



Preston Street BIA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday, November 7, 2023, 9:30 am to 11:30 am
Corso Italia Boardroom – 343 Preston Street**

Attendees: Steve Moffatt, Marcus Filoso, Joey Frangione, Daniele Cambareri, Claudio Lepore, Houry Avedissian, Lindsay Childerhose, Katy Morassutti

Absentees: Shane Olsen, Sabrina Mtanos, Lauryn Santini, Tony Zacconi

Guests: Katie Paris – NCC, Laura Mueller – NCC, Giuseppe Castrucci – FCA Ottawa, Mariano Ronallo – FCA Ottawa, Joe Cotroneo – Pub Italia/ICCO

1. Approval of Minutes

1.1 Approval of Agenda

Approved by: Steve Moffatt

Seconded by: Marcus Filoso

Unanimously accepted.

1.2 Approval of Minutes

Approved by: Steve Moffatt

Seconded by: Joey Frangione

Unanimously accepted.

2. Guest Presentation: Building Lebreton Project – 9:30am

A presentation of Building Lebreton Project was shared with the Board by Katie Paris and Laura Mueller. The plan includes 12.5 hectares of parks and open spaces, which equates 43% of the total plan area, as well as an estimated 7,500 new residents in the area. The project is divided into 4 phases. Phase 1 of the Building Lebreton Project has commenced and includes residential and commercial space. The Building Lebreton Project will extend Preston Street across Albert Street.

There has been discussion publicly about the NCC's prospect to close the extension of Preston Street at Albert. The Board asks if "the Preston Loop", as proposed in Building Lebreton's presentation is confirmed. The Preston Loop sees a continuation of Preston Street into the flats on a traffic calmed street up to the O-Train line. A pedestrian/cyclist pathway will continue over the O-Train line further into the flats. Katie Paradis responds that it is confirmed that Preston Street will continue into the flats as part of this slowed loop.

3. Chairperson's Report:



3.1 Bridge Replacement Update

3.1.1 Ottawa Italian Festival Logistics/Location

Italian Festival organizers met virtually with the MTO two weeks ago to discuss the state of Preston Street, the underpass, the AHS Soccer Field and the 301 Preston lot during the 2024 festival weekend on June 14-16. The outcomes of that discussion are shared with the Board.

In June of next year, all four quadrants surrounding the bridge will be excavated. The Adult Highschool soccer field will be an active job site on the Friday, Saturday and possibly Sunday of the event weekend. There is potential that work may be happening under the overpass as well. During that time, one lane and one sidewalk will be closed under the overpass. Two-way traffic will be maintained however from a “look and feel” perspective this will not be an area at which the BIA should be encouraging people to gather. MTO contractors will likely impose a single lane closure between Gladstone and the Louisa access point to maintain construction vehicle access.

With this new information, the Board discusses logistics for the Italian Festival. It is proposed that the BIA concentrate programming on the south end of Preston Street, keeping the event closely linked to the Demo Zone on Carling Avenue. It is suggested that the BIA could relocate the north-end activities to the Arnon Parking lot for additional space.

Some concerns are raised regarding this suggestion. Firstly, Board members express concern over excluding the north-end patios from the road closures. Joey states that restaurants on the north end could not simply run their food to the Arnon parking lot to make use of the additional space. This would not be viable for many of the members.

Claudio agrees that the BIA cannot orphan the north-end restaurants and that they will likely still open at their location, rather than relocating. In that sense, it would make more sense for the BIA to proceed with closing the whole street and treat the underpass as an area to pass through rather than a gathering point. Many Board members agree with this.

Lindsay shares that Italian Week has made an internal decision not to put the main stage in the 301 Preston to avoid issues with construction.

This topic is tabled. Lindsay is to meet with the city/traffic management to determine what will be permitted in terms of road closures for the event and provide an update following that.

3.1.2 St. Anthony’s Soccer Field

Work on the Adult Highschool soccer field has officially begun. The Board discusses the reinstatement of the field following the bridge replacement. There has been no movement on the Ottawa Footy Seven’s proposal to install a turf field at the AHS since May. Some Board members agree that this may be for the best, as it is not in the best interest of the schoolboard, soccer club or the BIA that the field be commercialized. The Board agrees that the BIA should be



advocating for an improved field and better maintenance going forward to support soccer programs that bring families to the area.

Lindsay has a call with the Ottawa Carleton District School Board November 8th. Lindsay is to update the Board following that.

3.2 OCOBIA Board

Lindsay will be putting her name in to sit on the Board for OCOBIA. Board approval is required. *MOTION that the Board approve Lindsay's application to sit on the Board of Directors for OCOBIA.*

Approved by: Steve Moffatt

Seconded by: Marcus Filoso

Unanimously approved.

4. Marketing Update:

4.1 Social-Media and Website Report

Katy will share October's social media report with the Board via email.

5. FCA Ottawa Presentation: Concourse D'Elegance - 10:30am

Giuseppe and Mariano present their proposal to host the 2024 FCA Ottawa Ferrari Festival Concours d'Elegance at Commissioner's Park. They are requesting that the BIA's support in approaching the NCC for approvals. Last year, the FCA Ottawa Concourse D'Elegance premiered during the Opening Weekend of the Ottawa Italian Festival at the Adult High School Soccer Field. FCA shares that this location was not ideal for the event, as they are looking to grow the Concours into a major traffic driver for the area.

FCA approach the National Capital Commission in 2023 for permission to host this event at Dow's Lake and did not get traction. FCA Ottawa is proposing three options for the location of the Concours d'Elegance; 1) at Commissioner's Park, 2) on the Queen Elizabeth Driveway from Preston Street to Lakeside Avenue, or 3) on Preston Street proper. The Board agrees that the best option, considering FCA would like to grow the festival, is to push for Commissioner's Park.

The BIA will work with FCA to create a strong proposal for the NCC. Lindsay is to book a call with the Tulip Festival organizers to discuss the best avenue for approaching the NCC.

Action Items:

- Lindsay is to connect Giuseppe with the Executive Director of the Tulip Festival.



- Lindsay is to ask for support from other BIAs at the next OCOBIA meeting.

6. Financial Status

6.1 Operating Status

Carry forward items:

1. Presdelicious 2024
2. Second Archway Committee
3. City of Ottawa Grants 2024
4. Little Italy SPAO Photo Walk