

Harbord Village Resident's Association
Spring meeting
May 28, 2015 Kensington Gardens 45 Brunswick Ave 7pm
Minutes

1. Chair's call to order – welcome extended to all

2. Area re caucuses

Northeast - Carolee Orme

- Noise from student boarding houses
- Sussex-Spadina development
- Noise from restaurant on Harbord
- Speeding and wrong way driving due to a lack of clear signage
- Development at 215 Major

Southeast - Jeannie Hastie

- Need to replace trees – need to use trees budget to do so
- People have parking permits who don't live in the area
- Unightly garbage bins at the student boarding houses
- Back lane signs are damaged and vandalized

Northwest - Steve Klein

- Driving wrong way on Brunswick and speeding while doing so
- Parking signs need clarification
- Cars parked near lanes create danger for bicyclists exiting from lanes

South central – Margaret Procter

- City traffic proposed staggered parking to reduce speeding on Major
- Break-ins and bicycle thefts recently in the area
- Still no date for Brunswick College Parkette construction (to be updated later)

South west – Jane Perdue

- Parking on Ulster and Lippincott
- Speeding and cyclists and cars going wrong way and not stopping
- Need a community policing blitz to enforce bylaws
- There needs to be better snow removal along Harbord and surrounding streets
- Fire safety blitz for buildings in response to recent fire

3. Constitutional amendments – Rory Gus Sinclair took everyone through the proposed amendments. He said it was time to bring the constitution up to date since it was written in 1998-99. Article 11 will be completely revamped. It deals with conflicts of interest – pecuniary as well as personal.

There was a discussion and several questions were raised looking for clarification on certain points. Gus explained that the revised document is meant to be a guideline in case the board runs into this in the future.

The changes were put to the vote in parts.

Rory moved that the new Article 11 replace the old article. Steve seconded

Carried with one opposed.

Rory moved Article 5 subsection f dealing with Replacements for Officers. Seconded by Carolee. Carried

Rory moved Article 6 subsection b pertaining to Chair replacement be replaced with the amendment. Seconded by Steve. Carried

Rory moved Article 7 subsection a on the amendment pertaining to the election of area reps, elected by caucus. The board can appoint pro tem. Seconded by Steve. Carried.

Tim thanked Gus for all his work on these amendments and mentioned that the HVRA constitution is a model which has been adopted by other RA's.

Chair Tim Grant sought the approval from the membership for the expenditure of up to \$1000 for the purchase of Directors Liability Insurance for HVRA. He explained that we are now seeking quotes, and that the first 2 ranged from \$750 for \$1 million coverage to \$1500 for coverage of \$2 million.

Seconded by Leslie Thompson. Carried.

4. Student Essay Award winners - Callie Deacon, Grade 7 at King Edward public school and Caleb Woolcott – Grade 8 at Lord Lansdowne each read out their award winning entries and were each given a resounding applause and presented with their prizes.

5. Reports

3 B's – Sue Dexter says a lack of public park space is forcing us to look for ways to take advantage of every bit of available land in the neighbourhood to create green space. She explained a new initiative to encourage neighbours to look at back lanes, flanking off main streets and neglected areas to plant plants to attract bees, birds and butterflies. Residents are being encouraged to volunteer to help out. She says they will ask for park acquisition money and use some of the tree budget to replace trees in Sussex Mews. Croft Street and Sussex Mews will be the initial focus.

Oral history project – Nicole Schulman says the project is winding down and that they have fulfilled their obligation to the Trillium Foundation in accounting for the grant. 24 story posts have been put up throughout Harbord Village that allow you to hear bits of interviews depicting the history of the neighbourhood. They

can also be accessed on the website. She mentioned that research is ongoing and she encouraged anyone with an interest to get involved.

Gardeners group – Margaret Procter explained the upcoming plant exchange on June 7. People are encouraged to bring plants from their gardens or come by and pick up a plant. There will be an expert on hand and the plants are pollinator friendly. It will take place on the patio of Kensington Gardens at 25 Brunswick.

6. Guest speaker - Presentation by Sharoni Sibony on the First Narayever Congregation's 100th anniversary. Accompanied by wonderful photos, she discussed the remarkable and rich history of the building on Brunswick and the congregation. Sharoni explained how it is an integral part of the community.

7. Community Builder Awards Presentations

Andrew Braverman and Rachel Gerstein, owners of 312 Optical, were presented with a Heritage Conservation award for their restoration of 312 College Street. Rebecca Glass and Tim Gleason are lawyers who provided pro bono work through the firm of Dewart Gleason LLB while representing HVRA at the OMB during the Central Tech field issue.

Beata Bowren, a planner who worked with the HVRA, the Grange CA, and the Huron-Sussex RO on the development at 245 College and later on the Central Tech file.

Ceta Ramkhalawansingh – interim city councillor and participated as a party at the OMB hearings on Central Tech and worked on College Street development.

Richard Gilbert – former city councillor and former board member for his many years of service to the community. Richard initiated so many projects over the years and was pivotal in launching the Oral History project.

8. Ward 20 report - Joe Cressy, Councillor

Joe began by addressing the strength of the ward and neighbourhood. He mentioned he is now 6 months on the job and he thanked Ceta and Adam for the help they have provided in his transition. He says City Hall has changed from the last four years and now has a new level of civility and decorum.

Joe lists development as the big issue in the ward. Density needs support but there is a big need for affordable housing.

Waterfront is the second most popular destination but it should be the top destination. Joe continues to oppose jets at the island airport. The Gardiner expressway debate will be part of the waterfront discussion.

Joe recapped the developments at 484 Spadina (i.e. the Waverley hotel) and the ongoing development by Westbank of the Honest Ed's site. Westbank has not submitted a full application yet and he thinks we're still a year and a half away from that. A working group has been formed involving the four resident's associations, staff and councillors. There will be online consultation as well.

The College Street study final meeting will be held in September.

The second phase of the renovation of the Margaret Fairley Parkette will be done this year.

Brunswick College Parkette will soon go to tender and break ground next spring.
3 B's will create green space but the city is looking to acquire land for parks.
There will be a pilot project for bicycle lanes on Bloor Street next year.
There is a working group consulting with BIA's, resident's association and schools to do an economic analysis of how bike lanes affect business.
Central Tech was a tough issue and he thanked HVRA for its hard work.

Tim thanked all who attended the meeting.

Adjournment 9:05PM