

**Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday September 18, 2012 7 p.m.**  
**Kensington Gardens**

**In attendance:** Tim Grant (Chair), Gus Sinclair, Gail Misra, Angie Andreoli, Eleanor Levine, Neil Stephenson, Graham Rempe, Carmen Gauthier, Wendy Smith, Christian Mueller, Richard Gilbert, Jane Perdue and Stephen Klein.

Regrets: Eva Janecek, James Murdoch, Sue Dexter

Guest: Julie Lam of Glasgow Street

**1. Chair's Welcome** extended to all.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Richard, seconded by Graham; the Agenda was approved as amended.

**3. Approval of Minutes of August, 21, 2012 meeting**

Moved by Gail, seconded by Angie; the Minutes were approved, with one abstention (Gus).

**4. Discussion Items:**

*A. Police Liaison Committee:* There was a discussion about the utility of having someone from the HVRA continue to attend the police liaison committee. Margaret Beare attends the meeting on the Board's behalf and she will be asked whether she would like to continue to attend. If she does not wish to do so, someone else may be asked to volunteer. It was agreed that it is important to have some representation at that committee. Margaret, should she agree, could be invited to report semi-annually to the Board.

*B. Next month's AGM focus presentation:* Following discussion, it was agreed that we would invite Jennifer Keesmaat, the city's new Chief Planner, to speak about her vision. If a back-up is needed, Tim will contact the Board for suggestions of alternates.

There was a discussion about making contact with the president of the U of T Students' Union, and inviting him or her to a Board meeting so that we can establish some contact with a representative of the students in our area. It was also suggested that the HVRA consider participating in the new student orientation fair by setting up a table to make our presence known to the students, and to welcome them to the neighbourhood.

*C. Proposed changes to Trinity-Spadina riding boundaries:* A thorough summary of a meeting called by MP Olivia Chow on September 10 to discuss the changes being proposed to the riding boundaries was prepared by Christian Mueller and circulated to the Board in advance. Tim and Christian attended the meeting on behalf of the

HVRA. The main concern expressed at that meeting was the de-linking of the Bloor Street business area such that it would remain in our riding, but would be lost to the ARA, which would under the proposal, be in a new riding. The target is to have 106,000 residents in each riding. The ARA would like to keep the riding as it currently is. The HVRA usually works with the ARA and has a common interest in area matters such as the U of T.

Gus spoke to the fact that it would be good to have the riding remain at its historic northern boundary, which is the railroad track just north of Dupont. Gus will work on a draft letter submission from the HVRA to the Ontario section of the Federal Electoral Boundaries Commission. The deadline for submissions is October 1, 2012.

There is also going to be a public meeting on Thursday November 15, 2012 at Metro Hall at 11:30 a.m. to discuss the boundary issue further and a representative will attend on behalf of the HVRA.

*D. Live Green Proposal:* Tim reported that a draft proposal had been prepared by Dinny Biggs and Margaret Procter and had been circulated to the Board in advance of the meeting. It will continue to be revised with Tim's assistance. This is only a preliminary proposal and should there be interest from Live Green, we would survey residents for ideas on what projects they would want to pursue.

## **5. Committee Reports**

a. Treasurer: Carmen reported that the HVRA has received \$2,121 from memberships in 2012 and that is before the AGM which is usually a major source of membership renewals. As such, membership revenues should be ahead of last year. There will be about \$4,900 in the bank once all money from the Fall Fair is received. The HVRA has some financial commitments: Graffiti/Mural project, the Market, and the Essay contest. Nonetheless, the finances are in good shape.

Re: creating a budget. There has not yet been time to prepare a draft budget. Richard reminded the Board that the Trillium Foundation needs to review a budget from the Board in order to trigger grant disbursements. Carmen will work with the draft that Richard had used and will circulate it to the Board for review and input. If possible, a draft 2013 budget will be taken to the AGM for approval.

b. Membership: 59 members renewed at the Fall Fair and 13 new members joined. As such, it was a successful renewal effort but Gail said it appeared that people did not know where to go to renew their memberships so she requested that for future membership tables, there be an HVRA banner indicating membership renewal. A more obvious presence would likely assist in getting more residents to renew or sign up. Gail requested Board permission to have a banner made: 4' by 2', with two sets of grommets in each corner so that it can be tied to a table; and it should have the HVRA logo at the top, and say something like, "Membership". There were suggestions that it may also say "Join and Renew". Gus had the last one done at Kinko's. Wendy agreed to prepare a mock-up of the banner. Gail will then get a

price from Kinko's for this and will advise Tim, who can, if necessary, poll the Board through an email vote on printing the banner.

