

Harbord Village Residents' Association Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, October 18, 2017 – 6.30pm Kensington Gardens

NOTES

1. Area Caucuses and Election of Area Reps

Members gathered in area caucuses and discussed area issues and concerns. In some cases, Area Reps were elected; in others, the election of Area Reps was deferred until the end of the meeting.

2. Caucus Reports

North East – Carolee Orme

Area Reps: Carolee Orme and Regine Schmid

- Concerns about Aura Lee / UTS green space and state of disrepair
- Sussex – Spadina development concerns
- Cars and trucks going the wrong way on one-way streets; potential idea to have an exemption for cyclists (like on Shaw)
- Lack of permit parking for residents and impacts of loss of parking on Bloor to surrounding community
- Lack of enforcement

North West – Nicole Schulman

Area Reps: Nicole Schulman and Christian Mueller

- Traffic concerns, speed of vehicle traffic
- Cars going the wrong way on one-way streets
- Special event two-way street signs going up the Friday before a Sunday Bloor Street closure causing dangerous situations
- Tilt Hotel development
- Transformation of Bloor Street including numerous business failures
- Central Tech skateboarding fix

South East – Lena Mortensen

Area Reps: Cathy Merkley and Lena Mortensen

- Cars going the wrong way on one-way streets
- Speed bumps being investigated for Robert between Harbord and Willcocks
- Garbage / dumping by business on Harbord
- Illegal rooming houses
- Derelict buildings and concerns re: adjacent properties
- Short-term rentals

South Central - Margaret Procter

Area Reps: Ann Eyerman and Anne Kerekes

- Parking concerns
- Kensington Gardens related parking issues – see if they will offer 1 hour of free parking to visitors; change hours in the evening where 1-hour parking is allowed on the street

- Opening of Margaret Fairley and Doctor's Parkette
- Speed bumps installed on Major Street

South West – Bob Stambula

Area Reps: Jane Perdue and Bob Stambula

- Snow and ice on sidewalks, made worse by downspouts
- Cars and trucks going the wrong way on one-way streets
- Issues with bars on College – violence, drugs, death(s)
- Laneway housing
- Expanding reach of the HVRA to renters

The Chair read an acknowledgement of our meeting on Indigenous lands to the group of members assembled at the meeting. The agenda was reviewed and a minor change was made. Copies of the minutes of the 2016 AGM were made available to the membership.

3. Chair's Report

The Chair recounted how the HVRA, at 17 years old, is a well-regarded residents' association in the community in part because the association is accountable and reports back to its membership.

The Planning and Development Committee has been focussed on several major projects in the community including:

- Sussex / Spadina residence – 4 years of ongoing talks; heritage status for 10 Editions; discussions currently on hiatus
- 666 Spadina – a cooperative, collegial process has resulted in success for the community including a new park that will occupy the south west corner of Spadina and Sussex

Two parks in the community were redeveloped and officially opened in the past year including Margaret Fairley Park and the Doctors' Parkette. Both are well used by the community.

An inventory was completed of the laneways in the community and was minuted at Toronto and East York Community Council. The Chair suggested that the Harbord Village is not the best location for laneway housing. A resident indicated that the study was not representative of all opinions in the community and questioned how the community was consulted in the formulation of the inventory. A suggestion was made that the Board should organize a special meeting for members of the community to discuss laneways. A commitment was made to share the study via e-blast.

Another successful Fall Fair was held.

The tree inventory of the tree canopy in the Harbord Village was updated. A green plan for the Harbord Village was completed. Four new pinch point gardens, replacing some of the concrete street planters, will be installed in the community in early 2018.

The annual Community Yard Sale was held again this year, raising \$1250 each for the Stephen Lewis Foundation and Scadding Court. The yard sale in its current format appears to have run its course and the Board is looking for ideas as to how the format could be reinvented for future years.

The Board has been very active in terms of communication. A committee is being proposed (by way of constitutional amendment) to better reflect the volume of work associated with the Communications position. The HVRA website, which has been revamped, is quite informative. Weekly e-blasts authored by Ann Eyerman and Merrill Swain go out to recipients on the HVRA e-mail list.

