**CHNA Spring General Meeting- May 27th, 2015**

CHNA President Karen Wright chaired the association's public meeting on May 27th and updated members on CHNA activities and neighbourhood events.

Karen thanked everyone who participated in 'Cleaning the Capital' at our three parks - Reid, Fairmont, and Ev Tremblay. There was a great turnout and great weather. She gave special thanks to Bridgehead for providing coffee and Di Rienzo's Grocery for the sandwiches.

As well, Karen informed members about the Parkdale ramp closures, MPP Yasir Naqvi's Road Safety Summit, the City Trees in Trust program, the upcoming Hazardous Waste day, and the June 17th Expansion Project information session being organized by the Heart Institute. She also mentioned that a resident has setup an online form to document the sightings and interactions of the foxes that are living in Kitchissippi. To report sightings, go to https://goo.gl/forms/62Lub5RsKa. You can get more information about the above on the CHNA website.

Following this, Karen gave a heartfelt welcome to guest speaker, Karen Secord. Secord is co-ordinator at the Parkdale Food Centre, an organization that recently received a United Way Community Builder Award.

**Guest speaker: Karen Secord, Co-ordinator, Parkdale Food Centre**

Karen Secord told members that the Parkdale Food Centre aims at being more than a stop gap for people in need and that it is committed to finding sustainable solutions to food security. As a result, the centre doesn't just “hand out food”. It has cooking workshops and a garden where people can help grow healthy vegetables for themselves and others. It gives regulars and newcomers a place to learn and participate in the community. The centre also helps people solve basic problems. For example, it gives rooming house tenants a place to cook nutritious meals which can be stored in the centre's giant freezer and retrieved as needed and warmed in slow cookers at home. The centre also provides the slow cookers! Plus, it has a bike repair shop at the back that provides men, women and children with refurbished donated bicycles. Bikes provide children with exercise and even more importantly, adults get transportation to get to work and medical appointments.

Secord concluded by saying she would like to find more ways of making connections between the centre and our community. She offered creative ways that CHNA members can help. For example, people can arrange to go to the centre to cook, and then donate the food created. A row in your home vegetable garden can be dedicated to the centre. Donations of new slow cookers are always welcome, as are cookbooks that you may no longer need. And, if you have a bike that you no longer ride, the centre would love to refurbish it for a client in need.

**Planning and Development Highlights**

Committee chair Kathy Kennedy provided an overview of the committee's responsibilities, which include attending meetings, consulting, lobbying and writing submissions. She told members that the CHNA has been:

-working hard to ensure that there is no cut-through road from Prince of Whales to Carling and considering ways to maintain this greenspace.

- involved in the project to rehabilitate Ottawa's mid-town bridges. The association's catchment area has five bridges. CHNA has written a submission to the Ministry of Transport on what the community would like to see done with the underpasses.

- working with City Councillor Jeff Leiper and appearing at an Ontario Municipal Board hearing to have the 30 year agreement relating to the Ruskin parking lot reinstated into the official plan so that the future of the as a park can be ensured.

- working to make sure the zoning at Loretta and Hickory stays at 6 storeys and that efforts to increase the zoning to 9 storeys is stopped.

- actively pursuing traffic calming measures in association with the group “Liveable Bayswater”.

**Planning and Development subcommittee**

**Heritage and History Highlights**

Andy Billingsley gave members a visual historical tour of the neighbourhood, including the Reid farm house, the Truemner house and the St. Matthias “basement church”. Andy also let the community know that St. Matthias has decided to close their doors and they will be amalgamating with “All Saints”. Finally, Andy outlined subcommittee plans to use software to create a map on the CHNA website to pin photos of historical buildings and locations in our neighbourhood, along with explanatory text.

**Traffic Committee Highlights**

Committee chair Luanne Calcutt reported that the traffic committee had prioritized seven areas of concern, with multiple micro and local issues associated with each. The committee hopes to implement micro-local 'quick wins' in conjunction with a campaign to increase membership. Luanne said street representatives will fan out to meet neighbours and request support for a 40 kilometre (km) speed limit using the city's petition process. At the same time, residents will be asked to consider participating in micro-local traffic initiatives that have been identified. Luanne noted that CHNA has already managed to reduce the speed limit from 50 km to 40 km on 12 residential streets.

The public meeting also passed the following resolutions:

**1, WHEREAS** The speed limit on residential streets can be reduced to 40 km/h by way of petitions gaining 66 + 1% of signatures;

**BE IT RESOLVED** That the CHNA endorses a reduction of the speed limit to 40 km/h on our residential streets and that it will assign street representatives to circulate petitions based on member requests and street priority.

