

**Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, February 21, 2017 – 7:00pm Kensington Gardens**

**Minutes**

**In attendance:** Gail Misra, Gus Sinclair, Sue Dexter, Bob Stambula, Andrea Poptsis, Christian Mueller, Nicole Schulman, Margaret Procter, Tim Grant, Carlo Drudi, Jane Perdue, Carmen Gauthier

**Regrets:** Caroloe Orme, Lena Mortensen, Regine Schmid, Anne Kerekes

**Chair's Welcome:** The Chair welcomed the Board and guest Andrew Peek, owner of 296 Brunswick Avenue, to the meeting and called the meeting to order.

Andrew Peek (andrew.peek@gmail.com) thanked the HVRA for the opportunity to attend the meeting. Andrew represents a group of investors that have recently purchased the property at 296 Brunswick, currently housing The Green Room and Tilt. He and his partner, Justin Fong (jfong8@gmail.com), have plans to turn the property into a boutique hotel. He attended the meeting to introduce himself and to relay his desire to collaborate and integrate with the community.

**1. Approval of Agenda:**

Tim moved to pass the Agenda; Carmen seconded. Agenda passed.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

The Chair presented the minutes from the January meeting. Gail moved to approve the minutes. Sue seconded. Minutes approved.

**3. Essay Contest**

The Board had a discussion around what to do with the essay contest for 2017. Tim put forward a motion to suspend the essay contest for this year allowing the HVRA to reach out to principals of schools in the HVRA geographic boundary to determine how to better engage children in the community to encourage participation in the essay contest. Carlo seconded the motion. Motion passed. The Chair agreed to undertake the writing of the letter to school principals.

**4. Community Builder awards**

A discussion was had about the Community Builder awards. The Board agreed to prepare an email blast outlining the criteria for the awards to go out to the community one month before the spring AGM allowing for two weeks to submit nominations for the awards.

**5. Street ArtToronto awards**

A discussion was had about the Street ArtToronto awards. The Board agreed to prepare an email blast reminding the community that there is a program and that members of the community could nominate areas in the neighbourhood if they so desired. Expressions of interest could come to the

Board at the next Board meeting (March 21). Tim agreed to prepare the copy for the email blast which he would send to Jane for her review.

## **6. 2017 Budget review**

Carlo walked the Board through the budget for 2017.

The Chair agreed to follow up on the now-cancelled flower pot initiative with the HSBIA to determine how to use or if we should return the funds remaining in the HVRA account earmarked for this initiative.

A discussion was had about what to do with the proceeds from the annual Community Yard Sale. Gail moved to split the proceeds, after a 10% administration fee is taken by HVRA to cover the costs of the sale, evenly between the Stephen Lewis Foundation and Scadding Court. Tim seconded the motion. Motion carried.

A discussion was had about the community tree funds that the HVRA has set aside. Gail proposed that a tree project item be added to the agenda of the March meeting so that a decision can be made. Tim agreed to prepare a brief history of the tree project to aid in the discussion.

Carlo moved to accept the 2017 budget as presented. Nicole seconded the motion. Motion passed.

## **7. Spring Newsletter**

A discussion was had about the spring newsletter. The Chair agreed to find a new editor for the spring newsletter.

## **8. Accounting / CRA compliance**

A discussion was had about accounting and CRA compliance. The Board agreed to send five years of financial statements to the CRA to see if this would be sufficient to satisfy compliance before taking any further action.

## **9. Nomination process**

The Chair agreed to prepare his thoughts on the topic, including polling other residents' associations to see what they do and what best practices are, and distribute them to the Board.

## **10. Website report**

Margaret described the risk of not having an SSL certificate for our website. Margaret moved to purchase an SSL certificate; Gail seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## **11. Data storage**

The Board had a discussion on data storage for board documents. Margaret reminded the Board that we have a temporary solution in Dropbox that could be used to store documents. The Board

also agreed to make more use of the password-protected part of the HVRA website to store documents.

## **12. Waste reduction initiatives**

Tim gave an overview of the meeting of the Waste Reduction sub committee consisting of Gus, Jane, Tim and Regine. Tim put forward the following motion: *In order to help meet the City of Toronto's waste reduction targets, HVRA proposes that the City provide approximately 6 free garbage bags per year to downtown residents who surrender(or have already surrendered) to the City, the smallest size of garbage bin.* Gail seconded the motion. Motion passed.

## **13. Bill C-323**

Tim put forward the following motion: *HVRA supports Bill C-323, "An Act to Amend the Income Tax Act" for the rehabilitation of historic property, which was tabled in the House of Commons on December 1, 2016.* Jane seconded the motion. Motion passed.

## **14. Engineering Project update**

Carlo gave an update on the engineering projects that he has been working on with Bob and Tim. The HVRA is working with three teams, two focussed on cycling infrastructure and one on noise abatement. Carlo agreed to send out documents relating to these meetings to the Board.

## **15. Chair's report**

The Chair put forward his thoughts on resolving the issue of the vacant Communications Director position suggesting that we have a Communications Committee instead. This model has been successful for the Planning and Development Committee. The Communications Committee could consist of a webmaster, the Chair / Vice Chair and an eblaster. The Chair agreed to send the suggestions to the Board for feedback.

The Chair updated the Board that there is an application for a patio license at the Montreal Bar and Grill and that the councillor's office has been in touch about it. The HVRA encouraged the councillor's office to suggest the establishment invite the neighbours to hear of their plans for the business.

## **16. Planning & Development**

Meetings continue regarding 698 Spadina, the redevelopment of the Honest Ed's lands, 316 Bloor Street W and the property at 112 Harbord Street.

## **17. Area Reports**

Time ran out for the area reports so the Chair encouraged any area reps with information to share to do so by email following the meeting.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:00pm.

Prepared by Andrea Poptsis, Secretary