

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

In attendance: Gail Misra, Gus Sinclair, Sue Dexter, Bob Stambula, Andrea Poptsis, Christian Mueller, Nicole Schulman, Margaret Procter, Tim Grant, Carolee Orme, Lena Mortensen, Regine Schmid, Anne Kerekes

Regrets: Carlo Drudi, Jane Perdue, Carmen Gauthier

1. Chair's Welcome: The Chair welcomed the Board and called the meeting to order.

2. Approval of Agenda:

Gail moved adoption of the Agenda; Margaret seconded. Agenda adopted.

3. Approval of Minutes

The Chair presented the minutes from the February meeting. Nicole moved approval of the minutes. Bob seconded. Minutes approved.

4. Business Arising

a. Review of Street ArtToronto awards nominations (Tim)

Tim reviewed the suggestions received for the Street ArtToronto awards. It was recommended that we not proceed with a nomination.

b. HSBIA Flower Pots Initiative follow up (Gus)

Gus agreed to follow up with the HSBIA to determine what they want us to do with the funds set aside for the flower pot initiative.

c. Letter to School Principals on community engagement (Gus)

Gus wrote letters to the principals of the schools in the community. No response had been received. It was decided that we would consider other ways to engage the community.

d. Tree Project (background & funding) (Tim)

Tim reported that there is \$1200 in the tree project account. The funds have come from small grants and donations from the community. Tim provided an update on the application for the Canada Summer Jobs program to hire a student to continue the tree inventory project. A discussion was had about the potential mechanics of hiring a student under the program, including how an employee would be paid by the HVRA.

Tim put forward a motion to allocate the \$1200 in the tree account to further tree projects in the community, as approved by the Board. Nicole seconded the motion. The motion carried.

It was agreed that the Treasurer would look into the mechanics of setting up a payroll account for the HVRA and report back at the April meeting. It was also agreed that Tim would bring

another motion to the Board if and when we are advised that we have received a Canada Summer Jobs grant, likely before the April meeting.

e. Accounting and CRA compliance (Gus)

Gus updated the Board that there is a minor issue that needs to be resolved with the financial statements vis a vis the retained earnings balance. Carlo will address this issue and then Gus can proceed with providing the CRA with the statements that are required for compliance.

f. Waste Reduction Initiative (Tim)

Tim agreed to amend the waste reduction flyer to include a membership pitch, a notice about the spring meeting and a reminder about the community Yard Sale. The Board also agreed to send out an eblast to remind the community what things are being mistakenly put into the garbage when they could be recycled. Tim will work with the eblast team to come up with the content.

g. Communications Committee make-up (feedback and next steps)

Gus advised that he hadn't received a lot of feedback on the proposed Communications Committee structure. There was general agreement that the Committee approach makes sense. Margaret and Gus agreed to come up with some suggestions before the April meeting as to how to staff the committee.

5. Other Items

a. Preparing for the Spring Newsletter & Spring Meeting: key focus, potential topics, contributors and next steps (Ann)

The Board discussed potential ideas for the Spring newsletter to be delivered May 7th. Anne, as the newsletter editor, will follow up with the schedule and outline for the newsletter's content.

b. Contested Election / Nomination process

The Board had a discussion about how it could promote better governance and increase transparency when it comes to filling vacant positions on the Board and its Committees. It was acknowledged that a lot had been done over the past year to improve governance, including creating more positions and documenting job descriptions. The Board's goal is to find ways to engage others and create pathways for interested parties to become engaged in the Board's work. Regine suggested that the newsletter be used to reach out to members of the community who might be interested in getting more involved. It was suggested that expanding the number of Board committees might increase involvement from the community.

It was agreed that the Board would endeavour to improve communications about opportunities to get involved through eblasts and the newsletter. It was also agreed that further explanation about how the caucus area rep process works would be included in the newsletter to help to eliminate any potential awkwardness around area rep elections at the AGM itself. Margaret suggested that we let members know before the AGM who has been nominated for board positions, along with short statements about each nominee. It was also suggested that the caucus part of the AGM be better structured.

c. Acknowledgement statement

Margaret and Gus had been working on an acknowledgement statement to be read at the AGM. They agreed to refine the draft and provide it to the Board for approval.

d. King Edward drop off

Bob updated on the efforts he had undertaken to communicate the details around King Edward Public School's request for a drop off zone on the west side of Lippincott. The proposal does not change the parking allocation on the street. Leaflets have been distributed on Lippincott from College just past the school. Emails were also sent out the local residents. Bob was waiting on responses.

e. Posting of financials on website

Gail put forward a motion for the Board to approve the posting on the HVRA website of five years of HVRA's financial statements. Tim seconded the motion. Motion carried.

f. Website report (Margaret)

Margaret reported that troubles with the website hosting company continue. She suggested that the Board consider alternative website providers; the Communications Committee, once it is up and running, will look into this. Gus mentioned that he is quite happy with his Internet Service Provider and offered to pass along the details to the Communications Committee in case there was interest in switching providers.

6. Committee Reports

a. Chair's report

The Chair reported that FedEx / Kinko's has given notice to their landlord that they intend to terminate their lease.

The date of the Annex Family Festival is Sunday, June 11, 2017. Volunteers will be needed to staff the HVRA booth from 11am to 4pm.

The in-street planter project is due to go ahead around Harbord Village, commencing either summer 2017 or 2018.

Crafty Coyote is looking to move forward with its patio application. Gail and Gus will be hosting a community meeting with Crafty Coyote to discuss neighbour concerns, and to try to assist in finding ways for the proponent to meet those concerns.

The Montreal Restaurant is looking to do a transfer of ownership for its patio licence. They have scheduled a "meet the neighbours" night.

b. Planning & Development

Sue reported that meetings continue regarding 316 Bloor Street West and 666 Spadina. The Spadina study has started and public meetings will be scheduled.

7. Area Reports

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

Lena raised a question about the process for addressing a noise concern raised by residents in her area. The Chair advised that as Board members we are not in a position to get involved in these issues. However, we can recommend to the interested parties to call 311 or the City's Municipal Licensing and Standards (MLS) department to report their concerns. Bob reminded the Board that St. Stephen's Community House offers mediation and conflict resolution services for neighbours.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:03pm.

Prepared by Andrea Poptsis, Secretary