

General Burns Community Association

Annual General Meeting Report
May 12, 2020

Introduction

The General Burns Community Association (GBCA) strives to create a sense of community spirit and a friendly neighbourhood through community events, hosting public meetings, and running programs throughout the year, including the outdoor rink at General Burns Park. The GBCA manages bookings for the General Burns Lodge and also maintains a community butterfly garden in General Burns Park.

The General Burns Community Association serves the community bounded by Meadowlands to the north, Fisher Avenue to the east, Grant Carmen to the west and Nepean Creek to the south.

Report in lieu of AGM

The GBCA holds an annual general meeting on the second Tuesday of May every year. This has traditionally been an opportunity for local residents to hear an update on GBCA activities and finances and elect the executive for the following year. Due to restrictions on gatherings because of the novel Coronavirus, we are not able to hold an in-person meeting this year. Instead, we have prepared a report detailing the information that we normally would present at the AGM. Our executive team has agreed to continue serving in their roles until we can gather for an election. New volunteers are welcome to join at this time as “Directors at large” to be confirmed by election when possible.

Our councillor

The GBCA typically invites our Knoxdale-Merivale ward councillor to our AGM to provide an update on city news and answer questions from the audience.

Coun. Keith Egli is happy to respond to questions directly to his email at ward9@ottawa.ca or by phone at 613-580-2479.



COUNCILLOR
KEITH EGLI

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Knoxdale-Merivale

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Financial report

GBCA Income Statement as at December 31, 2019

2019 Revenues

Rink	\$5,326.00
Room Rental (net of refunds)	\$3,255.30
Donations and Grants	\$3,589.92
Total revenue	\$12,171.22

Financial report

2019 Expenses

Rink Maintenance	\$4,732.85
Fun Day	\$1,918.85
Skating Party	\$204.95
Christmas Party and Other Events	\$263.50
Website/Security	\$29.96
Special Projects	\$1,477.41 \$
Misc	\$690.53
Total expenses	\$9,318.05

Financial report

Net Income

Owed to City of Ottawa / 50% room rental for 2019	\$2,853.17
Snowblower Replacement Fund	(\$1,627.65)
Adjusted Net income	(\$200.00)
	\$1,025.52

Bank Balance as at December 31, 2018 \$26,384.86

Bank Balance as at December 31, 2019 \$19,134.5

Bookings report

Bookings of General Burns Lodge have been a mix of single day events such as birthday parties and regular bookings such as Tae Kwon Do classes. The City of Ottawa has arranged a low-cost insurance option for renters of the Lodge, which the GBCA administers and remits quarterly.

All bookings have been put on hold until the Coronavirus restrictions are lifted.

Rink report

We had great challenges in snow removal this year, even though there was not a crazy amount of snow, because when we got the largest amounts , it rained right after, making the snow too heavy for the blower. Outside help with a truck and tractor was needed 3 times instead of the usual 1 time, which cost \$552.00.

We decided to clear the last dumping, after which we only had only 4 or 5 more skating days, but better than none.

Rink usage was down a bit from the schools due to the teachers' work-to-rule action, but our most frequent user, Frank Ryan School, had hundreds of kids there daily throughout a big part of March. Frank Ryan also lent us a snowblower when ours was in the shop for repairs.

Rink report budget

City of Ottawa Grant :	\$5,325.00
Expenses :	
Labour and supervision costs	\$4,400
Heavy equipment snow removal	\$552.00
Snow blower repair + Snow shield	\$224+\$112=\$336.00
Replacement of the Broadway sign Skating Party)	\$152.00 (in exchange for chili donation for our Skating Party)
Skating party and the public so net cost was \$119.00)	\$282 (offset by donations from the councillor and the public so net cost was \$119.00)
Total expenses:	\$5559.00

*Next year we hope to set money aside for a new snowblower fund and tarp fund

Events report - Fun Day 2019

Our 2019 Fun Day was a great success. We had a hot, sunny day for the first two hours and people packed in for the beginning of the event. We gave away more than 500 hamburgers and hot dogs in the first two hours. Rain began around 1 p.m. and we shut down an hour early as families packed up and went home.

Events report - 2019 Fun Day budget

Expenses

Advertising \$204.53

Food \$465.22

Inflatable \$847.50

Activities \$164.28

PA system \$237.32

Total expenses **\$1,918.85**

Income

Councillor \$150

GB contribution \$174.30

Donation jars \$194.55

City Funding \$1,400

Total income \$1,918.85

One box of food and \$65 was collected for the Debra Dynes Food Bank

Events report - Pumpkin Parade

Amy, one of the volunteers who ran the Christmas Party in 2017 returned to offer a new event for the community, a Pumpkin Parade. After Halloween, she collected jack-o-lanterns at General Burns Park and set them up along the pathways.

People came to see all the different pumpkins in one nice walk around the park on Nov. 1. It was a nice event and the pumpkins were all collected to go to a farm after the event. Next year using electric candles will make lighting and staying lit easier as it was a very windy day.

Events report - Christmas Party

Amy and Aly returned to run the Christmas Party in December 2019 after we missed having the party in December 2018. The event was a lot of fun, but unfortunately Santa fell ill and cancelled at the last minute.

