

Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting
Tuesday July 21, 2009 7p.m.
Kensington Gardens

In attendance: Rory Sinclair, David Booz, Laura Bradbury. Stuart Schoenfeld, Tim Grant, Sue Dexter, Jane Perdue, Bachir Rabbat, Leslie Thompson, Eva Janecek-Rucker

Regrets: Wendy Duff, Colin Furness, Richard Gilbert, Mairin Wilkinson, Stephanie Rea, Margaret Beare, Katrina McHugh,

1. Chair's welcome

Gus welcomed all present

2. Approval of Agenda

Approved with addition of "approval of invoice for brochure; garbage bin; Murdoch plan & lanes"

3. Minutes:

Approved with corrections. Moved by Tim Grant, seconded by Leslie Thompson

4. Treasurer's report

Leslie distributed copies of financial report and highlighted the amounts in the general, Tree & HERO funds. The Board commented again on how excellent the reports are.

5. Committee Reports

a. Environment:

i. Trees:

- Tim reported that on June 24th ten students worked really hard planting 19 good-sized trees and by the time the adult volunteers came, most of the work was done; challenge will be to keep the new trees well watered
- Partnership with Christie-Ossington and Palmerston committees was formed
- There was a discussion of possible future activities once the Tree committee will end; concrete planning postponed till future date
- Discussion about activities of Village arborist, both positive and negative, were discussed; Tim will follow up with Bruce Trees

ii. HERO

- David reported that the project is going well – over 80 audits are completed; next surge is expected in Sept/Oct
- "Furnace 101" project is planned to be presented about 1 week after the Fall Fair
- Air sealing is still seen as the main benefit; Adrian – an air sealer company
- Selection of furnace companies will be done before the Fall Fair

iii. Graffiti:

- Nothing to report

b. Membership:

- Nothing to report

Communications

- Nothing to report

c. Community Liaison

- Gus reported on development with Tati – patio at the front; Stuart made a comment that it is getting noisy
- Gus also reported on former Hutoshis: there will be an information meeting; flyer will be distributed to residents in the area

Communications

- E-mail capabilities of HVRA discussed

Zoning:

- Rovers, another bar opened on Bloor St. just W of Bathurst - an unfortunate trend for the residents

U of T Liaison

- U of t is involved in several “green” projects, such as solar hot water panels on the Athletic Centre, solar system on Trinity College, green roof and grey water system in Mining building, etc
- ROM fans problem still not corrected but plans to do so are completed

Other Business

Councilor Vaughan Ward 20 update, June 17, 2009

Jane Perdue provided an overview of the evening event, hosted at the Art Gallery of Ontario. It was a well attended community event.

Councillor Vaughan summarized his civic achievements under the headings of affordability, beautification and creativity.

He spoke about his continued fight against the Island Airport.

He listed many positive achievements including:

- securing funds to make public housing more attractive with a focus on areas such as Alexandra Park to clean up court yards and garbage pickup
- King Spadina area and John Street Improvements, including the planned open space at John and Adelaide and upcoming improvements to John St. streetscape
- Bloor Street Visioning Study, with a final meeting in the summer and a Fall report to community council
- Creative delivery services such as ward mapping exercises done by planning students and the possibility of a new public square around Soho and Queen
- He stated he wants to put residents at the start of planning rather than at the end
- He said that not one project went to the OMB in his 3 year term as Councillor
- He wants to have a new vision for Ward 20, to provide certainty for residents and developers
- He wants to promote/push developers to consider providing accommodations for local workers such as hotel staff or teachers who work in area of employment and is pushing developers to provide 2 and 3 bedroom units

- Parks improvements: ex: the Jean Sibelius Park – his office worked with residents/stakeholders to achieve a mix for dog owners, and safe play area for children
- Spoke about Kensington Market new BIA.
- Referred to Robert Street Heritage Conservation Guidelines and his efforts to get Council approval as soon as possible
- Parks issues: parks are the centre of our neighbourhoods and his office is working with the citizens to find ways to “give the parks back” to the stakeholders
- Councillor Vaughan has asked for feedback on parks and amenities. His next major initiative is to program parks. An example given is Alexandra Park – involve the community in planning, get Scadding Court involved with the possibility of engaging OCAD for a new space for graduate school, facilities and residents.

In response to the HRVA question and offer to help to improve the back lanes with a naming exercise, vegetation, making more safe and pleasant, he was very positive and wants to work with community to initiate this project.

Fire brochure

- Gone to print
- Decision was made to print 3000 copies and have them distributed by students

Garbage bin for residents

- Discussion for pro and against did not result in a decision

Motion: by Stuart Schoenfeld

Be it resolved that HVRA opposes the use of Toronto parks as a depository of garbage.

Seconded by Sue Dexter carried unanimously

Meeting adjourned at about 9pm

