



## Member Meeting - Oct 16, 2018

*Niagara-on-the-Lake Community Centre*

**VCA Executive present:** Ron McKenzie, Treasurer, Mona Babin, Recording Officer, Sue Henry, Communications Officer

**Attendance:** 80 people

1. Motion to approve agenda passed
2. Changes presented by VCA member Mike Siverns. Motion to approve minutes with recommended changes from October 26, 2017 meeting passed
3. Financial report presented by Ron McKenzie, Treasurer (see attached report)
4. Communications report presented by Sue Henry
  - a. **Newsletter** distributed to close to 300 subscribers. Issued monthly or as needed. Includes VCA updates, meeting information, social events, The Village developments, and Niagara-on-the-Lake announcements. Let Sue know if you would like information sent through newsletter
  - b. **VCA website** at [www.thevillagenotl.ca](http://www.thevillagenotl.ca). Sue invites everyone to take a look at the website. Includes VCA Executive contact information, calendar of events, newsletter archive, VCA member discount information and community links. Only some information can be updated due to limitations of the website. Asked for help in updating Community Links
5. Membership update by Randy Churchill. Total membership is 107 homes, which represents 44% of The Village residents. Suggestion from the members to review discounts with membership and introduce street captains
6. Gardening update by Randy Churchill. 24 volunteers maintained the park on Garrison Village Drive island and the 2 post office box areas. Town of NOTL was very responsive to calls for additional watering
7. Social Club update by Mary Taylor.
  - a. Upcoming events
    - i. Sunday, November 25<sup>th</sup> tree lighting in Deitch Park (will include cider, homemade cookies, and performance by local ukulele band Uksters
    - ii. Friday, December 14<sup>th</sup> Christmas party at the Courthouse. \$55 for members, \$65 for non-members. Includes appetizers, desserts & non-alcoholic punch. Wine and beer will be sold at \$5 per glass. Tickets available form Social Club members. See website for more details

- b. 2019 **proposed** events
  - i. A survey was handed out to guests at the meeting to get input. Events to be confirmed.
  - ii. Garden Tour – through The Village gardens. Would include a scavenger hunt. Cost \$5 per person
  - iii. Game day in park at the corner of Norton and MacDonell to include mini putt, bocce ball, croquet
  - iv. Golf tournament & dinner at the Niagara-on-the-Lake golf course on June 5<sup>th</sup>. Scramble with maximum of 76 golfers. Profits would go to charity. Guests can purchase tickets for golf and dinner or only dinner
  - v. Garage sale
- 8. Holiday decorating update presented by Dale DesIslets. Tree lighting event on November 25<sup>th</sup> at dusk. Lumières to be distributed on several streets on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please take time to walk around The Village to see the beautiful displays. Volunteers needed. Please contact Dale. Donations accepted to maintain equipment (ie lights, etc)
- 9. The Village development update presented by Adam Hawley
  - a. The zoning amendments were approved by Town in the summer after revisions
  - b. One thing that didn't change to the zoning is the total square footage permitted to be built in The Village Centre, which was and is 95,000 sq. ft. (a total which includes what has already been built)
  - c. The parent company for Loblaws (IPCF) has had lawyers put forward an appeal to the zoning revisions with the argument that a giant grocer (for example a Costco) could be installed, saying it will ruin the town. The Local Planning Appeal Tribunal (LPAT) can take up to 12 months to review the appeal. There is no basis to this appeal or IPCF's assertion, and John and Adam will be exhausting every means possible to move through this process quickly, whether through mediation or other means
  - d. It seems clear that IPCF's true motivation for the appeal is to restrict competition for their local grocers (the two Valu-Marts). Adam and John will advise those residents that want to see a boutique grocer in The Village, through the VCA and by email, how they can show their support
  - e. The new bylaw puts a cap on the number of hotel rooms at 60 rooms
  - f. New model home opening this weekend at Niven & Moseby
  - g. As all home exterior renovations have to adhere to architectural codes, contact Adam or John Hawley with any planned changes. A certificate from The Village architect is required to sell your home at a cost of \$150. A copy of the codes is on The Village Developments website (<http://thevillageniagara.com/about/>, scroll towards the bottom of the page and a big blue button will be visible)
- 10. Resident survey results presented by Mona Babin (see attached report)
  - a. Results show top 3 priorities are:
    - i. Future commercial development
    - ii. Parking
    - iii. Speeding
  - b. Next steps
    - i. Volunteers (identified in the survey) will be contacted ASAP
    - ii. Committees will be established
    - iii. Committee heads will report back to the VCA
- 11. Meeting adjourned