In its 11th year, the Pumpkin Festival is coming up on November 1st. Volunteers are needed to deliver blue cards, pick up and light candles in pumpkins.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's report was presented by the Chair as the Treasurer was unable to attend. The 2016 Financial Report and 2017 Budget Plan were made available to the membership. A member asked a question about why the HVRA didn't budget for OMB costs which were almost sure to be a line item for the HVRA. The past Treasurer responded that OMB costs are associated with particular initiatives (e.g. Central Tech) and that members contribute funds specifically for these initiatives so the costs don't come out of the general HVRA revenue pool. In general, the HVRA tries to avoid incurring OMB related costs where possible.

The acceptance of the 2016 Financial Report and 2017 Budget plan were moved by Patsy Aldana and seconded by Jeffrey Rosenthal. Motion carried.

4. Constitutional Amendment

A motion was provided to the membership allowing for an amendment to the constitution to allow for the creation of a Communications Committee and the creation of Webmaster as a designated Board Officer position. Margaret Procter moved the motion be passed. Gail Misra seconded. The motion carried.

A question came from the floor regarding the provision to elect ad hoc board members (sec 5 part 3). The Chair clarified that the Board has yet to and does not regularly expect to elect any ad hoc Board members. The provision is intended for special projects.

5. Presentation of Slate of Officers by Convenor of Constitutional & Nominations Committee

Celia Denov presented the slate of officers for 2017-2018 term:

Chair:	Gail Misra
Secretary:	Andrea Poptsis
Treasurer:	Carlo Drudi [pro tem]
Membership Secretary:	Merrill Swain
Webmaster	Margaret Procter
Past President	Rory 'Gus' Sinclair ex officio

There were no nominations from the floor. The slate was acclaimed.

6. Confirmation of U of T Liaison Position

The appointment for this position, which involves attending U of T meetings and liaising with the institution, is for one year. Sue Dexter has been acting in this capacity for the Board. Robert Bell put the motion forward that Sue be nominated. Jeffrey Rosenthal seconded. Motion carried.

7. Slate for the Constitution and Nominations Committee

The slate for the 2017 – 2018 Constitution and Nominations Committee consisting of Celia Denov (Convenor), Margaret Beare, Samiha Sayed, Margaret Smith and Colin Furness was presented to the membership. Patsy Aldana moved to accept the slate as presented. Leslie Thompson seconded. Motion carried.

8. Community Builder Awards

In recognition of their outstanding contributions to the community, Community Builder awards were presented to:

Antero Faria, Gary Bloch, Amy Furness, Lynn Brophy and Miriam Ticoll

9. Greetings from Member of Parliament Chrystia Freeland

David Burkholder from Minister Freeland's office brought greetings from the Minister.

10. Update from Councillor Cressy

Councillor Cressy provided the following updates:

- The city will look to make the Bike Lanes on Bloor permanent. This project is one of the most intensively studied transit projects ever. The infrastructure will be tweaked to improve upon the successful pilot
- Two parks were officially opened in the community – Margaret Fairley and Doctors' – and a new public park is planned at 666 Spadina
- The green plan for the community will see seven in street planters being erected in spring 2018 at 4 intersections in Harbord Village
- The next phase of the green plan will involve putting in 4 parkettes along Harbord along with sidewalk improvements in conjunction with the Bloor Annex BIA
- The development at 666 Spadina has been approved. The 11-storey development will include 133 rental units, including 22 two- and three-bedroom. \$800K in funding will be made available for the community (\$500K for affordable housing in conjunction with the Wigwamen Centre and \$300K for greening)
- The Sussex-Spadina development has been less successful in terms of community / developer consultations. The project is now going to the OMB
- Speed bumps have been installed on Major and there are some studies underway regarding putting them on Robert and Croft
- The Rail Deck park report is going to council in December
- Plans to put a YMCA at King and Spadina
- Tax policy has been revised to allow for a new tax class for creative hubs like 401 Richmond

11. Presentation from Andrew Farncombe, City Planning

Andrew Farncombe from the City of Toronto gave an overview of the planning framework that the City of Toronto has developed for the downtown core. A copy of the presentation has been shared on the HVRA website.

12. Area Reps

At the end of the meeting, Gail Misra asked that caucus members who had not completed the election of area reps stay behind long enough to confirm the area reps presented to them. Area caucus groups confirmed the individuals put forth for the Area Rep positions.

9:20pm Meeting adjourned.

Notes prepared by Andrea Poptsis, Secretary.