Queenswood Heights Community Association (QHCA)

Monthly Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, April 1, 2026
Time: 7:00 p.m. – 8:40 p.m.
Location: Queenswood Heights Community Centre (Bob Monette Community Centre)

Participants

In Attendance

- **Denis Vaillancourt** – President
- **David Brown** – Vice President
- **Dan Kingsley** – Website Administrator
- **Toni Hermkens** – Member at Large / Vendor Coordination
- **Tracy Vitello** – Special Events Coordinator
- **Alex Kernick** – Communications
- **Carole Ouellette** – OC CRC (formerly CCAC)
- **James Maxwell-Barillas** – Office of Councillor Matthew Luloff
- **Suzanne Clendinning** – Social Media Administrator (via Facebook Messenger)
- **Sherry Vaillancourt** – Member at Large

Not in Attendance

Based on transcript silence:

- **Krystle Holmes** – Treasurer (not present; Denis noted she was ill)
- **Jayson Fergus** – Special Events (SoapLadz)
- **Other members not heard speaking**: Jeanine Mader, Sarah Washburn, Craig Holmes, Suzanne Legault, Dan Holmes, Matthew Luloff, Christopher Porter.

Key Discussion Topics and Updates

1. Agenda and Minutes

- Agenda amended to add two new business items:
    - Infrastructure walkaround and improvement list for Councillor Luloff's office.
    - Proposal for an election-related community survey.
- March minutes approved; Denis noted that *"Matt's speaking notes will be attached verbatim."*

2. Opening Remarks

- Denis issued an apology to the City regarding earlier comments about Queenswood Ridge Park lighting.
- Lighting has been restored; members noted the park is *"dark dark"* without them.
- Treasurer's report deferred to next month due to illness.

3. Treasury Update (via Denis)

- Signing authorities approved; bank card pending.
- Balance reported as **$5,420.69**, plus **$35** received for Spring Fling table.

4. Website

- Dan will begin archiving each year's agendas and minutes into single downloadable ZIP files.
- Only the current year will remain individually listed.

5. Facebook / Social Media

- Discussion on children's business advertising and ensuring posts clearly state they are child-run.
- Automated admin rules briefly malfunctioned but are now restored.
- Reminder that QHCA page is not a general advertising platform.

6. Queenswood Heights Community Improvements

- Denis outlined plan to gather resident input for a consolidated list of infrastructure priorities (crosswalks, speed bumps, path repairs, tree trimming, etc.).
- James explained which items are easier to action (e.g., tree trimming) versus multi-year capital projects.
- Plan to collect input at events and via a Google Form with QR code.

7. Special Events

Movie Nights – April 17

- Posters to be printed and displayed.
- Additional promotion underway.

Spring Fling – April 4

- Five confirmed child-focused vendors; layout being finalized.
- Bingo-style activity card for children; prizes include chocolate items and a 22-inch chocolate bunny.

- Volunteers arriving at 9:30 a.m.; David to open centre at 9:15 a.m.
- Supplies purchased: drinks, apple juice, cotton candy materials, hot dog supplies.

Community-Wide Garage Sale – May 30

- Registration opening soon.
- 10×10 spaces at Queenswood Ridge Park; residents may also host at home.
- 100 lawn signs prepared; Mission Thrift Store will again accept unsold items.
- Multiple Orleans groups holding sales the same day, increasing visibility.

Canada Day

- Discussion on event timing: consensus leaning toward **1–4 p.m. vendor market**, break, then **4–8 p.m. community activities** leading into fireworks.
- Bouncy castles and face painting likely all day.
- Derek Stevens to provide music.

Music Festival & Family Fun Day – August 22

- Event 10 a.m.–4 p.m.
- Multiple musicians confirmed; Derek coordinating sound.
- Beer garden planned; exploring wine tasting options.
- Councillor Luloff donating **$500** toward the barbecue.
- Vendor layout to use soccer field; splash pad can be turned off if needed.

8. OC CRC Update (Carole)

- Spring Fling participation not possible this year.
- Community garden highlighted at Ottawa Horticultural Society panel; potential for additional funding.
- Food bank served **1,585 people** in March.
- Income tax clinic has served **165 families** so far.

9. Councillor's Office Update (James)

- Dog park odour issue flagged as high priority.
- Digital sign request added to infrastructure list.
- Health clinic waitlist likely not restricted by residency.
- Bob Monette Centre renaming ceremony: **May 15 at 10 a.m.**

- Roadwork updates: crack sealing on Hoy Lake to Amy Dford; resurfacing planned for St. Joseph to Amiens.
- Hazardous waste drop-off: **August 8 at Innes Snow Dump**.
- New community police officer available for future meetings.
- Speeding concerns: residents encouraged to file online police reports to populate enforcement heat maps.

10. New Business

- Proposal for a **candidate survey** for the October municipal election.
- Discussion included:
  - Using Google Forms.
  - Allowing community input on questions.
  - Ensuring candidates' answers are within municipal authority.
  - Avoiding hosting a live debate due to complexity and risk of disruption.

Next Steps (Immediate Only)

- **Dan** to finalize ZIP-file archiving system for website.
- **Alex** to create Google Form and QR code for community improvement submissions.
- **David** to open centre at 9:15 a.m. for Spring Fling setup.
- **Tracy** to finalize Spring Fling layout and vendor placement.
- **Toni** to distribute garage sale lawn signs starting the Sunday before the event.
- **James** to connect QHCA with new community police officer.
- **Denis** to send updated Special Events partnership plan to Jason and Tracy.

Risks

- **If community input is not collected effectively**, it could limit QHCA's ability to present a unified improvement list to Councillor Luloff, **resulting in fewer funded upgrades**.
- **If Spring Fling attendance exceeds expectations**, limited planting supplies (50 pots) could lead to **children feeling excluded**.
- **If vendor interest for Canada Day or Music Festival is lower than anticipated**, event engagement could drop, **reducing community turnout**.
- **If speeding concerns are not consistently reported**, police heat maps may not reflect actual issues, **resulting in reduced enforcement**.

Action Items

Issues (Requiring Resolution)

- Clarification needed on Canada Day event structure (final decision on timing and vendor participation).
- Confirmation required from OBC regarding beer garden participation.
- Need to determine whether wine tasting or wine service is feasible under licensing rules.
- Need to finalize number of planting kits for Spring Fling to avoid shortages.

Decisions Made

- March minutes approved.
- Agenda amended to include two new business items.
- Spring Fling activity card and prize structure confirmed.
- Garage sale will not have a rain date.
- Canada Day likely to follow a **1–4 p.m. vendors + 4–8 p.m. activities** model.
- QHCA will proceed with developing a **candidate survey** for the October election.

Decisions Needed

- Final confirmation of Canada Day schedule and vendor participation.
- Whether to expand planting supplies for Spring Fling.
- Final list of questions for the candidate survey.
- Whether to pursue wine tasting or wine service for Music Festival.
- Final vendor layout for Music Festival.