



**Rockwood Residents' Association
Annual Meeting
September 26, 2024**

Dale Biason, President of the RRA, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. and welcomed all to the 1st Annual Meeting of the Rockwood Residents' Association after the name had been changed at the last meeting of the Rockwood Homeowners' Association. She also stated it was the first in person meeting since 2019 and was being held at the newly renovated Burnhamthorpe Community Centre. Biason thanked Greg Socha, BCC Facility Manager, for arranging the tour of the facility earlier this evening.

The agenda was printed and available on entry and was also shown on the overhead screen. To accommodate a speaker from the city, an adjustment to the agenda was requested., Marie Medoro moved to accept the agenda, seconded by Kate Marson. **The motion was carried.** The rules for voting were explained and members were advised to hold up their cards to vote.

Members were asked if they had any real or perceived conflicts of interest to declare by a show of hands. **There were none.**

The minutes of the May 4th, 2023, meeting had been posted on the RRA website. With no errors or omissions being brought forward, a motion to accept them was made by Demetrios Manos, and seconded by Steve Hogg. **The motion was carried** and the minutes were accepted.

Councillor Fonseca, Inspector Cooper and Sergeant Mazzocato from Peel Police, and city staff were acknowledged and the RRA Board Members were introduced.

Biason outlined the role of the RRA: keeping residents informed on matters that may be of importance to them and the well being of the Rockwood Village community, via the quarterly newsletter, eblasts or messages on Facebook and Instagram; and representing the community viewpoint at City Council.

In the past year, depositions were made to Council opposing relocating Delta Bingo to Rockwood Mall and a second opposing a change to zoning that would allow interim housing to be located in a residential zoned neighbourhood located bordering on a school. Cathy Corsetti, a Rockwood Village resident, was acknowledged for the enormous role she played in securing petitions signed by over 650 residents. There were also over 100 letters sent to the committee of adjustments.

Angela Loconte, Vice-President, Frank Medoro, Treasurer and Desiree King were recognized for their work to undertake the many tasks required to transition the name change to the Rockwood Residents' Association.

Another issue the RRA addressed this past year was the proposal to build a 5g Telecommunication Tower located on the Longo's building at Rathburn and Ponytrail. A robust letter campaign was launched opposing the installation of the tower and letters were sent by many residents and the RRA to our local, municipal, provincial and federal governments.

This year we offered to cover the costs of 3 little libraries. We offered to refund the costs to members, who would be willing to purchase and install a little library on their property. (To a maximum of \$400) There are currently 2 interested parties and one has been installed on Maple Ridge.

Last but not least, last year we learned about the plight of residents on Kings Landing and surrounding streets that are living in the hell of a constant buzz coming from the Alectra Substation on Burnhamthorpe Rd. Claudia Wooland has spearheaded this project.

Treasurer's Report

The Financial Report for 2023 was presented by the Treasurer, Frank Medoro. As of June 30, 2023 the balance was \$9,168.60. Facing a loss of \$739 from the previous year, the Board voted to increase the advertising rates to cover a 20% increase in costs to produce and distribute the newsletter, incurred as a result of Covid. The net revenue for 2023 was \$2,444.75, primarily from advertising. Membership dues for this period was \$1,775, up slightly from the previous year. During this period, \$1000 was donated to the Food Bank. While the 2024 report was not presented at this time, it has been posted on our website. The current balance as of June 30, 2024 was \$10,406.08. The year end balances include prepayments from advertisers.

Following the new ONCA requirements, the balance sheet items were thoroughly and professionally audited by Lisa Beaudoin, a local resident and certified accountant, who appended and signed thereon the Auditor's Comments. The Financial Reports for both 2023 and 2024 are posted on the Website.

ADJUSTMENT TO AGENDA DUE TO SCHEDULE OF CITY PRESENTER *

RATHBURN PONYTRAIL ROAD INTEGRATED PROJECT UPDATE – MARCELLA COLANGELO

Marcella Colangelo advised that the project was on schedule and would be completed by the end of November. The bus shelter pads are complete as are the streetlights. A final layer of paving will be completed by the end of November.

Residents were advised to visit the city website for ongoing updates:

<https://www.mississauga.ca/projects-and-strategies/city-projects/rathburn-road-and-ponytrail-drive-integrated-road>

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

There were many complaints from the floor about the Rathburn-Ponytrail project. They included comments about the narrow lanes and tight turns. Many asked about the traffic lights, particularly at Rockwood Road, where although the road is paved, the timers do not appear to be functioning. It was also noted that the pedestrian crossing lights are not activated. Colangelo advised that these would be resolved when the paving was completed.

The tree canopy and tree replacement were raised. The group was told that the contractor did not follow directions in regard to the trees and once construction was completed, forestry would assess the site.

Councillor Fonseca requested a meeting to walk the site with forestry, open to residents, and will notify RRA of the date.

Faced with too many questions, and too little time, Biason requested all other questions be sent to info@rockwoodvillage.ca and advised that she would forward them to the city for answers, which will be posted on RRA website.

Councillor Fonseca offered to hold a virtual meeting option at a date TBD to fully answer questions from the community.

AGENDA RESUMED*

Social Media Report

Desiree King, Director, social media brought the members up to speed with the changes that have been made to the RRA communication venues. Social Media accounts have all been rebranded to align with the new name: Rockwood Residents' Association (RRA). The email account has been migrated to Google Workspace and new addresses will be available for specific needs such as advertising, membership, and other committees.

A major change to the website is also in progress, and Desiree King shared a potential template for a new format. The new website will include more opportunities for visitors to get and give information quickly by increasing the options on the homepage.

Alectra, Substation Issues

Claudia Wooland provided details of the environment created by noise from the substation on Burnhamthorpe Rd and the plight of residents to get peace and quiet for the residents on Lewe's Way and Kings Landing. To reinforce their plight, a recording of the noise from outside her home was played for the audience.

