

# L'Association des résidents du Vieux Saint-Boniface Old Saint Boniface Residents' Association

March 22, 2023 Annual General Meeting (AGM)
Centre Récréatif Notre Dame
271, avenue de la Cathédrale
Zoom Conference Line

#### In attendance:

In person: Jordan Chabbert, Raymond Champagne, Joseph Constant, Walter Kleinschmit, Gordon Thurston, Claudette Toupin, Greg Selinger, Alain Louer, Rob Visser, David Dandeneau, Gisele S. Roch, Fernand Gauthier, Doris Gauthier, Joanne Dandenault, Garry Steadman, Teresa Cwik, Eugene Fillion, Lynn Fillion, Michèle Kleinschmit, Marcia Steadman, Yolande Cates, Sandra Dupuis, Robert Loiselle, Lucille Cénérini, Daryl Kuhl, Dougald Lamont, Mathieu Allard

By Zoom:

#### Welcome

Raymond Champagne, President of the Old Saint Boniface Residents' Association, began the Annual General Meeting (AGM) at 7:12 p.m. with words of welcome and acknowledgement that the meeting is being held on Indian Treaty Lands.

## **Election of the Annual General Meeting Chair**

David Dandeneau moved, Walter Kleinschmit seconded, that Joseph Constant be elected as the chair of the Annual General Meeting. Unanimously carried.

### Agenda

Moved by Claudette Toupin, seconded by Walter Kleinschmit that the proposed agenda for the March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 Annual General Meeting be adopted as distributed with the addition, after the Treasurer's Report, of Presentations by the Member of the Manitoba Legislature and City of Winnipeg Councillor for Saint-Boniface. Unanimously carried.

### **2022 Annual General Meeting Minutes**

Moved by Claudette Toupin, seconded by Raymond Champagne that the March 23rd, 2022 Annual General Meeting minutes be approved as distributed. Unanimously carried.

# Treasurer's Report

Gordon Thurston, OSBRA's Treasurer, reported that of March 22, 2023 the Association had a balance of \$1,067.47 in its bank account. The Association started its 2022-23 fiscal year with \$1,307.54 in its bank account. Since the last Annual General Meeting, the Association received \$600 from the City of Winnipeg Per Capital Grant and expended \$40.00 to the Government of Manitoba to maintain the Association as a provincial corporation and \$488.88 for the costs associated with the development and operation of its website.

Moved by Gordon Thurston and seconded by Jordan Chabbert that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. Unanimously carried.

### Presentation by Dougald Lamont, Member of the Manitoba Legislature for Saint-Boniface

Mr. Lamont reported that he has now become a resident of the Saint-Boniface Constituency by making his principal residence at 166 Ferndale Avenue. He stated that he would be attending the AGM meeting to hear the Association's reports and would be available after the meeting to meet and discuss area residents' concerns.

### Presentation by Matt Allard, City of Winnipeg Councillor for the Saint-Boniface Ward

Councillor Allard shared his thoughts regarding the City of Winnipeg's 2023-24 budget approval. He was disappointed that Saint-Boniface Street Links Homeless Program did not receive the funding that the organization requested from the City of Winnipeg. Councillor Allard was supportive of the social programs that Saint-Boniface Street Links provides to the homeless people located east of the Red River; their work is one way to mitigate crime in Winnipeg by helping the homeless deal with addiction issues.

Councillor Allard talked about his priorities to encourage walking, cycling and transit ridership by ensuring that sidewalks are cleaned at the same time as the streets and to introduce mitigation measures to ensure road safety.

Some participants in the AGM meeting raised the issue of bicycle thefts and how the City does not facilitate residents in finding their stolen bicycles. They also complained about the high standards the City and the Province have before they are open to addressing breaches of environmental licenses in the Mission Industrial Area.

### **President's Report**

Raymond Champagne reported that the OSBRA Board of Directors met eight times since the last General Meeting in 2022.

He outlined the objectives of the Association and the following actions that were undertaken by the Board over the last year:

- A letter of support was sent to the City to support a rezoning or the development of a wellness center and pharmacy at 251 Provencher Boulevard.
- A request was made to the City of Winnipeg to enforce the bilingual signage on Provencher Boulevard.
- Board members made a formal presentation to the Riel Committee to oppose the rezoning and proposed variances to change a commercial designation that would permit a high-density residential project on a vacant lot at 158 and 160 Dumoulin Street. The Association also appealed the decision of the Riel Committee Committee.
- Board members attended a public zoom meeting for a proposed redevelopment of 211 Goulet to hear area residents' concerns.
- The Association sent a letter of support for the creation of a bicycle path along Dumoulin Street from Archibald to Taché.
- The Association discussed the expansion of the St. Boniface Emergency Department Redevelopment Project on the Old Saint Boniface Area.
- The Association provided input in a proposed development of 174 Provencher Boulevard.

- •
- The Association has been monitoring the City's Moving on Marion Street Project.
- Alain Louer, a Board member has submitted a proposal to the City of Winnipeg under the Trees Please Winnipeg to obtain \$20,000 to plant trees in Whittier Park.

