (the former Federal Study Centre)**. The parcel spans 7.3 hectares (18 acres) and is zoned for medium-density, multi-family buildings. Construction is anticipated to start in late 2026 and will be a housing mix of 40% affordable rental and 60% market rental.

Perley Health Expansion. Perley Health's Board of Directors has approved planning and design of a new on-site building to provide long-term care for an additional 120 residents. Over the next few months, Perley Health will work through the required processes in preparation for provincial and municipal approvals. As part of this process, Perley Health held an [online survey](#) that closed in early March.

Information on some project proposals can be found at the City of Ottawa website at:
<https://devapps.ottawa.ca/en/> The RPCA welcomes your input on these proposals and any other potential developments in the area.

If you are interested in joining the RPCA P&D group or would like further information, or have a planning and development concern, you may contact the Committee Chair, Kris Nanda via Communications@RiverviewParkCa.com. For more information on this and other activities in Riverview Park, please see the RPCA website at www.riverviewparkca.com or email the RPCA at riverviewparkca@gmail.com

Annex D

Social Committee Report

- **Work with the AVCA is moving along and we have a draft outline of a Murder Mystery to host at the Billings Estate likely in April. Waiting on the City to give us available dates before deciding on final details and go/no-go.**
- **An idea to host a “La Fête des Voisins (Neighbours' Day)” was sent around to the Social Committee to discuss at our next meeting on March 25th**
 - **La Fête des Voisins (Neighbours' Day) is an annual community event held in late May or early June, aimed at fighting social isolation by bringing neighbors together for a shared meal or aperitif. Originating in Paris in 1999 to promote solidarity, it encourages casual, self-organized block parties in apartment buildings or streets.**
 - **Key aspects of La Fête des Voisins include:**
 - **Purpose: To build stronger community ties, encourage mutual aid, and help residents get to know their neighbors beyond a simple greeting.**
 - **Date: It is generally celebrated on the last Friday of May or the first Friday in June, such as May 23, 2025.**
 - **Format: It is a potluck-style event where residents bring food and drinks to share in a communal space (courtyard, street, or community center).**
 - **Origin: Created by Atanase Périfan in 1999 after finding an elderly neighbor had died alone in her apartment months earlier.**
 - **Scale: The initiative has grown from a local event into a major international gathering, with millions of participants across dozens of countries.**
 - **It is not a formal event; it is organized at the local level by residents who often use free, downloadable materials like flyers and posters to invite their neighbors.**
- **On Saturday May 9 from 12-2pm there will be People's Park Celebration & BBQ at the Lees Field (aka People's Park) for a BBQ and to celebrate the removal of the Capital Ward section of the Alta Vista Transportation Corridor (AVTC) from the Transportation Master Plan. Organized by Councillor Menard**

2026 Calendar of Events:

1. Winter Carnival Sunday, February 8th 2-4 pm (Campfire)
2. Easter Egg Hunt @ Balena – Sunday, April 5th
3. Cleaning the Capital Spring Version Saturday May ??, rain date Saturday, May ??
4. Community garage sale early June 13th – run by others, we only promote
5. Porchfest Sunday June 12-14 or 19-21
6. Riverview Park Garden tour – Saturday, June 20th
7. Summer festival and Movie night Saturday August 22nd (Campfire)
8. Councillor's Fall Corn Roast - Sunday September 14th TBC Run by Marty's office
9. Fall Social – Sunday, October 4th before AGM
10. RPCA AGM Wednesday October 21st
11. Cleaning the Capital Fall version tentatively early October



12. Christmas Carol sing - Friday December 11th (Campfire)