

Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting
Tuesday, December 16, 2014, 7p.m., Kensington Gardens
Minutes

Present: Tim Grant, James Murdoch, Jane Perdue, Paula Gallo, Marilyn Martin, Carolee Orme, Sue Dexter, Carlo Drudi, Bob Stambula, Rory Gus Sinclair, Margaret Procter, Wendy Smith, Carmen Gauthier, Christian Mueller, Gail Misra

Regrets - Eva Janecek, Steve Klein

1. **Chair's Welcome** to all especially guest Joe Cressy
2. **Approval of Agenda** – Moved by Carmen, seconded by Margaret
Adding a Call for Declaration of Conflict - approved
3. **Approval of November 18th, 2014 minutes** – including amendments
Item 4. Correcting the spelling of Janice Dembo's name
Moved by Jane, seconded by Rory Gus - approved

4. Discussion items

a) Guest presentation by Ward 20 Councilor Joe Cressy

Mr. Cressy listed the staff in his office who will be handling the various issues and ongoing files going forward. He thanked former councilors Ceta Ramkhalawansingh and Adam Vaughan for their hard work and dedication to Ward 20 and leaving it in good shape. The issues as he sees them include development, waterfront revitalization and affordable housing and with that rooming house regulation. He is on the TCHC board and continues to push for 10 percent affordable housing with any new development. He also feels seniors housing is important and has met with Canadian Association of Retired People to open discussions. He wants to reconstitute a ward council in the new year with reps of all resident's associations. He has already met with the UofT president regarding the Spadina Sussex development with discussion over a forthcoming proposal for the site. He will continue to be involved with the 484 Spadina and the Bathurst Bloor four corners study. The Heritage Conservation area process will be decided. Three areas will be chosen out of ten on the list for approval. There are three pending in Ward 20 – Kensington, Annex and Harbord Village. He couldn't comment on the College Street study but he will be up to speed soon on that file.

b) Would HVRA be willing to join a coalition of citizen groups that is appealing to the Toronto Port Authority for funding to evaluate the TPA's proposal to extend the runways for jets?

Rory Gus moved, seconded by Wendy. Passed with Jane abstaining.

5. Committee Reports

a. Treasurer's report – Carmen reported a total of \$3652 came in through membership which represents an increase over last year.

b) Membership – Gail reported there were 121 renewals and new member sign-ups for 2015 already. She mentioned that there are many people on the membership list of 330 that have not responded to email blasts or who have never paid for membership. During an ensuing discussion, Tim mentioned that everyone who lives in the area is a member of the HVRA but you don't have a vote if you are not a paying member. It was felt that there should be a better system of knowing who are voting members and the area in which they live. There was a motion to appoint a committee to investigate further which was passed. Marilyn, Carlo and Gail will work out a plan of action.

c) Communication & Website – Wendy handed out extra newsletters for members to distribute. She presented the annual website report which details how many hits and views the HVRA website receives. The Pumpkin Festival always garners large view numbers as well as this year, the Central Technical School information pages.

d) Community liaison – Rory Gus reported on the successful brunch held recently at Rasa restaurant in which part of the proceeds went to the CT Community Swimming pool program. The restaurant owners want to continue to support similar ongoing initiatives in the community.

e) Zoning – Rory Gus reported on issues surrounding a renovation plan for 296 Borden Street. The initial plan had been turned down at C of A. After some changes, the plan was approved and work went ahead but a building permit wasn't posted and neighbours complained about a refuse bin blocking the laneway. The issues have been resolved and the work is ongoing.

f) U of T liaison – Sue – no report

g) Heritage – Tim reported on the status of the heritage application. HV has been working on this for four years and Tim is confident we have a solid case going forward based on built form and social and cultural aspects of the community. A Heritage Conservation District would help to alleviate the development pressures facing HV.

h) Flowerpots – Marilyn – no report

i) History Project – Christian reported on a recent meeting to wrap up the project. The plaques with the QR code information have been produced and the sound files have been created. Locations are now being secured for these plaques. The committee hopes to find a mix of residences and business willing to display the plaques as the city has refused to allow them on its property. It's hoped to have a big launch in the spring.

j) Recurring dates – Margaret circulated a draft list of the items the Board tackles on an annual basis which included a timetable in which to handle each event in a timely fashion.

k) Information contact list – Jane is compiling a list of contact information to help direct area residents to resolve issues and concerns. She reports that many issues can be resolved through dialing 311 but others aren't that simple.

6. Chair's report – Tim had circulated his report earlier to the Board. He noted that a relatively new organization called The Laneway Project organized a forum that drew 350 people attendees here in Toronto. They are now looking for 2 communities willing to partner with them on a laneway greening pilot. Tim promised to send them some information about our past laneway projects, and an expression of interest in participating in their pilot project. Sue suggested Joe Cressy's office should be informed about it.

Adjournment at 9:02pm