

**Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting
Tuesday March 17, 2009 7p.m.
Kensington Gardens**

In attendance: David Booz, Laura Bradbury, Colin Furness, Stuart Schoenfeld, Tim Grant, Sue Dexter, Richard Gilbert, Katrina McHugh, Jane Perdue, Bachir Rabbat, Mairin Wilkinson, Eva Janecek-Rucker

Regrets: Rory Sinclair, Wendy Duff, Stephanie Rea, Leslie Thompson

1. Chair's welcome

Tim Grant assumed the chair in Gus' absence

2. Approval of Agenda

Approved with addition of Fire safety brochure

3. Minutes:

Approved. Moved by Katrina McHugh, seconded by Sue Dexter

4. Treasurer's report

Leslie circulated financial report before the meeting. Members commented that they appreciate receiving a report monthly. There was no further discussion.

5. Committee Reports

Trees:

- Tim reported that he will check out Tides Canada, a non-profit charitable organization
- Tim will set up a meeting with Gus, & Richard to discuss the desirability of HVRA to set a Foundation with a charitable status.

Energy:

- **Earth Hour** is set for March 28th
- Put a note in "Tree flyer"
- E-mail blast with figures & stats

- **HERO**
- David reported that the vendor selection is almost complete; the subcommittee reviewed 8 bids & did 4 interviews; now down to 2 candidates
 - Public meeting postponed
 - Flyer is being drafted
 -
- David received an e-mail from "Friends of Margaret Farley" – a group of artists who would like to improve the Parkette and would like HVRA to support them; it was agreed to invite them to make a presentation to the Board when they have concrete plans

Graffiti:

- Nothing to report

Membership:

- Nothing to report

Communications

- Newsletter contribution deadline is April 6th

Newsletter suggestions:

- deterioration of front yard appearance due to the new garbage & recycling containers; obstruction of side-walks on garbage/recycling days – before & especially after pick-up; noise from the pick-up trucks & workers; ----need to look for solutions
- Colin's wife is interested in writing an article on Margaret Farley
- Reminder about Village Arborist
- List of current HVRA projects – Jane volunteered to assemble

Spring meeting:

- E-mail residents asking for stories
- Spring meeting topics: garbage & recycling containers; disaster planning
- Sue will arrange with Councillor Vaughan's office to invite a City representative to come to the Spring meeting
- Story in the Gleener inviting residents to the Spring meeting
- Suggestion to change the Spring meeting to May 25th

Community Liaison

- Nothing to report

College Street

- Richard reported that the part of the patio problems is related to the lack of enforcing the permits by the Alcohol & Gaming commission (AGC)
- Even though there was a good meeting between the AGC and the City, the enforcement of permits has been lax in the past
- With the official "patio season" starting June 1st, it is now time to write letters to MPPs & Adam Vaughn's office

Zoning:

- 102 Robert St City lawyer and planner retained; Councillor Vaughan will be bringing forward a notice of motion for City representation at the 102 Robert hearing to City Council next week.
- 53 Borden St. – should ask for deferral to get better drawings and clarify variances; Sue & Mairin will draft a letter to Committee of Adjustments

▪

Re: U of T Part II Plan - from Dale:

I will bring your notes regarding the U of T part II plan to Adam's attention and look up answers to your other questions ASAP.

U of T

- Part II plan: Dale Duncan will bring Gus' notes to Councillor Vaughan's attention ASAP

Fire Safety

- Collin reported that a draft pamphlet is written; it needs editing; Colin will do the 1st edit before sending it to the members

Heritage

- Heritage meeting next Tue- March 24th

Other Business

Garbage Cans

- Gus forwarded an e-mail from Dale Duncan who has been told that at the present time, the City is not picking up "residents' old garbage cans; residents can take their old plastic or steel garbage cans for recycling to one of the City's Solid Waste Drop-Off Depots (these are listed on page 14 in the collection calendar). The closest drop off centre to Harbord Village would be 400 Commissioners Street (416-392-5890), which is open Monday 6am to 6pm, and Tuesday to Friday from 6am to 8am and 4pm to 6pm.

Dale is looking into whether consideration has been given to allowing residents to drop off their old plastic or steel garbage cans at Councillor's Environment Days this year. If not, they'll see if they can arrange for this to happen.

Cycling meeting

- Gus forwarded an e-mail from Dale Duncan who reported that "...there were over 25 residents from throughout the ward were present to share ideas on how to improve cycling from the waterfront, north to Dupont.
Discussion included:
 - * the need for a safe east-west bike route throughout the city
 - * the desire for bike lanes on Bloor Street
 - * the need to better enforce the bylaw that prohibits cars from parking in bike lanes
 - * the desire for more bike paths or separated bike lanes, and the challenges involved in implementing them
 - * the need for bike routes and bike paths that connect to the waterfront to the rest of the city.
 - * The Clean Air Partnership's recently released study of Bloor Street, which looked at Bloor Street businesses' attitudes towards removing on-street parking in order to widen sidewalks or install bike lanes. (For the full study visit: <http://www.cleanairpartnership.org/>)

Attendees included representatives from the Annex Residents' Association, the Harbord Village Residents' Association, the Grange Community Association, the Kensington Market Action Committee and the York Quay Neighbourhood Association. In addition to the Toronto Cyclists Union, representatives from the Toronto Coalition for Active Transportation, Bike Pirates, Bikechain, and Take the Tooker were also present.

The goal moving forward is to develop a set of priorities for the ward that the office and the community can work towards. To aid in this goal, it was decided that a number of working groups should be formed, including:

- * a Ward 20 Cycling Steering Committee, made up of representatives from across the ward. The Steering Committee will hold regular meetings to provide Councillor Vaughan's office with feedback on cycling-related issues, projects and plans relevant to the ward.
- * a Bloor Street Working Group, which will help provide feedback on future transportation plans for the street

* a Ward 20 Waterfront Cycling Group, which will look at the need for bike lanes and bike routes to connect the waterfront to the north, the need to accommodate bike parking, and other initiatives.

Please email me at dduncan@toronto.ca or phone me at 416-392-4044 if you are interested in participating in one of these groups. And feel free to forward this email along to others who live, work or cycle in the ward who might be interested in participating. If you would like to be removed from this list, just let me know. “

Reminder: June 27th is an Environment day!

Meeting adjourned at about 8:30pm

