

Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 16, 2016 – 7pm, Kensington Gardens
Minutes

In Attendance: Tim Grant, Bob Stambula, Sue Dexter, Rory Sinclair, Steve Klein, Jane Perdue, Christian Mueller, Gail Misra, Caroline Macfarlane, Margaret Procter

Regrets: Eva Janecek, Marilyn Martin, James Murdoch, Carolee Orme, Paula Gallo, Carmen Gauthier

1. **Chair's Welcome:** At 7:05pm, Tim welcomed everyone to the meeting, and quorum was established.

2. **Approval of Agenda:**

Additions to the agenda: 5c, Farmer's Market Motion; 8, Pumpkin Festival Road Closure: 6, Planning Committee update.

Moved by Gus, Seconded by Steve, to approve the agenda as amended.

Approved.

3. **Approval of March 15, 2016 Minutes:**

Moved by Gus, Seconded by Steve, that the March 15, 2016 Minutes be approved. Approved.

4. **Business Arising from the Minutes:**

Yard Sale: Caroline Macfarlane volunteered to help with the pricing of items for the sale in advance, or on the day of the yard sale. She will contact Marilyn to offer her assistance.

It was agreed that we will no longer accept donations of items after 11 a.m. on the sale day in order to maximize opportunities to sell donations, and to reduce the amount of leftover goods that must be transported somewhere for disposal.

Fall Fair: Christian raised the potential need to find an alternate location for the Fall Fair in the event that the Margaret Fairley Park reconstruction has not been completed in time. Closing Brunswick Avenue near the park was discussed as an alternative to be considered.

Gus and Tim reported that they, along with Carolee, met to discuss the names of persons who may be approached to lead the Fall Fair next year. They created a short list and began to contact people. Christian Mueller and Wendy Trueman have agreed to work to coordinate the 2017 Fall Fair. Four more people are being contacted in order to find one more person to create a triumvirate leadership.

5. **Discussion Items:**

HVRA Website: Margaret had sent out her report, which provided a quote of the anticipated costs to create a new website for the HVRA. She would like to

take a motion to the Spring meeting to seek member authorization to spend the money required to create a new website. The membership module would be done separately, but it will have to plug into Word Press. Gus suggested we ask for authorization to spend up to \$4,000 at the Spring meeting. Moved by Margaret, Seconded by Gail, that the Board endorses taking to the Spring meeting a motion requesting authorization to spend up to \$4,000 to create a new website for the HVRA. Approved.

Area Caucuses at Spring Meeting: Gus and Gail discussed the way we may more effectively manage the collection of information from, and reporting to, the caucuses: It was agreed that the Area Reps will do a summary of what was on the list of issues from the last two membership meetings, and report on what the Board has done or is working on from those lists. Each Area Rep would have the same list to speak from in their respective caucuses. They would then have discussions in the caucuses regarding new items that should be put forward, and will only report to the whole meeting on any new items that have not been previously raised.

ACTION ITEM: Tim will re-circulate the list of items that have been raised by the caucuses at the last two membership meetings, and one of the Area Reps will work on creating a report on what has been done, or is being worked upon. That report will be circulated to all Area Reps for their use at the Spring Meeting.

Borden Street Farmers' Market: Gus reported that the Farmers' Market is a success, but funding from the provincial body that runs Ontario farmers' markets has been decreasing annually. As such, the Market needs the \$500 donations from each of the ARA and the HVRA to be used towards insurance, advertising, the provision of music, etc. We already also, along with the ARA, provide invaluable volunteers for each market day. Gus moved, Sue Seconded, that the HVRA support the Farmers' Market this year with a donation of \$500. Approved.

6. Committee Reports:

Planning and Development: Sue reported on the progress of the Honest Ed's project. A committee composed of representatives of the four area RAs has been meeting for months to discuss the planning issues around this project. The latest news is that the 4 neighbourhood associations' committee has generated joint positions, and will be meeting with Westbank shortly to discuss those positions. Copies had been circulated to the Board in advance of the meeting.

HVRA Green Plan: A meeting was held on April 19, 2016 with Joe Cressy and City staff re the City perspective on the Green Plan: Tim, Margaret, Sue, Jane and Jennette Boehmer attended. Margaret reported that the City sees our Green Plan as a model. The need for long term planning for aspects of the

Plan was discussed, with time lines and deliverables. The City is talking about implementing some aspects of the plan in 2017, with incremental replacement of the concrete-box planters by in-ground pinchpoints, getting rid of the tree coffins, and potentially work on the laneways. It would help to devise a method locally of ensuring longer-term maintenance of any changes that are made. For a start, Transportation staff offered free shrubs and perennial plants for the concrete-box planters this spring because the Gardeners group already has a network of people willing to care for them. The attendees at the meeting heard that U of T has Architecture graduate students working on a landscape design project for the Harbord Village area, but we have not been involved or included in any discussions about it.

ACTION ITEM: At the Spring meeting the Board needs to get permission to do a charter, which would be an agreement with the City so that we can work together, and there are deliverables on all sides.

Communications: Carlo reported that the newsletter will go to print next weekend, and it should come out two weeks before the Spring Meeting. He thinks the Board should consider putting the newsletter out to be done by a committee, with a board member as the lead and liaison to the Board. There was no discussion about this idea at this time.

A number of reports were sent out to the Board in advance of the meeting, and had been reviewed by the Board members.

