



**Minutes of the
ACB-BCA General Meeting of
Wednesday, February 1, 2017 at 7:30 PM
Herb Linder Annex
303 Beaconsfield Blvd.
Beaconsfield, Quebec**

Present: Francis Desrochers, Lucien Descheneaux, Al Gardner, Uzma Gilani, Rick Jones, Bruce Macdonald, Warren Mayhew, Derrick Pounds, Marcel Roux, John Whatmore, Charles Bourgeois.

1. Welcome and President's Report

The President, Al Gardner, welcomed the members to the February ACB-BCA meeting and thanked Lucien Descheneaux for chairing the January session.

The President informed the members that the Seniors Club had held two meetings: the first on January 18th and the other on February 1st. The purpose of these sessions was to recruit members and identify their interests and needs.

Uzma Gilani spoke briefly about the event held in Dorval on January 31 in support of Quebec's Muslim community. She indicated that well over 200 people attended the event.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Upon a motion duly made by John Whatmore and seconded by Lucien Descheneaux, it was moved that the agenda of the February 1, 2017 ACB-BCA meeting be approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the December 7, 2016 Meeting

John Whatmore suggested that the minutes of the December 7, 2016 meeting be amended and that the first item under *New Business* be changed to read as follows:

John Whatmore mentioned that whenever the Woodland crossing is closed, a sign should immediately be activated at Elm and Montrose to warn motorists in advance of the closing.

Upon a motion duly made by Lucien Descheneaux and seconded by John Whatmore, it was moved that the minutes of the December 7, 2016 meeting be approved as amended.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes of the December 7, 2016 Meeting

The President mentioned the following items.

- The register for the Tennis Club did not receive enough signatures and the project went through.
- After discussing the ramifications of the eventual Quebec lobbying act with Geoff Kelley's office, it is clear that the Association will not be required to register as a lobbyist. The government agency that

will eventually be responsible for enforcing the law will send a letter to the ACB-BCA conforming this. The bill has yet to be enacted by the National Assembly.

- A reminder that time is running out for the felling of ash trees. Work has to be done by March.
- Al Gardner has yet to contact the city regarding the issues related to closings of the Woodland intersection.
- Al Gardner proposed that the city councillors that yet to be invited to a regular ACB-BCA meeting, notably David Pelletier and Peggy Alexopoulos, be asked to speak to the members at an upcoming session. The members present concurred.

Derrick Pounds reminded the members that, in spite of repeated requests, the various advisory committees do not make the minutes of their meetings available to the public.

5. Reading of the Summary of the January 4, 2017 Meeting

Al Gardner stated that, due to the lack of a quorum, these were notes of an unofficial meeting. Therefore, they are brought forward merely as an aide-mémoire.

6. Business Arising from the Summary of the January 4, 2017 Meeting

Lucien Descheneaux indicated that during the January session, the members emphasised the need for obtaining an official statement from the provincial government regarding our standing as a lobby group.

7. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, Warren Mayhew, reported that there had been no significant change in the ACB-BCA finances since the previous meeting, except for bank charges and a cheque covering the Association's liability insurance. He indicated that while the balance had diminished, the current report did not include the anticipated contribution from Geoff Kelley.

8. 2017 City Budget

8.1 Tax Comparisons

Rick Jones presented the data that he had compiled on the tax rates of the cities of Beaconsfield, Kirkland, Pointe-Claire, Pierrefonds and Dollard-des Ormeaux. He discussed the main components of his method, emphasising in particular that a standardised *home value* was used and applied across the board for comparative purposes. His findings indicated that Beaconsfield had lost its distinction as being the most highly taxed city. He stressed that this was due not to a reduction in Beaconsfield's taxes, but rather to a general increase in the other cities' tax rates.

Rick Jones invited the members to consult the City of Montreal's *Budget de fonctionnement 2017 (Montreal 2017 Budget)*. He stressed that everyone consult *Tableau 172 – Quotes-parts de 2017* for information on Beaconsfield's contribution to the Agglomeration.

Rick's full presentation has been posted on the ACB-BCA website.

There ensued a lively discussion of Beaconsfield's contribution to the Agglomeration and its inability given the current rules governing the Agglomeration Council to change its assessment. The same applies to the other demerged cities.

Upon a motion duly made by John Whatmore and seconded by Derrick Pounds, it was moved that the ACB-BCA President address a letter to Beaconsfield's mayor, Mr. Georges Bourelle, urging him and his counterparts of the other demerged cities to petition the Government of Quebec to change the Montreal Agglomeration Council's (*Conseil d'agglomération de Montréal*) current representation system.

The motion passed unanimously.

8.2 ACB-BCA Statement

The members present agreed that the ACB-BCA should issue a statement commenting on the 2017 municipal budget.

9. Municipal Elections

9.1 Candidates Night

Al Gardner informed the members that Larry McKinnon had contacted the city's city clerk, Nathalie Libersan-Laniel, and was told that the DGE was reviewing the rules for 2017. However, she indicated that in any case the Association would have to complete a form requesting authorisation to hold such an event.

He further informed the members present that the matter would be on the agenda of the March general meeting.

9.2 ACB-BCA Bylaw Requirements

Al Gardner reminded everyone of the following clause in the ACB-BCA bylaws:

5.2.2 An Executive Committee member seeking election to public office must tender his/her resignation upon submitting his/her nomination paper with the appropriate authority.

10. Property Evaluations

The President mentioned that Lewis Poulin of the APRPR (Association of Proprietors & Residents of Pierrefonds-Roxboro) approached him regarding a *Montréal pour tous* (<https://montrealpourtous.com/>) workshop led by Mr. Pierre-René Perrin, expert in property assessment and scheduled for the Rialto Theatre on February 20 featuring a discussion on the assessment of a residential building with five units or less and the appropriateness of filing a dispute.

A discussion followed regarding whether it would be appropriate for the ACB-BCA to organize a similar event. No decision was taken.

11. Register – 100 Beaconsfield Boulevard

On February 8th, residents of the H101 area will be able to sign a register requiring a referendum on the proposed extension of the Willowdale Seniors' Residence. Thirty-six signatures will be required.

12. New Business

- The President reminded the members that the BAPE had filed a critical report on the REM project
- The President also referred to the city's registry for residents with physical, mental or medical conditions that may require special attention in an emergency. One can register register by calling Suzanne at (514) 428-4520. (60+ Seniors)

13. Next Meeting

Al Gardner advised the members that the next meeting would take place on March 1st in the Herb-Linder Annex.

14. Adjournment

Upon a motion duly made by John Whatmore and seconded by Warren Mayhew it was moved that the February BCA meeting be adjourned.

The motion passed unanimously.

Al Gardner, President

Charles Bourgeois, Secretary

Beaconsfield Citizens Association

Financial 2016

Bank balance @ December 31, 2015. \$1,336.95

Income:

BCA money received from Larry McKinnon \$75.00

Donations 2016 \$150.00

Less:

Bank charges: 2016 \$69.00

Cheques 2016 \$637.46

Bank balance @ December 31, 2016. \$855.49

Donations 2016

Donations towards Heroes Park brick \$120.00

Lucien Deschenaux \$30.00

Total donations \$150.00

Cheques 2016

#3 - May 12 - Heroes Committee - Brick purchase \$150.00

#4 - May 24 - Al Gardner - Printing supplies \$124.40

#5 - July 27 - City of Beaconsfield - Insurance \$116.32

#6 - Dec 13 - City of Beaconsfield - Insurance \$246.74

Total cheques \$637.46