

Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting
Tuesday August 21, 2012 7 p.m.
Kensington Gardens

In Attendance: Tim Grant (chair), Angie Andreoli, Sue Dexter, Carmen Gauthier, Richard Gilbert, Gail Misra, Christian Mueller, Graham Rempe, Wendy Smith, Eva Janecek

Regrets: Steve Klein, Eleanor Levine, James Murdoch, Stuart Schoenfeld, Rory Sinclair, Neil Stephenson

Guest: Julie Lam of Glasgow St.

1. Chair's Welcome extended to all.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Graham, Seconded by Gail; the Agenda was approved.

3. Approval of Minutes of the July 17, 2012 meeting
Deferred.

4. Discussion Items

A. Info Pillars and the HVRA website:

Richard reported that the Info Pillar on Bathurst ST. at College St. continues to be a hazard for cyclists as it blocks the view of traffic.

Richard summarized past discussions regarding this item and asked if information regarding this issue should be on the HVRA web site.

The Board unanimously agreed that it is appropriate.

B. Membership:

1. Tim asked whether the annual membership fee should be raised from the current \$5. He noted that many people who sign up at the AGM's, pay \$20. Discussion included the pros and cons of raising the fee. A suggestion to prepare a budget was made and if possible, to have it presented at the AGM in October.

Graham moved that the annual membership fee be raised from \$5 to \$10.
Seconded by Angie. Approved unanimously.

2. Tim brought up the question of whether Area Reps should be allowed to see the membership list to make it easier for them to recruit new members to the HVRA.

Graham moved that Area Reps be provided with their area membership list generated by Tim Grant for the sole purpose of membership recruitment.
Seconded by Sue. Approved.

C. *Contributing \$500 to 245 College Street OMB hearing:*

Sue summarized the issues regarding 245 College St. The other members of the Coalition, Huron-Sussex, Annex and Grange Residents Associations have already contributed more than \$500 each toward legal fees and other expenses and the Coalition is planning to do some fundraising to cover related expenses. It is expected that the HVRA contribution is a one-time donation.

Sue moved that HVRA provide a one-time contribution of \$500 to the 245 College OMB hearing. Seconded by Wendy. Approved.

D. *Hiring someone to update list of absentee landlords:*

Tim reported that our 4 year old absentee landlords list has to be updated. Richard suggested looking for a responsible and reliable high school student needing community hours. If one can't be found, the board unanimously agreed to spend up to \$250 on the update.

E. *Live Green grant for HVRA :*

Tim reported that at the July board meeting, the idea of applying for a \$250,000 Live Green capital grant was endorsed. He contacted Jeff McCormick at Live Green and Jeff confirmed that they welcome proposals from past recipients. Jeff liked each of HVRA four proposed projects, especially the bike parking proposal. But he cautioned that if we want pavement to be removed within a pinch point location, it would require a geo-technical study of each site to determine whether the ground can absorb the infiltration. If we go ahead, we will ask the City to recognize that the soil profile beneath our streets is the same in each location and each need not be studied separately. The deadline for submitting a 2-page letter of interest is **September 4, 2012**. Tim is looking for 1-2 people willing to assist with the application and will include this in an e-mail blast.

Richard volunteered to take pictures of the areas needing greening and to conduct a survey on this topic.

F. *Submission for selection of U of T President:*

Christian reported that he received an "Invitation for Submissions on the Position Specification for the President" and that he is going to respond. He wondered if the HVRA Board also wants to respond. Sue said that the Liaison Committee is already preparing a submission for presentation on Sept 20th. She will share it with Christian. It was suggested the presentation should focus on where the U of T is going and what impact it will have on the community. There will be details in the next HVRA Newsletter.

G. *Communications/Newsletter*

Besides U of T matters, suggestions for the next Newsletter included recognition of new business and "news" from the Disruption committee.

5. **Treasurer's Report**

Carmen reported that in addition to the investments, there is about \$3,300 in the bank.

6. **Committee Reports**

a) **Membership:**

Gail reported that there are about 200 paid members for 2012 and some of those paid for 2013 as well.

After an e-mail blast to over 300 un-paid members she received 16 new members. However, it was said that many people pay at the Fall Fair.

The question was asked if, or when, residents should be removed from the list. It was agreed that there is no harm keeping them on indefinitely.

b) **Community Liaison:**

No report

c) **Zoning:**

No report

d) **Disruption Committee:**

A letter was sent to 5 of the 10 identified absentee landlords regarding concerns with their properties. Three replies were received. They were generally positive even though they don't necessarily agree with the reports from the occupants of the houses. The remaining 5 will be contacted once their names and contact information has been obtained from City Hall, as per discussion item 4b above.

Tim reported that he met with Rosario Marchese and that they discussed a plan to propose a private bill dealing with disruptive bars and pubs.

e) **Communications:**

See 4 A 1

f) **Website:**

Wendy reported that the web site has not been updated due to lack of new material. Since the picture on the main page hasn't been changed for a while, she asked for ideas. It was recommended that pictures from the Archives be used and changed periodically.

g) **U of T Liaison:**

No report

h) **Heritage:**

Sue reported that she, Gus & Leslie had a very encouraging meeting with Heritage Preservation Services. They were very impressed with HVRA's many projects such as Laneway naming, History and Doors open projects.

Leslie is going to write the application for all areas and once approved, HVRA will start on completing Major St and then proceed to other areas.

There will be a need for volunteers for each street/area; it was suggested to recruit at the AGM. Also, "street captains" will be needed.

It was suggested that seminars on how to gather pertinent information are available.

i) **History Project:**

Richard reported that Eleanor did another 2 interviews. He received many questions from Trillium which indicates that they are interested in the re-submitted proposal.

j) **Clean-up:**

No report

k) **Fall Fair: Sept 9th from 12 noon to 6:30 pm**

Angie reported that everything is proceeding according to plans. Fourteen musicians have agreed to participate and there will be locally brewed beer.

l) **Graffiti:**

Tim reported that 14 muralists were recruited.

m) **Laneways:**

No report

n) **Emerald Ash Borer:**

Sue reported that work is progressing according to plans

Adjournment at 8:55 p.m.