

Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting
Tuesday Feb 21, 2011 7 p.m.
Kensington Gardens

In Attendance: Rory Sinclair(chair), Richard Gilbert, Steve Klein, Eleanor Levine, Christian Mueller, James Murdoch, Jane Perdue, Graham Rempe, Stuart Schoenfeld, Wendy Smith, Neil Stephenson, Eva Janecek

Regrets: Angie Andreoli, Carmen Gauthier, Tim Grant, Gail Misra, Sue Dexter,

1. Chair's Welcome extended to all.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Steve, Seconded by Richard, the Agenda was approved.

3. Approval of Minutes of January 17th, 2012

Corrections by Wendy included. Moved by Wendy, seconded by Eleanor, Approved.

4. Treasurer's report

Carmen submitted a report (not presented at the meeting) that:

Feb.21,2012 bank balance is \$4257.52; investments: \$15,303.63.

Owing to us: \$117.00 from Harbord BIA and HSRO for their share of the costs of the provincial election debate.

At the end of February, two of 3 GICs will be invested as "annual non-redeemable GICs" while the 3rd will remain invested on a month by month basis.

5. Committee Reports

a) **Membership:**

Richard reported that a few more things have to be updated on the membership interface

b) **Community Liaison:**

No report

c) **Zoning:**

Meeting about 245 College is coming up in the near future.

d) **Communications:**

Newsletter deadline is at the end of March. Richard asked for ideas

Richard also mentioned two HVRA "miracles":

1/ Caplansky issues: Councillor Vaughn recommended a way of resolving the use of City property by restaurant owners. The restaurants will lease the property. Urban Design will oversee that the sites are created in an appropriate way to store the garbage. A meeting to discuss this proposal among staff of Planning, Urban Design, Licencing (MLS), Transportation and Councillor Vaughan will take place on Feb 22nd.

2/ Gordon Brown was able to get the City to stop the Info Pillars project and furthermore, some are being taken down.

e) **Website:**

No report

f) **U of T Liaison:**

No report

g) **Heritage:**

Even though HPS is reorganizing, HVRA was lucky to get on the list for consideration of new Heritage designed districts

h) **History Project:**

Richard reported that Eleanor completed 15 one hour interviews (17 individuals). The group congratulated Eleanor on the achievement.

Eleanor plans to complete 25 interviews by June

The group met yesterday and discussed what to include in the re-submission of the project to Trillium Foundation.

The plan is to request \$20,000 for 1yr. \$5,000 would be for transcription of oral histories, \$5,000 for text/content management (processing), \$5,000 for presentation and \$5,000 for other expenses.

i) **Spring clean-up**

Neil reported that we now have 30 confirmed sponsors.

James pointed out that Neil was able inspire the sponsors to participate in community events and in turn they will be getting publicity and recognition.

There was a discussion regarding fundraising for HVRA.

Richard moved that Neil be congratulated on his success in organizing the April 21st Spring Clean-up and be encouraged to continue as he has been doing and that Neil's successes are raising some issues that could be of concern to the Board; these are to be discussed at a future meeting of the Board.

Seconded by Steve. Passed unanimously

j) Spring Yard sale

Christian reported that the sale is planned for May or June. A group of 3 or 4 individuals will plan it and report at the next meeting

k) Area Reps

Steve: Central Tech is putting dumpsters in area where they destroy grass and are unsightly.

Graffiti is still a major problem

James: Fedex building area: graffiti, garbage cut trees are a problem

Jane: College St business are not part of the community unlike those along Bloor St. In the evening and at night they turn into a club district making it insecure.

Stuart, Neil and Christian: nothing to report

Eleanor and Wendy: graffiti and bushes and vehicles at the corner of CROFT AND HARBORD – immediately west of Croft create a dangerous intersection are. It becomes a blind intersection because of the cars (more often large vehicles) and bushes.

Richard: Survey Monkey facilitated 2 surveys (Robert St. playing field and Lane way naming). Suggestion to annual or bi-annual survey of residents re: what they would like to discuss or what "bugs" them

l) Laneways

Gus reported that a report from the City has been received but that only 5/23 got a clear pass. However, he believes that only about 5 or 6 will have to be changed in discussion with the families to make the names in agreement with the City policy.

10. Chair's Report:

6. Chair's Report (sent via e-mail)

i/ Spring meeting topic

suggestions from members: transit service in the neighbourhood, backyard gardening

Request for more topics by next meeting

ii/ Refreshments for board meetings from Caplanski's

Neil mentioned that Caplanski's and other vendors would be happy to supply refreshments for the Board meetings. After a discussion there was an agreement that the Board would decline the offers.

iii/ It appears that the TDSB will not allow BStreet condos to sponsor the community swims on Saturday afternoons. On a related note, the TDSB will soon organize a public meeting to discuss a proposal by a Portuguese football club to replace the CTS playing field with all-season plastic turf, and cover it in the Winter with a dome. The community would have access to the field when not in use by the club or the school.

iv/ HVRA motion to save TCHC's "scattered" houses was sent to the Mayor in late January. When it was included in a subsequent email blast to HVRA members, only one note of protest that HVRA's board was taking a stand on a contentious issue over which residents were divided was received.

v/ Graffiti continues to be an issue which residents raise often.

Thoughts on what HVRA could do included: inspire the community and raise money for clean ups; suggestion to councillor Vaughan to add \$1tax to spray cans and use the proceeds for anti graffiti efforts.

Jane reminded the committee that the Mayor is sponsoring anti-graffiti campaign

vi/ HVRA student essay awards?

Tim proposed that sometime soon HVRA sponsor essay-writing contests at each of the 3 schools within HV on the topic “how I have made my community a better place”. For discussion purposes, Tim suggested: an annual contest would start in the Fall 2012 and offer a cash award to one student at each of the 3 local school. (\$100 for 2 elementary students and \$200 for a CTS student?) Contestants need not live in HV, nor have contributed to making HV a better place. Non-residents would have to include a reference who could verify their community contributions. Winners would receive their award and read some their short essay at HVRA Spring meetings.

Richard moved that HVRA accept Tim’s proposal in principle and that he provides more detail. Seconded by Stuart. Passed unanimously.

vii/ Using Section 37 monies to fund green pinch-points? In 2010, the board decided to only lobby for pinch-points when streets were about to be repaved. At the time, the City only had plans for repaving Borden from Harbord to Lennox in 2012. Since Section 37 monies fund “public space benefits”, should we ask that they be used for public spaces yet to be created, like the pinch-point at Robert and Russell?

Deferred till next meeting.

viii/ For information: the three short guest presentations on insuring heritage homes has been re-scheduled to April 17th.

Adjournment at 9 p.m.