

Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 22, 2014, 7pm, Kensington Gardens
Minutes

In attendance: Tim Grant, Sue Dexter, Jane Perdue, Gus Sinclair, Wendy Smith, Carmen Gauthier, James Murdoch, Carolee Orme, Margaret Procter, Steve Klein, Marilyn Martin and Ian Mackenzie .

Regrets: Eva Janecek, Gail Misra, Mark Treleaven, Christian Mueller

1. Chairs welcome extended to all.

2. Approval of the agenda.

Moved by Gus, seconded by Carolee. Approved.

3. Approval of the minutes of the March 2014 meeting

The following change was recommended:

6d. Discussion items:

However, Margaret pointed out a discrepancy in reported timing (report stated that it was done during the night school period but in fact most night school classes were finished by November 30).

Moved by Carolee, seconded by Carmen. Approved as amended.

4. Discussion items

a) Ward 20 councilor succession process.

As a result of Adam Vaughan's intentions to move to federal politics, Sue took the board through the process of how issues concerning HV will be handled at the city level. There will be a special meeting of council to appoint an interim representative to handle Ward 20 business until the municipal elections in the fall. There are a number of candidates who may step forward. To ensure current issues do not fall through the proverbial crack, Councilor Vaughan will meet with resident association reps to outline the various files that are open and who, in his office, will be looking after each file. It was agreed that a letter be sent to Councilor Vaughan on behalf of the HVRA thanking him for his service and dedication to the ward. Jane will draft the letter.

b) Upcoming elections and respect for diversity

Sue reports that there is a possibility of having three elections in the coming months, a federal by-election, a possible provincial and scheduled municipal elections. HVRA as usual will be hosting all-candidates meetings and possibly a mayoralty debate. Former ARA chair Robert Brown and Gus will handle the organization and scheduling. It's hoped the meetings can take place at Trinity St. Paul's church as it has an affordable space.

c) Fall Fair

Tim reports Gus has handed over his very long list of volunteers who help out at the annual event. Carolee has agreed to help Tim in combing the lists looking for people who can step up to coordinate the various jobs. Given this event is massive and is

the major fundraising event of the year for the association; Tim needs as many members to help out and coordinate the many volunteers,

d) HVRA Tables at upcoming events

Various people will be needed to handle shifts at this year's Environment Day on May 10th.and at the Festival on Bloor in June. A number of people have signed on to handle the shifts.

e) T shirts

Steve agreed to resend the design for HVRA T-shirts to be used as a possible fundraiser and boost the awareness of the association. .

f) Student Essays

Tim reports that a number of essays have been received from area schools students vying for the annual prize money. On the subject of 'improving your community', the winning high school entry will receive \$250 and \$100 to the elementary school student winner. Marilyn, Margaret and Gus will judge this year's entries.

g) Spring Meeting agenda

The May 20th meeting will feature Helen Mills' presentation on greening laneways. The students who win each school's essay contest will read their compositions. There will be reports on community development issues and the usual area caucuses. Someone from the Ward 20 councilor's office will be invited to speak as well.

h) HVRA Constitutional changes

Gus explained the proposed Constitutional Amendment to replace Article 11 "Responsibilities of Officers, Board and Committee Members" which will be referred to as "Duties and Responsibilities of Directors, Officers and Committee Members". The changes are being proposed to bring our board in line with rules governing boards including non-profits. This agreement fleshes out duties and expectations for all members of the Board; confidentiality; and conflicts of interest. Gus thanked Sue, Steve, Wendy, Gail and Tim for their help in drafting the amendments. The amendments will be presented to the Constitution committee.

Steve moved, seconded by Ian that these changes be presented at the Spring Meeting. Approved.

i) Harbord Village gardeners

Margaret reported on an upcoming Plant Fair. It's an initiative by local gardeners to share knowledge about urban gardening, tools and plants. Expert gardeners will be on hand at the Fair to be held June 1 from 1-3pm at Kensington Gardens Residence, 25 Brunswick. Margaret was looking for a donation for start-up. Gus moved that the project be supported in principle and suggested she present a budget for consideration. Marilyn seconded. Approved.

5. Committee Reports

a) Treasurer's report

Carmen provided an update on expenditures. She says there were some large expenditures on communications, including distribution costs from Paul's Reliable, admin costs and association memberships. Carmen asked whether the cost of director's liability is really worth considering. Further discussion on the topic ended with a proposal to raise the issue with the membership at the Spring meeting, then gather more information about the various options and bring it to a vote at the fall AGM.

- b) Membership** – no report but Tim feels it would be beneficial to learn just how widespread the membership is in HV. Wendy says she will be able to map our membership with existing data and she will work on that.
- c) Community liaison** – Tim, Sue and Gus reported on the issue of the field rejuvenation at Central Tech. The working group is no longer meeting and the matter really is before the courts as the TDSB will take its case to Divisional Court later in May and for the time being, forego an OMB hearing which is scheduled before the court date. Meanwhile a local group has taken it upon themselves to investigate the health and environmental concerns associated with artificial turf field.
- d) Zoning** – no report
- e) Communications** – deadline for articles for the newsletter is Friday April 25. Tim flagged a problem with email blast distribution from our website. The issue is ongoing and needs to be worked out as soon as possible.
- f) Website** – Wendy says there has been a lot of traffic on the website lately due to the interest in the Central Tech issue and meeting minutes.
- g) U of T liaison** – Sue updated the board on the proposed development at Sussex and Spadina. The U of T has presented a plan for a 20 storey structure having commercial space at ground level, two floors of professional office space and the rest occupied by 550 bed units; managed by the University system. Townhomes are proposed for the north side of Robert Street for professors. It's also proposed that there be further park enhancements and a possible area for dogs.
- h) History** – no report
- i) Laneways** – Gus says there will be a dedication ceremony June 22 for David French Lane.
- j) Flowerpots** – 12 pots were planted for spring and a check to cover some future costs is forthcoming from the BIA. It's hoped that another pot can be purchased.
- k) Yard Sale** – Marilyn says the flyers have been distributed and there is a call out for volunteers to help in collecting and picking up tables and taking shifts at the community tables on the day of the sale May 3.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25pm