The noise is 24hrs/day, 7 days/week; a relentless excessive noise with constant humming, whining, and vibrations. This is not "nuisance noise", it is toxic noise pollution. It was established in the summer of 2023 that this noise greatly surpassed the city noise by-laws, and at that time, the Councillor and the RRA got involved. After many emails and meetings, Alectra finally agreed to make structural changes to the facility, which are scheduled for completion in December of 2024.

Claudia shared her personal feedback that this has been a challenging process, but at the same time, an interesting learning experience. For her, this case demonstrated the power of collective voices and the value of strong advocates in making things happen. She closed with thanks to Councillor Fonseca and the RRA for their unwavering support.

ELECTIONS – SUSAN CLUNIE

Susan Clunie advised those present that the RRA Constitution requires the election of 3 Officers, the President, Vice President and Treasurer. She expressed her sincere thanks to Frank Medoro for his 15 years of volunteer work and service to the Rockwood community, with his resignation as Treasurer, and to his wife Marie for her support and work on the Rockwood Times. Councillor Fonseca acknowledged Frank's service and awarded him with a Certificate of Recognition from the city and a Humming Bird Pin. Fonseca read an inspiring card that described the pin as a sign of hope and good luck.

The President of the Board of Directors of RRA, Dale Biason, informed the members of the RRA assembled at the annual meeting that the Treasurer, Frank Medoro, had submitted his resignation to the position of Treasurer, effective September 26, 2024. Dale Biason moved that the resignation of the Treasurer, Frank Medoro, be accepted. It was seconded by Sue Lawton and **the motion was carried.**

President Dale Biason stated that the Board of Directors of RRA had identified Susan Clunie as a candidate to replace Frank Medoro. Susan Clunie accepted the position. Dale Biason moved that Susan Clunie be elected as Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Frank Medoro and **the motion was carried.**

Susan Clunie advised that during the past year, the Board had appointed three Directors to fill empty seats which must be ratified by the membership. Dale Biason moved to elect Desiree King, Claudia Wooland and Sue Lawton to the RRA Board, and the motion was seconded by Summit Kapur. **The motion carried.**

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FROM THE FLOOR

Susan Clunie advised those present that the RRA was recruiting for Director positions. The RRA was looking for people who have an interest in how municipal and provincial matters affect our community and believe that our voice should be heard. She stated that the Board met monthly and Directors worked on issues of interest. She then requested any interested parties to make themselves known.

Nusrat Azam presented herself and her background and her willingness to join the Board. Dale Biason nominated Nusrat Azam as a Director, seconded by Jessie Dean. **The motion was carried.**

PEEL POLICE 12 DIVISION

Inspector Andrew Cooper – responsibility, uniform officers and Sergeant Kristine Mazzocato – responsibility, community affairs, outlined the changes in the vision of the Peel Police towards community response. They encouraged the community to take an active role in engaging the police to keep them in touch with issues.

Dangerous driving was a key issue in questions sent to the police for discussion. Insp. Cooper urged the community to contact police to report dangerous driving and street racing, whenever it occurs in order to establish any patterns, using the non-emergency line 905-453-2121 or the online reporting portal: peelpolice.ca/roadsafety. This portal will also accept video. Establishing patterns, allows officers to target offenders. The more calls or hits on the portal the better.

Sergeant Mazzocato spoke about a community ambassador program and advised that one of the RRA Board members would be welcomed to participate in the program.

In view of the new bike lanes, the question was raised about cycling safety that was done in the past through schools. Sergeant Mazzocato advised that there is a facility in Brampton where children are welcomed to attend bike safety courses. She advised that there is no program offered through the schools at this time, and there are no longer any community officers in the schools.

COUNCILLOR FONSECA

Dale Biason introduced Chris Fonseca and thanked her for her presence and told the gathering that during her term as Councillor, she has always attended our meetings.

Councillor Fonseca followed up on bike safety programs offered through Mississauga, walk to school initiatives and the traffic safety council. Accompanying her this evening were Douglas Turner and Colin Johnston from the Parks and Forestry.

Fonseca began to answer questions that were sent to her in preparation for the meeting, amongst which were the abundance of e-bikes and scooters littering the streets. She explained that this is a pilot program which the city only oversees. She explained that there were two companies involved in this program and there will be a report for Council, due in December, at which time the fate of the program will be discussed.

In regard to the telecommunications tower she advised that “no news is good news” and offered thanks to all who advocated against it. She also acknowledged the work that had been done by the community to defeat the threat of a zoning change to allow transitional housing. As a result of our efforts, the Committee of Adjustments has revised the definition of a “minor variance.”

Fonseca spoke about the significant flooding in July & August and advised that there would be a meeting on October 16th to discuss the city's plans to address the flooding. She also advised that grants from the city were available, and residents should check mississauga.ca/flooding for details. The city is also advocating to Provincial and Federal governments for any funding offered.

In response to growing issues with coyotes, Fonseca warned that the availability of food was the primary reason for their presence. Feeding squirrels and birds, is, in reality, feeding the coyotes.

A question was asked about speed cameras. Fonseca advised that while they have provided a 25-65% drop in speeding, they are limited in numbers and rotated throughout the Ward. There are no current plans in the short term for placement in Rockwood Village.

ADJOURNMENT

As the meeting had gone well past the 9:00pm adjournment, and with many questions still unanswered, Dale Bason advised those remaining that the unanswered questions sent in previously would be answered and posted on the website. New questions could be sent by email.

Bason thanked the Councillor for her attendance and the remaining audience for staying.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

At 9:51pm, Sumit Kapur moved to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Claudia Wooland.
The motion was carried with thanks.

DRAFT