

**Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday June 19, 2012 7 p.m.**  
**Kensington Gardens**

**In Attendance:** Tim Grant, Rory Sinclair, Steve Klein, Christian Mueller, Eleanor Levine, Carmen Gauthier, Wendy Smith, Richard Gilbert, Neil Stephenson, Sue Dexter, Stuart Schoenfeld, Angie Andreoli, James Murdoch

**Regrets:** Eva Janecek, Gail Misra, Jane Perdue, Graham Rempe

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

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

Moved by Rory, Seconded by Steve – approved

**3. Approval of Minutes** of Spring Meeting May 15, 2012

Moved by Steve, Seconded by James – approved

**4. Guest presentation:** Tony Mendes on a proposal to name the College Brunswick Parkette in honour of Aristides de Sousa Mendes. Mendes was a Portuguese diplomat in 1939 and 40 who defied his government's orders and issued travel visas to 30,000 people fleeing the Nazis in Europe. Approximately 10,000 were Jewish. Many prominent and not so prominent people were helped to safety by this man including, it is believed, many people who later became Canadian citizens although the numbers and who they are, are difficult to verify. Several cities around the world have memorialized this man including Montreal. It was mentioned that this is the first suggestion received by the Board regarding naming.

Tim felt it had parallels to the laneway naming procedure. Sue, Stuart and Steve all suggested Tony contact other organizations to further research into the work of this man and the people he had helped. Richard brought up the fact the Parkette was going to be named for Norman Bethune many years ago. It was felt it was early days yet before naming process would be undertaken.

The presentation was well received.

**5. Treasurers report**

Carmen reports as of June, we have \$2900 in cash, including \$698 from membership and \$1300 from the Cleanup. The Board has received reimbursement for the All-Candidates meeting along with a \$500 recovery from the Yard Sale. There were \$5600 in expenditures including \$3800 for Communication/Website Development, \$400 for Administration, \$800 for the Yard Sale, \$300 for the Cleanup and \$230 for the Flower Pots. Expenditures for the Oral History project, Flower Pots and Farmer's Market, all at \$500 are yet to come. Bank balance is \$3400. Investments total \$15300.

Wendy asked about revenues from the Community Tables at the yard sale and Tim reported that \$1600 was raised for charity. The truck and tables were reported as a loss.

Richard thanked Carmen for her help in the Trillium application. Two budgets were created which allowed for a break-down of project work and general business.

Gus moves the financials be accepted Steve seconded.

Passed

**5a. Membership** - Gail's report via email

After working out some kinks in the system with Calvin, I sent out the emailed membership renewals to just over 300 people on June 6, 2012. That email blast showed one more kink that had to be ironed out. In any event, eleven (11) people renewed on line. I do not know how many will renew by sending in their payments to Carmen. It seems there may be some issues with people renewing on line as they do not seem to recall their user names – which then seems to cause them to set up a new account with their name plus adding a 1 at the end, or doing something else. This required me to send out personal emails to 3 or 4 people asking them if I could delete that new name, and assuring them that they already had accounts with the HVRA.

Once I am back and have a better idea of how many have renewed, I will see if there is a way to send out a second notice to the remaining folks. I also need to organize to send out mailed versions of the renewal to 53 people who do not have email addresses. Tim has offered me the use of volunteers to get these out, but I have not yet taken him up on it as I would like to try it out myself first.

Richard will follow up with Calvin on issues regarding user names on the website.

Carmen will follow up on keeping track of the payment system.

**5b. Disruption** – Tim reports Tracey Cook, the new head of MLS will meet with members of the HV Board, Monday June 25 at 7pm regarding the problems over rooming houses and club noise. Tim Reports it's clear the city has powers to impose fines for bylaw infractions. The real problem is enforcement. The committee will try to identify 10 to 20 really bad operators and begin the process of trying to make them comply with bylaws. Fire department has indicated they will cooperate with identifying the illegal rooming houses. There is still much work to be done about clubs.

