

Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting
Tuesday, Sept.17 2013, 7p.m., Kensington Gardens
Draft minutes

In attendance: Tim Grant, Rory Sinclair, Jane Perdue, Steve Klein, Graham Rempe, Sue Dexter, Mark Treleaven, Neil Stephenson, Christian Mueller, Eleanor Levine, Carmen Gauthier, Wendy Smith, James Murdoch

Regrets: Angie Andreoli, Gail Misra, Lindan Toole, Eva Janecek

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

2. **Approval of agenda**

Moved by Graham, seconded by Carmen – approved

3. **Approval of the Minutes** from the August meeting

Moved by Rory and seconded by Steve – approved

4. **Discussion items**

a. Draft t-shirt design - Steve presented several designs prepared by designers who volunteered their time for this project. Members discussed the merits and detractors of each design. Consensus was reached over one particular design with some suggestions for change. Steve will have the changes made to reflect the Board's wishes. Once completed, Tim will circulate the final design by email for members to approve. It is hoped to have an approved design in the next couple of weeks so that they can be printed on t-shirts and sold at our AGM on October 17th. Steve and the designers were thanked for the great effort.

b. 'Quiet: Residential Area' sign installation – overall consensus was reached regarding the merits of having many signs installed throughout the village. Sue felt that we should blanket the area. Neil felt it is a good tool and their location is critical but although the problem will persist, it is at least a starting point to helping to curb the noise problem. It was suggested that 'watch for children' signs could be a welcome addition as well.

Moved by Sue, seconded by Wendy that a request be made to the area councilor to have quiet: residential signs installed at major access points in the neighbourhood.

Carried.

5. Reports

- a. **Treasurer** – Carmen reports that \$950 was raised at the membership table of the Fall Fair. The total for memberships so far this year is \$2460 which is on target. Heritage and oral history projects are proceeding and there are contracts in the works.
- b. **Membership** – Tim on behalf of Gail reported that in an effort to engage post secondary students living in our dynamic community, the HVRA is offering to them, free, non-voting memberships. Tim handed out invitation/information flyer/pamphlets to area reps for distribution to student houses in the village. Mark suggested that a student rep may be good to have on the board and that may be considered at a later date. Flyer delivery needs identity of houses. Carmen says student residences could be good place to distribute them. Wendy felt it should be clear that these are non-voting memberships. On another topic, there may be a glitch with renewal notices as some members have not received notice their memberships are past due. The notices will be going out soon.
- c. **Community liaison** – Gus – no report
- d. **Zoning** - Sue reported on a recent information gathering walking tour of the Honest Ed's site and environs with Councilors Layton and Vaughan and residents. The walkabout was intended to offer participants a chance to visualize the area once it's redeveloped post Honest Ed's. Sue says it's exciting to think of an overall plaza effect at the corner of the intersection and a meeting of 'four villages' that links up with area green spaces and public laneways. There will be a formal visioning session scheduled for October 5, location TBA to help formulate a plan that will be tied into the Bathurst visioning study and be in place before development takes place.

Members went in-camera for a discussion regarding the opposition to an application for a planned renovation in the area.

Wendy asked for opinions on the recent decision by the OMB that allowed the illegal renovation of an area home. Sue felt we should actively support

efforts by local MPP Rosario Marchese to exempt the city of Toronto from the OMB.

- e. **Communications** – Mark reports that the deadline for articles for the newsletter is September 23. He says there are some good articles already in at this point. There will be a fall fair report, something from Adam Vaughan, a local business update, a chair's message and upcoming events. He was seeking input regarding possible articles on the Harbord bike lanes, UofT field, Central Tech project and Heritage project update and indexing and the exhibition at the MNJCC and births and deaths.
- f. **Website** – Wendy reports that the laneway events articles are up front. She would like to have a something on Gus' retirement from organizing the Fall Fair. Tim says plans to replace Gus are underway with possibly co-chairs yet to be named to fill the void.
- g. **U of T liaison** – Sue reports that the block of buildings at the northwest corner of Spadina and Sussex acquired by the U of T were to become the faculty of architecture. However, there are now plans to redevelop the property into a 22 storey student residence. There are height restrictions on Spadina that would limit the height of the building to 15 stories but there are already taller buildings in the area. It's hoped that a compromise can be reached on its height.
- h. **Heritage** – Sue - no report
- i. **History** – Christian reports that the plans to have 'story posts' activated with the use of a QR codes are under way. They are enlisting a designer and are looking at fabrication ideas. Gus suggested he take a look at the fabrication plans and that he could help. Eleanor reports that the desired goal of interviewing 100 current and former residents has been reached.
- j. **Clean ups** - Neil reports that the next trash flash will be October 5 and he will send a note to remind everyone about it.
- k. **Neighbourhood disruption** – Tim - no report – It was suggested that we renew efforts to have the city enforce its noise bylaws as Jane reports that one of her neighbours is moving due to the issues of disruption. Graham

added he is having problems as well. Tim says there should be proper enforcement provisions as there are good noise bylaws in place but no enforcement.

l. **Laneway naming** – Gus reports that the last of the unveilings are taking place in the next few weeks. They have all been very moving and really touching events. He encourages everyone to come out to one. 12 have been done so far of the 14 planned. Gus was recognized by the board for his efforts.

m. **Flowerpots** – Wendy reports that \$500 has been received from the BIA for fall planting. The group is now taking inventory of the 13 concrete planters in the village, establishing a database of their location and finding out who looks after them. Wendy feels these people could be recognized for their efforts. She is aiming to try and offer some help to them to maintain these public gardens.

n. **Fall Fair** – Gus submitted a report consisting of a balance sheet on the recent fair. It was an “astonishing” fair this year with people staying throughout the afternoon creating a great feeling in the park. In 1993, it made \$1800 but with rule changes since 2003 driving up expenses, the net take went down. Donations of food, beverages, silent auction prizes and a slight increase in the prices have helped to raise revenues. A record \$2600 was made last year but it was surpassed by this year’s total of over \$6100. The board recognized Gus for his efforts and the volunteers who helped make it a success.

6. **Chair’s report** - Tim will be sending out a request for ideas for speakers at the Annual General Meeting.

Adjournment at 9pm