

## **Chartwell-Maple Grove Residents Association Annual General Meeting, October 16, 2013**

### **Board of Directors**

The CMGRA Board wishes to recognize past director Tim Hyde for the invaluable work that he has done for us over the past years. Tim has been our resident expert on all things “zoning”. Tim has attended dozens of Committee of Adjustment meetings, and has always spoken passionately and intelligently in support of maintaining the character of our neighbourhood. He has also represented CMGRA at the OMB, where his insights and his eloquence have been invaluable. We are grateful for everything he has done for us.

We also welcome our newest director, Jeffrey Percival. Jeffrey is a commercial and employment litigation lawyer with Pallett Valo LLP in Mississauga. He lives on Devon Road, near OTHS, and has 2 children at E.J.James Public School.

### **South Central Public Lands Study Results**

The South Central Public Lands Study was initiated by Town Council in December 2011 with the mandate to develop a long term land use plan for available public lands in south Oakville, specifically the vacant school properties of Linbrook, Brantwood, and Chisholm schools, the current site of the Oakville Trafalgar Memorial Hospital, and the Oakville Arena/Trafalgar Park site in the Kerr/Rebecca area.

There was a strong community desire for new public resources to be built in established areas in South Oakville. Ten Residents Associations worked in unison to preserve

the Oakville Arena location, and to ask for a new facility in the south-central area. The Town responded with a plan that recognized the community needs.

As a result of these efforts, a new multi-use/multi-generational community centre will be built on a portion of the site of the current hospital lands. The specific design is yet to be determined, but it will likely incorporate the façade of the old OT building which is currently there.

The remainder of the hospital site is to be rezoned for residential development. There is still an issue related to the proposed density of development that needs to be resolved.

Funding for the community centre is included in the Town's Capital Budget for 2021. The Residents Association coalition has requested that this be moved ahead to 2018, which is closer to the time when the site will be vacant and reconstruction could begin. (The hospital is slated to move to its new location by 2016)

The Brantwood and Chisholm school sites will be rezoned for residential development and enhanced parkland.

CMGRA's next steps are:

- to continue to work with the coalition and with the Town to move the capital project forward
- to evaluate the structure and content of the project to ensure it includes a swimming pool (to replace Centennial Pool) as well as adequate fitness facilities.
- To support the Trafalgar Chartwell Residents Assoc. in their concern regarding residential density
- To continue to provide residents with information on this topic as the project moves forward

## **Linbrook School Site**

The South Central Public Lands Study recommended that Linbrook be developed for 6 residential lots, plus the retention of the wooded area as parkland. At the Council meeting to review and approve the study recommendations, a new proponent came forward with a proposal to use the site for a private boys' school.

During the public consultation stages of the study, no one had been advised that there was a serious proposal to reuse the site. It was soon apparent that there was a good deal of support for this concept from the broader community. Council decided to deal with this issue at a separate meeting at a later date.

In order to prepare a position on this proposal, CMGRA hand delivered a survey to 150 nearby residents to determine their preferences for land use on the site. Forty-three percent of those surveyed responded, but the results were almost evenly split between those supporting the school concept and those preferring the residential option. Because of this division, CMGRA did not present a position favouring either option. CMGRA presented these results to Council.

After a lengthy debate with many delegations on both sides, Council voted for the private school option.

At this point, the Linbrook Boys' School is negotiating terms for lease or purchase of the site with the Town. They will be requiring either a zoning amendment or a variance to proceed. The maximum enrollment is 180 boys (versus the 400 students that previously attended Linbrook public school) in 10 classrooms from JK to Grade 8. Their plan is

to coordinate hours, activities and bussing with St. Mildred's, though the 2 schools will be completely independent ventures.

It is anticipated (and hoped) that there will be minimal impact on the neighbourhood.  
CMGRA will be following this issue closely.

### **Gairloch Update**

Nearly 2 years ago, Oakville Galleries announced their intention to relocate from the Gairloch house to other facilities.

Three options were then presented to Council: to find another Town use for the building; to lease the building to a third party; to sever and sell the house for private residential use.

Fortunately, Council voted to remove the third (sale) option. Staff was directed to evaluate the remaining two options. Staff issued a "request for proposals" to the community, but no private proposals to lease the site were received. Subsequent to the AGM, staff have issued a report on the cost to maintain the facility for the next 5 years, while Oakville Galleries is still in residence.

CMGRA hopes to work with the Town over the next few years to find an acceptable use for the building.