

HVRA Board Minutes
February 19, 2008
Kensington Gardens

Present: Gus Sinclair, Margaret Beare, David Booz, Sue Dexter , Wendy Duff, Colin Furness, Richard Gilbert ,Tim Grant, Jane Perdue, Bachir Rabbat, Stuart Schoenfeld, Leslie Thompson, Eva Janecek-Rucker

Guest: Michael Johnson, Amy Jiang & Lusa Luizoain from UTS

Regrets: Katrina McHugh, Samiha Sayed,

1. **Chair's Welcome:** The meeting was opened by Gus welcoming all members and guests.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved with a recommendation to start with items involving the guests. All agreed. Moved by Tim Grant
Seconded by Stuart Schoenfeld
3. **Approval of Minutes:** The minutes of January 15, 2007 were approved as circulated
Moved by Stuart Schoenfeld and seconded by Jane Perdue.
- 3a. **Financial Report**
Leslie will send
- 3b. Ted Tyndorf, Head Planning at the City died last week.
It was moved and passed that a letter of condolence be sent to his family
It was drafted by Sue and has been sent under Gus' signature
4. Special report from Michael Johnson of the 'Streets Are for People' organization:
Now in it's 5th year, supported by the City and looking to expand "Pedestrian Sundays" beyond Kensington, Baldwin and Mervish Villages. The organization's motto is: "community, culture & ecology". The City is planning on eventually having temporary pedestrian zone across Toronto.
Request for HVRA support of a Pedestrian Sundays (PS) on Harbord between Bathurst and Spadina was made.
If HVRA was in agreement, staff of PS would canvas residents with a questionnaire to determine residents' desirability . PS already talked to HBIA .

The discussion re Pedestrian Sundays on Harbord included concerns that closure of this thoroughfare will create backlog of traffic on other streets (more pollution) & needs of emergency vehicles. Suggestions were made: 1/ tailor the event to the business on the

street—"Dining under the stars", 2/ make Fall Fair part of it, 3/ have some events include athletic activities.

Tim Grant moved that HVRA vigorously and enthusiastically support the Pedestrian Sunday(s) on Harbord. Seconded by Stuart Schoenfeld. Carried unanimously

2nd part on motion: HVRA would like to inform the City that it supports Pedestrian Sundays' Toronto initiatives and any other initiatives to pedestrianize the city. Seconded by Stuart Schoenfeld. Carried

5. Earth Hour - Saturday, March 29/08

Tim mentioned that the City Hall is planning to turn off the lights but there is still discussion about street lights. Amy Jiang & Lusa Luizoain from UTS reported that today they had brain-storming session and came up with some preliminary ideas such as offering a movie for local residents in the school auditorium. More discussion to follow.

Tim moved that HVRA endorse Earth Hour and undertake the following initiative:

First: "test the waters" by conducting an e-poll of our members. If there is large support for an HVRA Earth Hour initiative, a flyer will be distributed door to door (1) encouraging everyone to participate, and letting the residents know that (2) Toronto Hydro will be asked to delay turning on the street lights until for 1 hr that night, and (3) that possibly some activities will be organized. The flyer should also include a name and number to call for anyone who opposes our initiative. This will lessen the divisiveness of this proposed initiative.

Seconded by David Booz Carried (1 abstained)

HVRA will send a letter to Toronto Hydro asking to delay turning the street lights as much as possible keeping in mind residents' safety.

Toronto Star is going to publish a list of Earth Hour participants and HVRA should be included.

6. HCD Robert Street

Sue reported on the public meeting Wed Feb13 at St. Vlad's

- There were about 45 residents present
- There were presentations from Cathy Nasmith and Tamara Bukhanov of the research committee
- The meeting was unanimously in favour of proceeding with the HCD with only one opposing vote.

Next steps are:

- 1: Cathy Nasmith to instruct Tamara, Carmen and Byron on holes that need filling in the research.
2. The next meeting should be in about six weeks [now confirmed for April 23]. We will have to present research at that meeting: what we have found out about the neighbourhood, who built it & when it happened.
A new flyer to be composed and given to Guy Zimmerman for the City to distribute it.
3. A group will have to go to City Hall on two occasions: support presentations will have to be made at the Heritage committee and at community council. This is no work at all, only a time commitment for some to be present at the 2 meetings.
4. After the document is printed, it will have to be distributed house to house by local people who will also need to collect money, as we did on the first phase of the project.

7. Farmers Market

Gus reported that the Farmers Market advisory committee is meeting this week; there are plans for merchants' promotions every Wed; residents will be informed via flyers or e-mail.

Suggestion was made to invite the farmers to participate in one of the Pedestrian Sundays

Since HVRA is involved in a number of projects that involve sending flyers, suggestion was made to combine announcements/information as much as possible and perhaps consider making a calendar of events.

8. Fire safety

Colin Furness reported that he met with Paul Jurecka, about the fire safety education project.

It was recommended that Building inspectors can contribute educational materials and a fire marshal can identify 2-4 leading causes of fires in our community and this will be the basis of a booklet on fire safety. Referrals to available resources will be made in the booklet to direct the reader to get "further information".

Recently there were a number of fires in the community, including 2 on Major St.

9. Update on "Pumpkin festival" (Saturday, Nov.1/08)

Tim summarized a discussion he had with Neil re his extensive plans, including "celebrity pumpkins" fundraiser for this event.

10. City of Toronto's new garbage & recycling bins

It was agreed that HVRA supports recycling activities of the City but the new bins would provide challenges to some residents of downtown neighborhoods. One community was able to use the smaller size garbage bins instead of the bigger recycling bins.

HVRA authorized Gus Sinclair to negotiate a suitable solution for our community.

11. Community dance

Gus provided members with a copy of the proposed budget (see below)

Proposed Budget for Community Dance

Expenses

Band	\$300-400	
Caller	\$100	
Sound person	\$100	
Insurance		
[piggy backed from Band policy]	\$ 50	
Rental of Trinity St Paul's		
3.5 hours at \$26/hr.	<u>\$ 91</u>	\$741.00

Revenue

We propose to sell tickets at \$10 per person

This means that we need to sell 75 tickets to break even

We understand that the 'dance community' will be coming out to this event and that there will be a minimum of 30 coming with maybe up to 40

This means that we need to get somewhere between 30 and 40 residents to the dance...

This by all accounts is do-able

Richard Gilbert moved , seconded by Stuart Shoenfeld : HVRA to support community dance by authorizing up to \$300 to Michael Kerman for the event – to be repaid.

Carried

12. All Committee reports were deferred till the next meeting.

Next meeting March 18th, 2008, same time, same place.

Adjourned 9:20 p.m.

