

Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 17, 2018, 7.00 pm
Kensington Gardens, 25 Brunswick Ave, Toronto, ON M5S 2L9
Final Minutes

In Attendance: Sue Dexter, Cathy Merkley, Lena Mortensen, Christian Mueller, Carolee Orme, Andrea Poptsis, Margaret Procter, Regine Schmid, Nicole Schulman, Gus Sinclair, Merrill Swain

Regrets: Ann Eyerman, Anne Kerekes, Gail Misra, Jane Perdue, Robert Stambula

Meeting called to order at 7:09 pm

1. **Chair's Welcome.** Gus, acting as Chair in Gail's absence, welcomed the members present and noted that we had quorum.
2. **Adoption of Agenda.** Nicole moved approval of the Agenda as presented, seconded by Merrill; agenda adopted.
3. **Approval of March Minutes.** Andrea noted that there was one area on the draft minutes that needed additional information. Wording was suggested. Merrill moved approval of the minutes as amended, seconded by Carolee; minutes approved.

Regine will let Andrea know which minutes she requires for publishing on the website.

4. Business Arising

a. Update on format of financials (Gus)

HVRA has been using the same format to report financials for about 15 years. There is consensus among Board members that the format could be improved to allow for ease of understanding. Since we started using Quickbooks as HVRA's accounting system mid-2017, a complete fiscal year cannot easily be produced from the system. The Treasurer would like to fix the accounting system for the 2018 fiscal year, which also may require fixing 2017 as well, and asked permission to ask his accountant for a quote to help set up Quickbooks in a manner that will produce clearer financial results. Cathy moved that Gus explore this with his accountant and that he report back to the Board at the June meeting; Seconded by Carolee. Motion passed.

In the absence of an improved format in the short term, Margaret moved that the 2017 results be published in their current form on the website; seconded by Nicole.

b. Spring Newsletter (Anne)

Anne was not at the meeting but she provided an update in advance by email. Work on the Spring Newsletter is on track. There are a few items outstanding but everything is under control. Distribution is scheduled for the end of April / beginning of May.

Anne was thanked in her absence for all her hard work on the Spring Newsletter. The Board acknowledge Anne's efforts which have resulted in a smooth and efficient process. Thank you Anne!

5. Other Business

a. Park People update (Gus)

Gus reported that HVRA did not get the Park People grant.

b. Spring Meeting (Gus)

The Board discussed changing the format for the meeting slightly. The meeting will start with check in at the membership desk (6:30-7:00). The Transportation Committee will present highlights from the U of T students' report (3 min). The group will then break into area caucuses where discussions will start about wrong way traffic. This will be followed by the regular area caucus discussions. The notes from the last meeting will be circulated to remind members what was discussed at the last meeting.

c. Engineering Students Report (Merrill)

Merrill provided a debrief from the U of T engineering students' report. They did a good job on the one way / wrong way traffic project. The students came up with three possible alternatives to deal with wrong way traffic on our one-way streets: traffic calming alternatives, detection stations and grassroots initiatives to slow down drivers. The grassroots initiatives were deemed to be the most feasible. Suggested initiatives include – speed humps, lowered street signs to promote visibility, installation of new arrow signs, painted pavement arrow markings and public engagement of the police to report wrong way drivers.

Merrill was asked to circulate the Toronto Police Report that was referenced in the work of the students. It was agreed that an eblast would be sent out a week before the spring meeting with key highlights of the students' report. The Transportation Committee will review and suggest content from the report to be presented at the spring meeting.

Christian put forward a motion to recommend putting an eblast out the week before the spring meeting with key highlights from the students' report and starting the area caucuses at the spring meeting with a discussion about the study with a focus on ideas for implementation, before breaking out into the regular area caucus discussions. Lena seconded.

Special thanks to Ann Eyerman for all her hard work with the students on this project. Thank you Ann!

d. Laneway Suites Report (Gus)

Gus presented an overview of the findings of the laneway study of the properties in the Harbord Village. 125 of the 1600 properties in the Harbord Village are deemed “eligible” as per the proposed laneway guidelines. This represents less than 10% of potential properties in the community. Uptake on building laneway properties in the Harbord Village is not expected to be significant.

e. HVRA position/role in elections

The Board’s official position with regard to candidates in elections is that the HVRA does not support anyone in particular. As individuals, Board members are free to support the candidates of their choosing.

f. Tree inventory (Sue/Gus)

Sue provided an update on her conversation with Sandy Smith. Christian can come back and continue his work on the tree inventory this summer. Joe Cressy’s office is looking at our request for the canopy enhancement project. Councillor Cressy wants a public meeting on the Green Master Plan. We will also ask about greening the site beside the Fort York Food Bank.

6. Receipt of Reports:

Gail thanked board members for sending their reports in advance. The following reports were received:

a. Area Reports:

- North East: Nothing to report.
- South East: Increasing levels of crime, particular on Robert Street. Neighbours met with Councillor Cressy’s office to discuss speed humps on Robert Street and to discuss Harbord Street restaurants’ encroachment on flanking residential streets.
- South West: FYFB met with the Councillor and the community. Opportunity for greening of the flanking street and improvements to the building. Speed bumps were added by City to the three blocks of Croft laneway.
- North West: Nothing to report.

b. Membership: Each area rep on the MC sent out a message to members in their area introducing themselves and reminding them to renew. To date (and since mid-March), thirteen members have renewed and 5 new members have joined.

c. Transportation: The U of T Engineering students delivered their project on wrong way traffic.

d. Planning and Development: Sue provided an update on the efforts of the Planning & Development committee. Due to the confidentiality of material in the report, details in the report cannot be made public at the time of writing.

7. Any Other Business

There was no other business to discuss.

8. Adjournment

Christian moved to adjourn the meeting, motion seconded by Merrill. The meeting ended at 9.01 pm.

Prepared by Andrea Poptsis, Secretary