**2. WHEREAS** The elected provincial representative for Ottawa Centre is proposing that

the province of Ontario adopt a default speed limit of 40 km/h on residential streets and 30 km/h in school zones or that municipalities be given the option to set their own lower limits;

**BE IT RESOLVED** That the CHNA supports a provincial reduction in default speed limits on residential streets and school zones and CHNA supports permitting the City of Ottawa to set its own lower limits considering residential streets, school zones, parks, hospitals, and other residential areas with high pedestrian volumes.

**3. WHEREAS** The Traffic Committee recommends that an Area Traffic Management Study be conducted in the Civic Hospital neighbourhood and that the CHNA prioritizes this initiative;

**BE IT RESOLVED** That the CHNA request to the City of Ottawa, an Area Traffic Management Study be conducted in the Civic Hospital Neighbourhood.

**Safety Committee Highlights**

Committee chair Shane Quinn said that in addition to working closely with the Community Police Centre (CPC) to monitor crime in our area, the CHNA posts warnings on its website of fraud, scams, break-ins and suspicious activities. He reported that the CHNA opposed plans to close local CPCs and that these plans appear to be on hold, for the moment. Shane also talked about the successful elder abuse seminar held on May 6th, he encouraged members to take the home safety audit provided by the Ottawa police and he outlined a variety of fraud scams that are currently being employed in our area. There will be an Ottawa Police Service (OPS) information session on safety at the Hintonburg Community Centre on June 4th at 6 p.m. that will include a presentation by the break and entry unit. Shane said the CHNA is committed to organizing seminars as they foster cooperation between the community and OPS and invited member to submit their ideas for future topics.

**Membership Committee Highlights**

Committee chair Shelley Mullins announced that memberships will now be for a calendar year in order to simplify the process and to help people remember when their membership is due. The committee also plans on producing membership cards with benefits at local businesses and they will be conducting a membership drive by going door-to-door this fall.

**Communications Committee Highlights**

Committee chair Alyson Queen outlined the support she has been giving to various committee initiatives, including the elder abuse seminar, a number of planning initiatives and CHNA’s work in opposition to community mailboxes (CMBs). Alyson will be helping with the membership drive and a traffic awareness plan in the months to come. She will also be working on media relations and growing our online presence through our website, Facebook and Twitter. Alyson offered a special thanks to Susan Chell for her continued support, printing and distributing 2000 Spring CHNA Newsletters. She also thanked Marshall Perrin who ensures our newsletter looks very professional!

**Highlights of Vice President's Report**

Vice President Peter Eady announced the CHNA is now fully incorporated, which gives the association the power to appear before the Ontario Municipal Board. He briefly outlined the CHNA's opposition to CMBs and its work on constitutional reform. A new draft constitution will be posted on the association's website prior to the next annual general meeting (AGM) and members will have the opportunity to vote on the new constitution at the next AGM.

**Highlights of Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Julie Westall reported that the association currently has $4537.27 in revenue.

**Guest Speaker: City Councillor Jeff Leiper**

City Councillor Jeff Leiper provided CHNA members with a quick update on a number of neighbourhood issues. You can read about them at: http://www.kitchissippiward.ca/

Jeff informed members that he is actively working to have a multi-use pathway on the west side of the O-Train. He also announced that he is putting the proposal for a new field house in Reid Park on hold. He explained that there is currently not enough money to build the kind of space that people want, that is, a space big enough to accommodate community meetings, as well as recreational and social programming. He is asking members for feedback on how to move forward.

The councillor’s website asks:

* Do we wait for potentially two or three years until there is enough in the kitty to build ~~a~~larger and more functional field house?
* Do we wait until there is enough money in our ward fund to accomplish an even larger project to both build a new field house and do a major re-landscaping, with uncertain timing?  Could we work with the lawn bowling club to do something collaboratively?
* Do we allocate the funds available now, to implement the landscaping and equipment improvements we can currently afford and tackle any residual landscaping and the field house when funds are available?
* Do we allocate the current funds towards a more significant landscaping re-design and wait until the funds needed to fully implement are available?

Please let Jeff know what you think.

His contact information follows:

**Telephone:** (613) 580-2485

**E-mail:** jeff@KitchissippiWard.ca

### **Mailing Address:**

### Kitchissippi Ward Councillor Jeff Leiper Ottawa City Hall110 Laurier Avenue WestOttawa, Ontario, K1P 1J1Canada