

Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting  
Tuesday, July 21, 2015, 7 p.m., Kensington Gardens  
Minutes

In Attendance: Tim Grant, Gail Misra, Margaret Procter, Paula Gallo, Carolee Orme, Jane Perdue, Caroline Macfarlane, Sue Dexter, Marilyn Martin, Christian Mueller, James Murdoch, Carmen Gauthier

Regrets: Eva Janecek, Gus Sinclair, Bob Stambula, Steve Klein, Carlo Drudi

**1. Chair's Welcome** extended to all.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Christian, seconded by Marilyn. Approved.

**3. Approval of June 16, 2015 minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes: moved by James, seconded by Paula. Approved.

Business arising out of the Minutes:

There was a question as to whether we have Directors' insurance yet. Steve Klein is still working on this.

Not clear that anyone followed up on the Canada Post delivery in our neighbourhood, so we still don't know whether there is a firm decision about continued delivery here. The local Councillor will likely be dealing with this as City Council is opposing Canada Post's current plan. Tim has advised Councillor Cressy of the Board's view.

**4. Discussion items**

I) Central Tech 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary plaque purchase

Paula Gallo reported that there are two prices; \$100 for non-corporate supporters, and \$500 for corporate supporters, to buy a plaque.

There was discussion about whether HVRA should instead consider offering an annual prize for community engagement. It was pointed out that the HVRA has in the past paid for trees on the CTS property, supported the community swim and currently provides a \$250 prize to a CTS student who submits the best essay, etc.

Motion: To give Paula direction that the HVRA is prepared to pay \$150 towards the CTS plaque. Moved by Tim, seconded by Christian. Approved, with two votes against.

Motion: That Tim Grant and a volunteer (Christian or Paula) meet with the CTS Principal to discuss how the HVRA could support or collaborate with the school. Moved by Sue, seconded by Marilyn, Approved.

## II) The multi-purpose rooms at Kensington Gardens

Tim reported that we can no longer book the multi-purpose rooms on the usual Tuesday for our public meetings as the rooms are in use. So we need to find another day of the week on which we should hold the Fall and Spring meetings. It was agreed that Wednesday October 21, 2015 and Wednesday May 18, 2016 would be scheduled for the Fall and Spring meeting respectively.

## 5. Committee Reports

a. Treasurer's report - Carmen reported that she has received \$1,000 for greening Croft Laneway and \$50 for other greening efforts. Jane Perdue will be the champion for this project. The Oral History Project has reached its conclusion and the Board needs a final report as there is still some money left over in the account that must be dealt with. We need to find out whether we can close this project. Carmen will speak to Nicole about finalizing a report. Margaret indicated that there are other efforts being made regarding Oral History and Nicole will be asked about that too.

b. Communications & Website - Margaret would like the Board to find someone who can be the Communications person on the Board and take on the website. She is spending an inordinate amount of time on it. Board members will ask around to see if there is someone who could take this over. However, it was noted that the website is archaic and as such, whether it should perhaps be re-designed completely and whether we should allocate money to do that. Caroline has some expertise in having websites designed and she will provide the names of people who could do such work. Marilyn will speak to her neighbour who is a website designer. Colin Furness teaches web design and could be approached for advice.

We will also await Steve Klein's return so that he can report on the website analysis.

c. Membership - Gail reported that a letter will be delivered to about 60 people seeking renewal of memberships for those without email addresses. She thanked Margaret, Carmen and Tim for their assistance with getting labels and all those who have offered to hand deliver the letters in their neighbourhoods. There are currently 217 paid up members for 2015.

d. Community Liaison – No report

e. Zoning – Sue reported that CTS is still in mediation, and Bob Stambula is working on that.

U of T is working on a secondary plan, with some emphasis with a more pedestrian-friendly model for the campus.

The Honest Ed's redevelopment has put in its plan to the City and is waiting to hear from the planner. Sue and Carolee had a meeting with Westbank and are encouraging them to have a working group of the neighbourhood associations. They are now working on terms of engagement for that. Consensus at the Architectural Panel was that the project was too big and did not have enough green space.

Carolee and Sue are going to the core development group working with the Councillor's office to try to get the density down in our neighbourhood.

f. U of T Liaison – as above.

g. Heritage – No report – Nothing can be done until at least next year to advance the Phase 3 expansion of our Heritage District status to the remaining streets in our neighbourhood.

h. Flowerpots – Marilyn reported that the milkweed seeds have not grown. The cosmos are doing well, but people on Harbord need to water the pots more. The BIA needs to be encouraged to have businesses water the pots closest to them.

i. History Project – Margaret noted they have to do the budget report already discussed earlier at this meeting. She is still collecting photographs and scans and posts them to the

website. The project has nominated itself for an award again, this time for the plaques and in the media category.

j. Gardeners – Margaret reported that people are not watering the concrete planters enough. Another recurring problem is people stealing the plants. The group is thinking of putting signs in the pots to say that residents are planting these, not the City. The HVRA would be prepared to pay for a friendly, child-designed colourful sign that could be colour copied and laminated for insertion into each planter in an effort to deter ongoing theft.

k. 3Bs - Jane Perdue reported on the Croft laneway meetings. The Councillor's office sent someone to the meetings. Four people attended the first one and four or five others expressed interest even though they could not attend. The group has brainstormed ideas and locations for plantings on the laneway; prepared a layout of the homes on the laneway; and hopes to begin to engage homeowners soon. The project may not get under way fully until next year.

Marilyn has heard of a giant lilac that could be available tomorrow if anyone can move it.

l. Area Rep report re parking proposals on lower Major and lower Brunswick - Margaret Procter reported on two proposals for clusters of parking. A public meeting was held and the people who attended liked the idea. Margaret therefore sent a letter to the Councillor asking him to support it but heard today that a letter with 21 signatures went to his office from a group of residents who were opposed, but who had not attended the meeting or indicated to their neighbours that they did not want the parking changed. As a result, the idea is now on hold until there can be more community consultation. HVRA has asked the Councillor's office to send letters about the proposal to residents on the block before another meeting is held.

Bill O'Neill of Kensington Health has asked the City for additional parking spots on lower Brunswick. The Councillor is now considering asking for parking on Brunswick for part of the block on both sides of the street; it would be paid parking, but residents with permits could park there. HVRA has pointed out

flaws in the map and has asked the Councilor's office for a clearer one. Again, it will expect the City to communicate with residents on the block.

m. Dragon Boats – Christian reported that they had 18 paddlers this year, the highest proportion ever from the neighbourhood. As 20 are required to crew a dragon boat, only two outsiders were needed. The end result was that the HVRA team was the fastest of the slow boats. They were in the C division, but came first in that division.

n. Fall Fair – Carolee reported on getting volunteers to help with various aspects of the Fair. Rasa is interested in providing food through a food truck. However, we need to find a way to make money off the food. We are currently looking for volunteers to get items for the silent auction.

## **7. Chair's Report**

Tim reported that the HVRA financially supported the printing of a postcard handout supporting biking that was delivered to homes north of Harbord.

Councillor Cressy wants to form a Ward 20 Supportive Housing committee and is looking for someone to go to the meetings.

The first one is on Thursday afternoon. Volunteers should contact Tim if interested in attending these meetings.

There is conflict between Harvest Kitchen and the residents north of the restaurant. The issue is noise from the upstairs restaurant patio which is open 7 days a week from 10am until late at night. HVRA had developed a conflict resolution policy to deal with such issues. Tim met with Neil Wright to discuss how to resolve this neighbourhood conflict.

## **8. New Business - None**

## **9. Adjournment at 8:55 p.m.**