The kids enjoyed the crafts and really loved playing with the green, red and white balloons in the balloon room.



Events report - Skating Party

On the suggestion of a resident through our Facebook page, the Skating Party had a Star Wars theme this year. There were Star Wars games, Stormtrooper marshmallows and “Hutt” dogs. It was a cold day which we think kept the crowds away, but those who came said they had a good time. We may want to think about how we advertise this event and see if we can bring our attendance up for future years.

Events report - Skating Party budget

Income

Coun. Egli's donation \$150

Chili from Broadways Donated

Donations \$15

Total income \$165

*Supplies leftover for Fun Day
approximate value is \$120*

Expenses

Food \$113.29

Beverages \$88.22

Propane \$54.56

Activities/prizes \$28.25

Total expenses \$284.32

Events report - Fun Day 2020

The GBCA was successful in securing a City of Ottawa Civic Events Funding Grant for Fun Day 2020, however the event has been cancelled due to the Coronavirus restrictions.

We are still waiting to hear if the funding can be rolled over to a 2021 event or if we will need to apply again for next year.

We have some supplies that will keep for next year.

We need to make a decision about leftover food supplies from the Skating Party. Margaret thinks we should donate them to Debra Dynes Food Bank.

Environmental report - Spring / Fall Clean-ups

Spring and fall clean-ups were organized in 2019 to fulfil our Adopt-A-Park requirements, with several families participating to clean up General Burns Park. Margaret posted encouragement to people to clean up litter in other parks but did not get feedback as to whether that happened.

Spring clean-up for 2020 is not permitted due to Coronavirus restrictions. The City of Ottawa has confirmed that we are not allowed to be in the parks to run a clean-up as they are only open for walk-through traffic.

Environmental report - Butterfly Garden

The Butterfly Garden was launched in the spring of 2019 with the help of ALM Landscaping and Construction, who donated the labour and some of the supplies to build a raised garden bed. Perennials were planted on a very wet day in June 2019 with the help of a local master gardener. Kindergarten students from Sir Winston Churchill Public School planted annuals. Many volunteers worked to water the garden through the first summer.

A celebration of the garden's official opening was held in September 2019 with games, refreshments and speakers.

Care of the garden for 2020 is on hold as we are not allowed in the park due to Coronavirus restrictions.

General Burns Tennis Club Report

Key results accomplished over the past year are as follows:

- a) GBTC retained a level of membership similar to the previous year. The total number of members in 2019 was 232, including 50 families, 33 adult members, 9 students and 10 seniors.
- b) GBTC delivered its core programs successfully. There were a total of 45 kids divided into the seven weeks of the After School Tennis Lesson Program. Our Summer Camps Program was held in July to accommodate the court resurfacing with 64 kids participating.
- c) An additional program such as the “Green means Go” provided older adults over age 50 in the community the opportunity to attend low-impact tennis clinics. This program was free of charge and sponsored by the Ontario Tennis Association.

General Burns Tennis Club Report

d) Various free events such as tournaments, our club championship, tactic tennis training and social events were delivered throughout the tennis season, and all of them were quite successful with the help of our hired coaches and our core of club volunteers.

e) GBTC resurfaced four tennis courts within the planned time frame and budget and without any major disruption to its operations.

To date, as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to unfold, GBTC is closed for all purposes. Currently, the National Capital Tennis Association (NCTA), in consultation with the City of Ottawa, is developing a set of guidelines for all clubs with respect to re-opening them in the near future. Any decision to open GBTC's facilities will be under the approval of the City of Ottawa.

General Burns Tennis Club Report

City-run summer camps are still taking summer camp registrations; however, GBTC is refunding all those who registered for the After School program and Summer Camps Program due to Coronavirus restrictions on large gatherings. Also, the yearly GBTC pamphlet, which is distributed to local residences prior to opening day of the courts, is on hold until further details are announced by City health officials.

The Club will be following up with our city councilor regarding the parking lot, the bike racks and the protruding guard rails at the club house.

Prepared May 5, 2020

Communications report

The GBCA runs an active Facebook group with 285+ members. We also run a local Buy/Sell Facebook group with 150+ members. Our Butterfly Garden facebook page is public. The GB rink page is run by Mike Hayden to coordinate and recruit volunteers.

Communications have also happened through our website, email distribution list, posters and signage throughout the community and inclusion in Coun. Egli's weekly newsletter.

Website report

The www.generalburns.ca domain has been renewed for another year until April 2021.

Executive positions

President

Jeff Seaman

Vice-President

Karl Marszowski

Secretary

VACANT

Treasurer

Jason Stanley

Bookings co-ordinator

Alexandra Kealey-Morin

Programs co-ordinator

Suyin Lee

Events co-ordinator

VACANT

Executive positions

Environmental projects co-ordinator

Margaret Sambol

Website co-ordinator

Samy Kourdes

Communications co-ordinator

Margaret Sambol

Directors-at-large

Tanya Londero

Kathryn Shaver

Tennis club representative

Peter Melvin

Questions

Website: www.generalburns.ca

Facebook: Search “General Burns Community Association”

Email: generalburnsgarden@gmail.com

Or

generalburnsbooking@gmail.com