

Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting  
Monday, February 22, 2016 - 7pm, Kensington Gardens  
Minutes

**In Attendance:** Christian Mueller, Marilyn Martin, Bob Stambula, Carlo Drudi, Sue Dexter, Rory Sinclair, Steve Klein, Carolee Orme, Margaret Procter, Carmen Gauthier, Gail Misra, Caroline Macfarlane, James Murdoch

**Regrets:** Eva Janecek, Jane Perdue, Paula Gallo

1. **Chair's welcome** to all including guest Jerry Sperling of 37 Borden Street
2. **Approval of agenda** - Margaret asked to add an item calling for volunteers for the school essay writing contest.
3. **Approval of minutes** - Marilyn moved, Carolee seconded that the minutes from the January meeting be approved. Approved.
4. **Agenda discussion** on how the agenda should be presented. Business of the meeting to be done.
5. **New Business added** - an update on a meeting with the JCC and Councillor Cressy regarding a proposed advertising sign for the roof of the building.
6. The Board heard from Gerry Sperling regarding his concern over the delay in work at the Central Tech field. His concern was noted and the Board informed Mr. Sperling that it is an issue between the TDSB, MPAC and Razor Management. He was thanked for coming forward.
7. **Discussion items**
  - a. Fire Safety brochures – how to distribute the number of brochures we have left (this item was deferred)
  - b. Mission Statement – deferral of formal development of the updated HVRA mission statement and its impact on the existing HVRQ Constitution
  - c. Naming the College Brunswick parkette – It was decided that the Board let membership and surrounding associations know about making submissions. Someone needs to handle the submissions and set up a time frame with a judging process. Construction will start this spring.
  - d. Student essay project – Margaret reports that there are four schools in our area and that the potential payout of prize money, \$100 for elementary schools and \$250 for CTS may be too much for the Board to sponsor. It was suggested we

open it up to all students in the area and not just the schools to get more submissions since we really only get five or six. There was a discussion on whether school trustee Ausma Malik be notified to drum up more interest. Gail brought up the prize money available and suggested it is too much to offer. She suggested we find a sponsor to judge the entries and contribute the prize money. Tim suggested expansion by adding a school and perhaps we adjust for success. In the meantime Margaret will put it out on the email blast. Marilyn volunteered to read the essays.

## **8. Committee Reports**

a) Treasurer report – Carmen presented a preliminary budget for this year. She felt the increased administration fee should be discussed. In setting up the budget, she mentioned that the liability Insurance company invoice came after the calendar year. Gail, supported by Steve and others, suggested from an accounting perspective this item should be treated as an accrued liability, i.e. expensed in the year due; paid when formally invoiced (e.g. in the ensuing year). Carmen mentioned that the Board has never worked with an accrual system, but agreed to try that system.

Carmen has set aside some money for the cost of the new website. She's concerned that we will not have sufficient for that. She wondered if some of the leftover money from the history project could be used in updating the web pages. There was a brief discussion about funding the new website.

Steve moved that the budget as presented, subject to the aforementioned accrual revision, be accepted, but remain open for further discussion in light of the anticipated website funding needs. until such time that we can review and update it. Gail seconded. Accepted

b) Communications & Website – Margaret's Website report was distributed earlier by email. She reports we are waiting for quotes on creating a new website and concedes we can't do much until we know more. Margaret expressed her wish to go with Word Press. Steve wants three or four competitive quotes so that we can have a website that will stand out. Caroline said there are quite a few parts to web design as well as a new user friendly interface and there's the development which is far more time consuming and expensive. There was a discussion over how much money the Board is willing to spend on this website. It was felt that we continue to get quotes. Carolee feels that the more complex the website the more time it takes to input. Sue felt that we can't afford to cut corners for an inferior product.

On Communications, Carlo said we need to find a layout person for the spring newsletter and asked for story submissions and suggestions.

c) Membership – no report

d) U of T Liaison – Wednesday is the secondary plan presentation for ?.

e) Yard Sale – Marilyn asked if everyone is agreed on holding the event on the first Saturday in May.

**9. New business** – Bob reported on a meeting with the JCC attended by Councillor Joe Cressy, and reps from the ARA and Huron–Sussex associations to hear a pitch to establish a commercial sign on the roof of the JCC at Spadina and Bloor. The JCC was looking to create a revenue stream. Joe Cressy was opposed to the idea but would consider it if the residents groups agreed to it. There was a brief discussion where Board members felt we cannot support the JCC's intention as the sign would be too large and unattractive to the area.

Bob reported on planning and proposals to fit a modern building design in heritage areas. We have had positive outcomes in C of A hearings helping neighbours of adjacent properties reach compromises that work for all.

Carolee reported that the plans for Hutoshi on Robert Street will go to the C of A March 8. There is a plan to sever the property. There is also a proposal for a backyard laneway house on Croft Street south of Harbord.

Tim reported on a fire at 141 – 143 on Lippincott just north near Vankoughnet.

Sue mentioned that Larry Sdao, owner of the Brunswick House told her he is considering other offers of occupancy including retail. More news expected soon.

**10. Chair's note –**

i. While we changed our meeting date to allow Toronto Police Sgt Frank Bergen and other reps to meet with us, recent "re-assignments" prevented them from attending the meeting. Since the Police's CPLC meeting on March 15 has been postponed, Sgt. Bergen may be able to speak to us then. We could also meet at Division 14, and get a tour of their LEED-certified facility.

**Adjourned** – formal business meeting of HVRA Board adjourned @ 8:25pm, followed by the Board Member continuing its work on the HVRA Strategy.