

Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting
Tuesday, June 17, 2014, 7p.m., Kensington Gardens
Minutes

In attendance: Tim Grant, Sue Dexter, Jane Perdue, Gus Sinclair, Wendy Smith, Carmen Gauthier, Ian Mackenzie, Christian Mueller, Gail Misra, Marilyn Martin, James Murdoch, Carolee Orme, Margaret Procter, Eva Janecek.

Regrets: Steve Klein, Jane Perdue

1. **Chair's welcome** extended to all, but especially Tim Grant

2. **Approval of agenda**

Moved by Sue seconded by Gus. Approved.

Tim was asked to leave the room and Gus announced his resignation as chair of the Board and moved that Tim becomes the chair. Seconded by Marilyn. Carried unanimously. Tim was asked to return to the room and assume the chair position.

3. **Approval of the Minutes** from April 15 & Spring meeting May 20, 2014 postponed.

4. **Discussion items**

a. Board vacancies: Communications and SE rep

Communications: Tim reminded the members that the responsibilities of the communications director prior to Mark's taking on this position included managing the Newsletter and the website. Wendy offered to manage the Newsletter on interim basis and if the Board is satisfied she'll put her name forth at the AGM to become the Communication Director. The Board thanked Wendy for her generous offer. Christian volunteered to look after Survey Monkey with Tim's help.

SE rep: position will not be filled at this time

b. Fall Fair update:

Carolee sent an e-mail to volunteers who've helped in the past and prior to the meeting she circulated their responses. So far, no one has agreed to be a chair but many indicated willingness to help. It was suggested that we have 3 co-chairs. Everyone agreed that we need to have a Fall Fair; the membership will be asked for help. Tim offered to donate wire frames for signs which can be used to advertise Fall Fair, Pumpkin Festival, and Yard Sale and other events.

c. Endorsing Ceta Ramkhalawansingh as interim Councillor

Sue reported that City council has initiated the process to fill the vacancy in the Councillor's position. Candidates are to put themselves on the roster by June 25. Their presentations will

be heard on July 7. The communities in the ward and prominent individuals have been working together to assist Grange resident Ceta Ramkhalawansingh to replace Adam. She will not seek office in the October election. Prior to the meeting Sue circulated a draft letter of support to be sent on behalf of HVRA. Gus moved that the letter be sent; seconded by Gail.

5. Reports

a. Treasurer

Carmen reported that membership moneys are slowly coming in (\$1617 in total) and that the first T shirts with the HV design were sold at the Bloor Festival.

b. Membership – no report

c. HV Gardeners

Margaret reported that the first event went very well in spite of the fact that it was held one day after the yard sale. About 60-100 people (many young ones and staff of Kensington Gardens) came by. Many brought plants and garden supplies, picked up plants and supplies and some donated money. Fiesta Farms also donated many plants. Anne Gibson, expert gardener answered many questions; she received a \$40 honorarium. After expenses \$106 was left. Carmen will set up an HV Gardeners account.

d. Yard Sale

Marilyn reported that this year there were many challenges starting with bad weather on the day the sale was initially scheduled (2nd date at the end on May was very nice), the truck which was to be donated and to be used for deliveries was not available (James and Gus saved the day), donation table wasn't set up until later in the day (only \$20 was received instead of \$2980 last year). It all ended well thanks to Adam Vaughan who sent 2 young men and a truck from his campaign office to take the unsold items to Salvation Army. On behalf of the board, Tim thanked Marilyn, James, Carolee, Gail and Christian for their efforts in making the yard sale a success.

e. Community Liaison

Gus summarized a letter to be sent to the Planning, Growth Management Committee regarding how to improve functioning of Committee of Adjustment.

Gus also mentioned that on June 22nd , three laneways will be unveiled: David French Laneway at noon, Immergluck Laneway at 1:30 and Allan Reynolds Laneway at 3pm.

f. Website

Wendy and Sue provided an update on Central Tech including the recent decision of the Superior Court. They will put together all documents in the event that the CT matter will go back to the OMB. Links to articles relating to the CT issues are available on the HVRA site.

g. U of T Liaison

Sue reported on the University Plan at the corner of Sussex and Spadina. The University and Daniels Corp. proposes a building of 18-22 storeys, (some heard 22-24 storeys) including two floors commercial and ground floor retail, housing 550 students, some suite style, some dorm. Mostly first and second year.

The community response: the project was too high, with not sufficient diversity (students from higher years, families) in the student population. The community wanted to cancel the two floors of commercial, both for want of a real purpose and because it would likely revert to the University for its use. It's felt the cancellation of the commercial floor could lower the building.

The University plan for the Robert St. field: The University proposed extending the playing field to the south, building a row of townhouses along Sussex, and between, a community garden and dog park.

The community response: The community did not want housing along Sussex. Instead, they wanted the Robert Street field to be retained as a park/or other uses. They were not in favour of a dog park or community garden. Uses remain to be determined.

It is expected that the University and Daniels will hold a public meeting soon, to present the plans, or an amended version of the plans, back to the community. The University and Daniels were cordial when we reported the community response.

h. History

Margaret reported that the committee nominated the History project to Heritage Toronto for an award. The award is announced in October.

She also mentioned that they continue having problems finding places to post plaques that direct passers-by to use their cell phones to access the project's StoryPosts. Suggested solutions included writing an article for our Newsletter and web site and asking residents for allowing their front yard fences to be used.

Wendy asked for a financial accounting of the Project. It was agreed that Christian will ask for it.

i. Flowerpots

Marilyn reported that she replaced the frozen curly willow branches with new ones from her garden. She is waiting for money from the BIA so that they can plant annuals in the pots.

Christian mentioned that a large cement tree pot with a newly planted tree had disappeared from his street during the resurfacing of Brunswick. It was suggested that he call 311 and report it.

j. Heritage

Community Council has cleared the way to being a study of Heritage Conservation in the neighbourhood. (the district will be extended to all of Harbord Village to Lippincott). However, the Heritage Preservation Services staff that has been doing HCDs has disappeared—a senior person has moved up in the bureaucracy, and the person directly looking after HCDs has quit. We will need to get community buy-in, meeting organization and research support once that gets underway.

The College Street study is treating our southern boundary (Spadina to Bathurst) as stable (no intensification) and staff is looking at making it an HCD. At the moment, City planning has identified that boundary as ending at Robert St., but staff is being encouraged to extend the boundary to close the corner, if not at the corner of Spadina itself. Other elements of College are also being considered for Heritage. Intensification might be permissible on the south side, between Bathurst and Spadina, and again, from Spadina to University. There is not presently a solution for how to treat the corner of Spadina and College.

k. Zoning - No report

l. Farmers Market

Gus reported that the Market started its operation but due to the long winter there are some delays in availability of produce. He also mentioned that ours was #1 in sales last year.

6. Special Presentation

Former Board member, Colin Furnace reported on major achievements of the History project and commented on the enormous amount of work done by the volunteers of the History committee. He presented all the board members with a copy of “24 Story Posts Harbord Village History” CD. It was accepted with many thanks.

It was suggested that a copy should be given to History Preservation Committee members.

7. Chair’s Report - No report

8. Discussion cont’d

Motion regarding CT:

It was moved that the Board authorize Sue Dexter to seek party status on HVRA’s behalf in the OMB proceeding regarding the CTS playing field improvements and further authorize Sue Dexter to retain Beate Bowron as the Planner that will represent us at the OMB proceeding. The HVRA commits to fundraising to pay the costs of the Planner and ancillary costs and provide a list of guarantors in case fundraising is unsuccessful.

Adjournment at 9pm