Gail was asked to look into payments of membership by email. She will ask Calvin Yueng for some advice on how we could create such a system and will report back to the Board.

c. Disruption Committee: Tim reported on a meeting that was held. The committee is continuing to engage the MPP on the issues. There will be another meeting on Sept 26<sup>th</sup> of the various area residents' associations prior to which the parties will hold a pre-meeting to discuss further ideas. There have been changes to section 8.1 of the legislation and AGCO has indicated that the province may be amenable to more changes. AGCO reported that 97% of establishments are not problems at all. The committee is going to ask Councilor Adam Vaughan back to a meeting to encourage him to push MLS for action.

d. Community Liaison: No report.

e. Communications and Website: Richard reported that the deadline for the newsletter is September 21, 2012. Christian was going to do pieces on the U of T President selection process and other U of T issues; Sue on development concerns; Robin Pensler will do something on the Mural/Graffiti project; Gus will do an article on the Fall Fair with photographs by Richard Longley; an announcement about the Pumpkin Festival will be prepared by Tim and Neil will write about the Fall Neighbourhood Clean-up.

Re: hosting the information pillar website: Richard advised The Board that we would need a map on the site. Wendy said she would need an Excel file with the various pieces of information and she would then be able to make the map clickable.

Wendy encouraged the update of the HVRA home page with the Fall Fair, but she needs people to supply usable material. Gail will send a report to Wendy on membership renewals. A promo for the Pumpkin Festival and for the Fall clean-up also needs to be provided to Wendy so that they can be posted.

f. History: Richard reported that the Trillium grant proposal is looking promising. Eleanor has completed 43 interviews and she is also gathering many photographs. She may need a portable scanner on site as photos cannot be taken from the elderly residents being interviewed. Trillium required the HVRA to acquire letters of support from its partners. The JCC and local schools provided very positive letters.

g. Laneways: Gus reported that the last batch of names for the laneways has gone through and have been adopted. Six names were altered. This process has generated considerable interest from some of the families of those whose names will be on laneways.

h. Clean-up: The date has been set for November 24, 2012. Neil feels there is enough separation from the Pumpkin Festival. The Bloor Cinema could only commit to that date so Neil is looking for an alternate venue for a rain date. Neil met the Chair of the Annex Residents Association in Creemore where they discussed the cleanup. A friendly challenge was issued to the ARA to join the HVRA in the clean-up of their area too. The Chair took it to his board last week and they are very interested in taking part. Neil is invited to speak at their next meeting. Neil feels that the added interest increases publicity for all the sponsors.

A concern was raised that matters or commitments of this sort should be brought to the Board first before any commitment is made on behalf of the neighbourhood. Neil pointed out that there was no commitment made and that it was all subject to Board approval. He had advised the Board's chair immediately by email regarding the proposal. Nonetheless, it was generally agreed that it would be prudent to bring ideas to the Board for discussion and general approval in the future before any board member embarks on a project.

i. Emerald Ash Borer: There was a report produced about the problem of the Emerald Ash Borer. A speaker will be invited to present a short report at the AGM and an article will be included in the Newsletter.

j. Fall Fair: Gus circulated his report. It was a good day but for future planning it requires more people for set up and take-down. The silent auction was excellent. Total profit for the Fair was \$2,500 which is the most since 2003. The donations of free food have really made a difference.

The Board thanked Jan Muszynski who made a terrific contribution as well as Gus, Angie, Christian, and everyone who volunteered to make the afternoon such a success.

The HVRA has been asked to have more vegetarian food options served at the Fair. Past experience with this offering has shown it has not been successful. Residents will be asked to provide vegetarian suggestions so that the committee can then decide on what options to provide for next year's event.

Other items: RE legal issues regarding the College St housing project. Various residents associations are meeting with their counsel in November to discuss the retainer and strategy moving forward.

k. Chair's Report:

Tim reported that for \$135, the HVRA's four year old list of absentee landlords can be updated by Assaf Bar-Naton of Robert Street

On October 2<sup>nd</sup> the ARA is hosting a public meeting at the JCC at 7 p.m. to discuss its recently passed bike policy. Tim suggested that the HVRA co-sponsor a public consultation with the HBIA, the Cycling Union and Councilor Vaughan's office to

determine if and how bike lanes should be implemented. This is in response to Councillor Denzel Minnan-Wong's proposal for segregated bike lanes on Harbord; a proposal made without any consultation with the neighbourhood.

Adjournment at 9 p.m.