For the next year, the Association has identified the following issues it would like to work on:

- meet with Entreprise Saint Boniface to help promote the francophone character of our community through a tourism strategy Entreprise is working on.
- work with the property of owner of 210 Masson to see the proper redevelopment of this historical building into residential units.
- begin work with St. Boniface Street Links to identify the boarded up buildings in the Old Saint Boniface Area.
- continue to work with our City Councillor to create a secondary plan for Central Saint Boniface.
- promote the creation of a federal urban park on the east side of the Red River.
- address the following transportation issues: the establishment of a pedestrian crossing between the Seine River and Archibald Street to permit residents to safely cross Provencher Boulevard; the removal of truck route designations on Provencher Boulevard, Des Meurons and Marion Streets; continue the monitoring of the Moving on Marion Street Project.

Raymond thanked Walter Kleinschmit and Dan Lambert, board members who have completed their mandate and will not be seeking re-election to the Board, for the time and work they have done for the Association. He encouraged the members of the audience to become Board members.

Greg Selinger moved and Claudette Toupin seconded that the President's report be accepted as information. Unanimously carried.

## **Proposed Development of 211 Goulet Street**

Walter Kleinschmit made a short presentation on what is being proposed for the development of a vacant piece of property at 211 Goulet Street.

Grow Infinite Real Estate Development would like to build on the site a mixed-use 9 to 11 storey building with a commercial ground floor and 108 to 115 apartments. The property is presently zoned C2 which would permit 1 or 2 levels of commercial space and a maximum of 34 apartments.

Proposed development of this property has been controversial. When Chateau Guay, the 16-storey apartment building adjacent to this property was built on 231 Goulet in the late 1960s, the City of Saint Boniface had permitted the building of this hi-rise on condition that the property at 211 Goulet be developed as green space. On February 21, 2007, the City of Winnipeg approved the splitting of 231 Goulet and the creation of 211 Goulet with a C2 zoning.

Area residents have voiced numerous concerns about the development of a high rise building on the property. These include: traffic congestion in the back lane between Thomas Berry, Traverse, Goulet and Kenny Streets, loss of sunlight and privacy for the residents on Thomas Berry, stresses on existing sewer and water services.

Walter Kleinschmit moved, Garry Steadman seconded, that the Old Saint Boniface Residents Association support the concerns of the local area residents and oppose any development that would require zoning changes to the C2 designation of 211 Goulet. Unanimously carried.

#### An Urban National Park for Saint-Boniface

Rob Visser explained at the meeting that the Residents Association Board was made aware that the federal government has a program to develop a number of urban national parks in Canadian cities. In an article in the Globe and Mail on April 1, 2022, Jean Trottier, an architect suggested that the riverbanks and adjacent park areas at the Fork of the Seine and Red Rivers would be an ideal candidate for the creation of an urban park in Winnipeg. The Board proposes that the Association explore how an urban national park could be designated for the east bank of the Red River and along the Seine River.

Moved by Jordan Chabbert, seconded by David Dandeneau, that the Old Saint Boniface Residents' Association work on promoting the creation of an Urban National Park on the east bank of the Red River and along the Seine River. Unanimously carried.

### **Nomination Committee's Report**

The AGM Chair called Walter Kleinschmit to present the Nomination Committee's report. According to the Old Saint Boniface Residents' Association's By-law, the Board of Directors of the Association shall consist of 12 elected directors. The By-law identifies three sectors from each sector four Board members should be elected. The term of each elected director shall be two years, with half of the directors elected one year and the other half the following year.

For Sector 1 – Area bounded by the Red and Seine Rivers and Provencher Boulevard Joseph Constant and Rob Visser hold board positions until 2024.

Claudette Toupin's term has ended and she has agreed to put her name forward for re-election. One board position remains vacant.

For Sector 2 – Area bounded by the Red River, Provencher Boulevard, DesMeurons and Marion Streets Marc Savard holds his board position until 2024.

Sean Fogg's term has ended and he has agreed to put his name forward for re-election. Two board positions remain vacant.

For Sector 3 – Area bounded by the CNR Mainline, DesMeurons, Archibald and Marion Streets Alain Louer holds his board position until 2024.

Raymond Champagne's and Gordon Thurston's terms have ended and they have agreed to stand for re-election.

One board position remains vacant.

The Nomination Committee presents the following list of candidates for election to the Board for two year terms:

Claudette Toupin Sean Fogg Raymond Champagne Gordon Thurston

#### **Board Elections**

Walter Kleinschmit calls for nominations for the vacant board positions form the floor. No one volunteered to nominate or be nominated for the Board.

Moved by Walter Kleinschmidt and seconded by Lucille Cénérini, that the following people be elected for two terms to the Board of Directors of the Old Saint Boniface Residents' Association;

Claudette Toupin

Sean Fogg

Raymond Champagne

Gordon Thurston

Unanimously carried.

#### **New Business**

Gisele Roch invites members of the Association to attend:

- a) the Cremerie Coop Housing Annual Meeting that is to be held at the Notre Dame Recreation Centre on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. and
- b) the fundraising event for Chez Rachel, a women's shelter located in Old Saint Boniface that will be held on May 12<sup>th</sup> at the Maison du Bourgeois in Whittier Park.

Eugene Fillion expresses concern that Saint Boniface Street Links did not receive the monies that the organization was expecting from the City of Winnipeg.

Moved by Eugene Fillion, seconded by Michèle Kleinschmit that the Old Saint Boniface Residents' Association support all the work of community organizations within its area and send a letter of support to the City for the funding of Saint Boniface Street Links. Unanimously carried.

# **Adjournment**

At 9:22 p.m. Jordan Chabbert moved that the 2023 Annual General Meeting be adjourned.