It was reported that the U of T does not have a student policy statement of expectations to deal with off campus behaviour which may help deal with noisy students. There was further discussion.

**5c. Community liaison** –no report

**5d. U of T liaison** – Gus reports the Committee worked on business other than the 245 College issue. It was a good meeting on terms of reference as part of U of T. A further discussion regarding the proposed building ensued. Sue reports the issue will go to City Council July 11. It will go on to the OMB.

**5e. History** - Richard & Eleanor – moved by Richard to accept the Trillium application. Passed

**5f. Zoning** - Robert Brown – former Annex Residents Association chair and member of Committee of Adjustment invited HVRA to get involved with the ARA to study the new draft zoning bylaw through a series of consultations until October. It requires a couple of people to work to ensure the new draft will still protect neighbourhoods. The massive document is 1900 pages with volume 1 at 305 pages. Changes to the city's official plan are underway which removes the Annex from designation of downtown. 'Places to Grow' Act is driving the planning group and will decide where intensification should take place. HV is not part of this but the Board will ask for participation from members.

**5g. Website** – Wendy reports she'd like to get the pages for the Yard Sale and Cleanup on the site. The Yard Sale story will be updated by James. Wendy felt the laneways page should be updated.

**5h. Heritage Sue** – is working on an application for the general neighbourhood to be included in the Heritage Conservation district. It's felt that once the application for the whole neighbourhood is

accepted it can then be broken down street by street. Richard is interested in studying Borden Street.

**5i. Communication** – Richard would like to hand over the newsletter job after handling it for the past eight years. Tim will recruit someone from the membership.

**5j. Graffiti** – Tim reports that after some canvassing, there has been very little positive response and he feels that follow up phone calls to residents are necessary. He is looking into a plan to have art students from area schools create murals in the areas where graffiti is the worst.

**5k. Laneways** – Gus says 5 lanes are nearly at the end of approval. He hopes that a recommendation be passed by city council changing the rules prohibiting the use of double barrel names. If City Council agrees, then the whole idea will have to go back for further study.

**5l. Trees** – Sue reports U of T has financed two students to assess ash trees with a view to develop treatment plans. 100 trees in the neighbourhood are on city property so Forestry will have to devise a plan to deal with the Ash borer beetle. Sue asked for people to watch out for trees that die so that they replaced as it's important to maintain the green canopy.

**5m. Cleanup** – Neil says thank you letters are going out to the sponsors and this coincides with the article in the Gleaner mentioning many of them. He notes that we need to establish a date for the fall cleanup. He is proposing November 10<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> and he will ask that it be on the agenda for next meeting. He also thinks a change to Sunday may be more inclusive to the community.

**5n. Hospice** – Gus says there are traffic problems caused on Major Street when people are being taken in or out of the Hospice. He is suggesting a couple of ideas to fix the problem including a parking pad or rear access.

**5o. Flower pots** – Wendy reports the Flower Pot committee has not yet been able to carry out summer planting as promised funds from the HV BIA have not yet been received. Gus said he was confident that the BIA would eventually forward the payment.

Moved by Gus and seconded by Steve that the Board should provide the Flower Pot committee up to \$500 to pay for summer planting until we are reimbursed by the BIA.

Passed

**5p. Club noise** - Stuart reports that noise is a major concern for residents regarding local bar, Charlie's Gallery on Harbord.

**5q. Laneway safety** - There may be a change of direction on the north end of the Sussex Mews to Bloor in the works that will eliminate the issue of that dangerous blind alleyway.

## **Special Motions**

### **A Student essay contest**

Tim proposed that we establish an annual Harbord Village Student Essay Award at each of our 3 neighbourhood schools. There was discussion over the name, implementation and possibly working with other organizations, schools and neighbourhoods. Gus moved with Angie seconding that the board accept the concept of the student essay contest. Passed

**B HV area redistribution**

Everyone agreed the redistribution of lower Major to south central and lower Borden to south west is a good idea. Tim's proposal will be discussed further at our July board meeting.

**Meeting adjourned 9:05pm**