

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

In Attendance: Simon Coleman, Sue Dexter, Cathy Merkley, Gail Misra, Christian Mueller, Carolee Orme, Jane Perdue, Andrea Poptsis, Margaret Procter, Regine Schmid, Nicole Schulman, Gus Sinclair, Robert Stambula, Merrill Swain

Regrets: Anne Kerekes, Lena Mortensen

Guest: Blake Poland

Meeting called to order at 7:01 pm

1. **Chair's Welcome.** Gail called the meeting to order, welcomed the members present, and in particular Simon who was attending his first meeting as a Board member, and noted that we had quorum.
2. **Adoption of Agenda.** Nicole added an update from the PCC to the agenda. Nicole moved adoption of the Agenda as amended, seconded by Margaret; agenda adopted.
3. **Approval of June Minutes.** Gus moved approval of the June minutes as presented, Margaret seconded; minutes approved.
4. **Guest Speaker - Blake Poland, Community Resilience:** Blake Poland, a resident of the HV, gave an overview of his experience with building resilience in communities at the local level. He has extensive experience with community resilience both at practical local level (through Residents Associations and labour unions) and through his work at the U of T School of Public Health. If interested, the HV could undertake to distribute information to residents, such as on personal and household readiness, or larger initiatives such as mapping exercises to identify cooling centres, back up power, places of worship, food supplies, etc. A number of Board members identified a desire to work with Blake to further explore the matter (Gail, Gus, Simon, Regine, Jane). Sue moved a motion to strike a committee to look into Community Resilience; Simon seconded; motion carried. Gail will send out an email to the team to arrange the first meeting. The Board thanked Blake for his informative presentation.
5. **Business Arising**
 - a) **Reminders** (Anne – Andrea in her absence)
 - i. **Fall Newsletter:** Anne is looking for ideas for the Fall newsletter and asked Board members to put their thinking caps on. It was suggested that a piece on Lydia Wong's bee study could be included. Anne will send out an email to solicit more suggestions.

- ii. **Fall Fair solicitations:** Volunteers are needed to help to organize donations for the silent auction. A committee of Anne, Gus and Christian is taking shape. Christian volunteered to talk to the businesses on Harbord Street that donated last year.
- b) **Publicizing fundraising yard sales** (Christian): The question was posed as to what the HVRA Board position is with regard to sharing information on not for profit yard sales that take place in the community. It was suggested that a framework be developed to guide when the HVRA could promote a local yard sale or other activities referred to the e-blast team. Gus volunteered to write down the criteria for the Communications Committee to review.
- c) **Parks in the HVRA** (Sue): The first meeting was held for the park space proposed for 666 Spadina. Another meeting may be held in the fall. Phase 2 of the Green Plan is being contemplated to include the greening of Harbord St. Jane mentioned that the park on the corner of Bathurst and Harbord was not being maintained; she will email Gus who will take it up with management.
- d) **Parent Consultation Committee (Nicole):** Nicole reported that there is interest in organizing a movement to lobby for speed humps on Major north of Sussex.

The Chair thanked Andrea and Sue for their efforts in dealing with media requests related to the traffic study. Special thanks to Sue for disseminating the traffic study information to other residents' associations.

6. Receipt of Reports:

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

a. Area Reports:

- North East: NIL report.
- North West: NIL report.
- South West: Neighbours have reported ongoing issues with 139 Lippincott. Contact has been made with Councillor Cressy's office, 311, and requests for meeting with MLS staff and the neighbours. Has yet to happen. By-law officers have visited site, and denied access.

- b. **Communications:** Committee met on July 7 and approved a Privacy and Security statement for use on the website. Messages to eblast@harbordvillage.com go to Ann Eyerman as main eblast author, along with Margaret and Merrill as helpers. Stories or comments for the eblast should be sent to that address. Traffic study story generated quite a bit of traffic to the website, including many first-time visitors. Webmasters will meet with P&D on July 18 to design the most effective ways of presenting recent and forthcoming Development news.

- c. **Gardeners:** Gardeners distribution list at 79 people, 20 of which care for street planters. Still waiting on construction to start on in-street plantings, but the exact date has not yet been set. Group is

organizing Tuesday evening strolls starting at 7pm from Margaret Fairley Park. Lydia Wong's bee study is underway and seems to be going well.

7. Any Other Business

A discussion was held with regard to the need for an August board meeting. The August meeting will be revisited and will proceed if there are pressing items to address.

NOTE: On August 12, 2018, following consultation with the Board as to whether there were any pressing issues to be addressed at an August Board Meeting, the Chair cancelled the meeting.

Subsequent to the meeting, on August 11, the following resolution was put forward by Sue: 'Whereas the recent actions of the Ontario government to reduce drastically the size of Toronto City Council have been taken without consultation and will be detrimental to public participation in the local issues and opportunities that impact significantly the growth, development and quality of life in our city, HVRA opposes Bill 5 currently under debate at Queen's Park, supports all efforts to withdraw this legislation and encourages HVRA residents do the same.' The motion was seconded by Regine and supported by 12 Board members. Motion carried.

Furthermore, a motion was put forward by Sue on August 17 seeking to act on behalf of the HVRA as a "client" for the lawyers putting forward a case against Bill 5 on democratic grounds. The motion was seconded by Gus and supported by a majority of the Board. Motion carried.

An additional motion was put forward by Gus on August 27 seeking permission to give Leah Ritcey-Thorpe, the student who completed the Tree Inventory, a bonus equal to the funds remaining in the Tree Inventory account after all other disbursements have been made (no more than \$500) to reward her for dedication to the project. She logged a number of unpaid hours before the contract began so the bonus is an acknowledgement of her going above and beyond what was expected. The motion was seconded by Sue and supported by a majority of the Board. Motion carried.

An additional motion was put forward by Sue on September 7 seeking permission to provide HVRA's support to the West Side Community Council for the EXcluded campaign regarding the public use of Exhibition Place and Ontario Place lands, and to make efforts to publicize the campaign to HVRA's membership. The motion was seconded by Gus and supported by 12 Board members. Motion carried.

8. Adjournment

Jane moved to adjourn the meeting, motion seconded by Margaret. The meeting ended at 8.46 pm.

Prepared by Andrea Poptsis, Secretary