

Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 16, 2014, 7p.m., Kensington Gardens
Minutes

In attendance: Tim Grant, Jane Perdue, Christian Mueller, Carolee Orme, Sue Dexter, Wendy Smith, Gail Misra, Carmen Gautier, James Murdoch

Regrets: Gus Sinclair, Margaret Procter, Steve Klein, Marilyn Martin, Eva Janecek

1. Chair's welcome extended to all including guest, Briony Glassco.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Gail, seconded by Jane. Approved

3. Discussion items

- i. Guest presentation by Briony Glassco, Interim School Trustee for Ward 10.
Briony thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak about the Central Tech playing field issue. She explained her appointment and said that since taking on the role, she has worked to gather information about the file and wants to hand it over to the newly elected trustees after October, ideally with a workable solution in hand. She asked if the community had enough information on the issue and whether a public meeting would be useful. She says she is anxious to speak to Ward 19 & 20 councilors and acknowledged a letter sent today by Ceta Ramkhalawansingh. She asked what the Board feels would be the ideal end to this. The discussion continued with various Board members expressing their concern that not all facts are known but a public meeting may not be the appropriate venue. She was urged to keep options open and not to make any decisions until after the election and until an upcoming court decision is released. She was told that the community and the students must benefit from any solution. She was urged to reject the dome and approach the city for options on soil remediation. In his summation, Tim criticized Briony's frequent references in her letters to residents that HVRA's opposition to the dome is based on emotion, rather than facts. Nonetheless we thanked her for appearing before the board.
- ii. AGM preparation – Tim asked the Board for suggestions for speakers at the upcoming Annual General Meeting. Several suggestions were discussed and Tim will approach a few possible guests to see if they are available. Wendy asked if the Board will amend its constitution at this meeting and Tim agreed to ask Gus, who was not in attendance. Wendy asked for clarification on how area reps are appointed. It was agreed that area caucuses will meet at the beginning of the meeting at which point, members will put their names forward, and their decision will be forwarded to the Chair. Gail reminded us that those who cannot attend the meeting can let their name stand. Then the head of HVRA's Constitution Committee will read out the names of nominees for the executive, along the U of T rep and communications/website rep, and call for a vote.
- iii. Lord Lansdowne school tennis court proposal - there was a discussion over whether the Board could support a proposal to refurbish the tennis courts in a private public partnership with the TDSB. The school yard is kept locked outside of

school hours due to vagrancy and drug dealing in the area. It was felt that should a tennis court and training school be put in place then the courts would be used exclusively for tennis with no causal use allowed for other sports. Tim pointed out that the TDSB had not consulted the school principal who had serious concerns with the possible restrictions of student activities on the courts. It was felt that the only position the Board can take at this time was to not support the proposal. Members felt that using public land for private use was the issue and that students nor the community would benefit from the proposal.

- iv. Urban Legacy Academy registration reimbursement. Tim asked if HVRA would pay \$50 of the \$100 registration cost of sending two HVRA members to a two-day workshop Nov. 4-5 on community development and sustainability. There was overall agreement that this would be a worthwhile initiative and felt we should spend the money. Tim will put the invite out to any members who would like to attend.

4. Approval of the minutes from the August meeting.

Moved by Gail, seconded by Carmen. Approved. .

5. Committee Reports

- a. Communications/website – Wendy showed a mockup of the upcoming newsletter with a new look. It will be roughly 16 pages and have a print run of 2000 copies. James will help in getting estimates for printing.
- b. Treasurer – Carmen took the Board through the financial figures from the Fall Fair. She previously distributed a spread sheet with details. Overall she was pleased with the financial outcome of \$2100 in net revenue. There was \$560 in t-shirts sold. Membership renewals and sign ups were higher at the Fair this year over last. Carmen congratulated everyone including Tim and Carolee for their hard work in making this a success.

Carmen had previously distributed a spreadsheet on the Oral History Project. She stated that commitments to grant foundation Trillium are being honoured and most of the money has been spent and accounted for. Remaining money will mostly be spent on sign post story plaque markers. There is a thought about involving local businesses in mounting some of the plaque markers.

Tim thanked Carmen for her work.

- c. Membership – Gail thanked volunteers who helped at the membership table during the Fall Fair. She was pleased with the number of renewals and new sign ups which was up over last year.
- d. Community Liaison – no report
- e. Zoning – Sue updated the Board on the development at 484 Spadina. There will be an OMB hearing in November on the issue.

- f. U of T Liaison – Sue reported on a proposed development at the old planetarium sign on Spadina circle. Height could be a concern with preliminary plans calling for a 13 storey development on the site.
- g. Heritage – Sue says there will be a meeting of the HPS on HV's application in October.
- h. Flowerpots – no report
- i. Yard Sale – no report
- j. Fall Fair – Carolee felt it worked well despite being pulled together in the last few weeks prior to the date. This year's effort was just short of last year's record setting goal. Silent auction was the hardest task yet a great revenue generator. Although they could not fill the coordinating positions with volunteers, she felt that there has to be people appointed to look after the various aspects of the event. It was suggested that the subject be brought up at the AGM to get people involved.

6. Chair's Report

The dates of HVRA co-sponsored councillor and trustee debates at Trinity-St.Pauls are Oct.16 and 23 respectively.

Adjournment 9:02pm