7. Chair's Notes:

Chair's notes were sent out in advance of the meeting, and included the following:

- Christian will represent HVRA at a May 9th meeting at Joe Cressy's office to discuss the scheduling of phase 2 reconstruction of Margaret Fairley Parkette.
- At the request of our Councillor that someone from HVRA speak at Community Council on April 25th in support of the pilot bike lanes on Bloor, Tim has asked Carlo, who agreed.
- Andrea Manica, who painted a mural on a garage on David French Lane has proposed to raise funds to hire artists to paint more murals on that lane.
- The chairs of both the Bloor-Annex and Harbord Street BIAs reminded Tim in the last 10 months of their ongoing interest in having bike racks installed in the 50' no parking zones on side streets abutting Harbord and Bloor. As longtime (HVRA) board members will recall, the Harbord BIA first raised this (5 years ago?) prior to the reconfiguration of bike lanes on Harbord.
- At Environment Day at CTS, members of the Kensington Market Action Committee described their frustration at being unable to stop the transformation of the Market into a bar-filled entertainment zone.

- Croft Lane has been drawing attention of late. The City's Public Realm office offered to do a graffiti removal/mural project on Croft Street, something they've done elsewhere in the City. The Luminato Festival is also interested in a photo installation in the lane.
- The Toronto Historical Association is presenting HVRA with its Peggy Kurtin Memorial Award for our work on history and heritage. Wendy Smith has agreed to accept the award at THA's AGM on Thursday, April 21 at Montgomery's Inn in Etobicoke. Thanks to Margaret for coordinating this.

8. New Business

Pumpkin Festival: Steve met with the Harbord Village BIA regarding the success of the Pumpkin Festival, and how that may be contributing to safety issues as there is higher and higher attendance. He therefore asked whether the BIA may be interested, in conjunction with the HVRA, in approaching the City about closing Harbord between Bathurst and Spadina for about four hours on the evening of the Pumpkin Festival. Neil Wright and Joe Adelaars were interested and will take the idea to their BIA for discussion. If agreed upon, this would require seeking a permit for the closure of Bathurst to Spadina. As this may be more costly than the current event, we may have to seek more sponsorship of the event. A secondary option Steve discussed with the BIA representatives was to increase the width of the sidewalks for the event. The Board endorses the approach, with a preference for closure of Harbord Street.

Poretta Lane: Sue reported that the laneway has been the site of refuse, fat, animal parts, glass, and dumped garbage for the last many months. She and Mario Poretta recently went through the garbage and ascertained that it was Flock's refuse which was being dumped in the laneway. Mario, as the restaurant's landlord, spoke to Flock immediately. However, garbage continues to be dumped, and it is coming from Flock. Flock and the Harbord Room also have grease drums that are leaking in the laneway. We need a direct meeting of the HVRA and the BIA to do dispute resolution about this problem.

ACTION ITEM: Gus will contact Neil Wright to discuss the garbage problem.

9. Planning from Visioning session:

In advance of the Board meeting Steve had sent out two documents for Board review. One was the draft HVRA Board Structure and Portfolios for the various on-going committees and for special events. At the last meeting he had asked people to provide input on their respective areas: however, only Gus and Margaret responded. That work still needs to be done. (Gus and Sue prepared the Terms of Reference for the Development, Planning and Zoning Committee. Margaret sent some revisions to the overall list of Events and Activities Action Plan.)

ACTION ITEM: As soon as possible, each chair of a committee or special event (other than Gus) should provide Steve with any edits or corrections for their respective event, and should provide Steve with any information to fill in the blanks for their event(s), who will be leads and/or coordinators, the required financial resources, schedule of key steps and dates to ensure event success, etc. in order that the Draft Plan may be completed for now. This would be a working document, and once updated, would be set aside as we work on Visioning and build out a strategy for the Board. Please send the information above to Steve Klein as soon as possible, and ideally well in advance of the next meeting.

Gus and Sue have worked on terms of reference for the Development, Planning and Zoning Committee. It could be a template for other committees, and would be something that we would maintain on file and on the website. In a similar manner, the HVRA Board would have written job descriptions for the Chair, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Area Reps and all other formal roles.

The Board Structure was presented for discussion at this point, and is generally comprised of:

EXECUTIVE: Chair, Past Chair, Treasurer and Secretary.

OTHER ELECTED ROLES: Membership Secretary, Communications Coordinator, DPZ chair (Development, Planning and Zoning), U of T Liaison and a total of 10 Area Representatives for the five areas in the Harbord Village.

There would be 5 general Portfolios, each headed up by a minimum of two Co-chairs, at least one of whom must be a Board member.

PORTFOLIOS:

1. Development, Planning and Zoning
2. Environment, Greening the Village
3. Members' General Meetings & Community Special Meetings/Events
4. Communications' Planning and Coordination
5. Community Engagement (e.g. Yard Sale, Fall Fair, Pumpkin Festival, etc.)

It is envisioned that we would bring in people from the neighbourhood to help in specific areas within a portfolio.

Thus, there would be Coordinators for various activities or functions, and there may also be Committee members/volunteers

We will need job descriptions for the various roles as each specific event or area of responsibility would have its' own Coordinator.

ACTION ITEM: The people who are doing some of the functions need to pull together their tasks list. Or, it could be a job description for those who have a specific role. Revisit the Planning doc that Gus/Sue prepared. Need Margaret, Jane, and Sue to work on Environment/Greening the Village task list. Tim to draft the Members' general meetings. James to do the Yard Sale. Fall Fair we have more or less in place as Gus has already done work on the task list. Steve will work on Pumpkin Festival. Margaret, Caroline and Carlo to work on Communications Planning. Gail to work on Membership. Deadline: May 15/16 to be sent to Steve. He will find a common format for materials submitted.

Adjourn 9:20 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Gail Misra