

Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 18, 2018, 7.00 pm
Kensington Gardens, 25 Brunswick Ave, Toronto, ON M5S 2L9
Final Minutes

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

Regrets: Simon Coleman

Guest: Julian Iacobelli

Meeting called to order at 7:01 pm

1. **Chair's Welcome.** Gail called the meeting to order, welcomed the members present and noted that we had quorum. She also welcomed Julian Iacobelli, who attended the meeting as a guest.
2. **Adoption of Agenda.** Gus moved adoption of the Agenda, seconded by Merrill; agenda adopted.
3. **Approval of July Minutes.** Gus moved approval of the July minutes as presented, Carolee seconded; minutes approved.
4. **Business Arising**
 - a. **Traffic Study:** Merrill, with support from Julian, presented the highlights from the traffic study that was conducted on June 12th throughout the Harbord Village. Key findings: volume of traffic is not equally distributed throughout the neighbourhood; traffic is the heaviest between 4 and 5pm (also saw the highest number of wrong way drivers during this time); U turns are a problem at Ulster and Lippincott. Bicycle behaviour, although not studied, was noted to be problematic. There was some discussion about the effectiveness of the traffic maze and that perhaps it is not working as it was intended as it is now more efficient to cut through the maze. Gus moved to accept the report as presented and to post it on the website; seconded by Sue. All in favour; report approved.
 - b. **October AGM Planning (Gail)**
 - i. **Agenda:** Gail suggested area reps bring their notes from the Spring meeting to help to focus the caucus discussions. It seemed unlikely that Councillor Cressy will be willing to attend the meeting as he normally does given the upcoming election and that he is not running in our ward. A speaker still needs to be found to provide the keynote address.
 - ii. **Search Committee:** The Search Committee will convene to discuss the open positions on the Board. Margaret has decided to give up the Webmaster position and Regine, who has been the apprentice Webmaster, will take over the position. The Chair thanked Margaret for all her hard work and dedication in getting the website to its current, excellent state. Margaret has agreed to stay on as area rep for the South Central area for a period of one year. Anne is also vacating her position as South Central area rep but she has agreed to continue to work on the newsletter and on special projects, such as the Fall Fair silent auction). With Regine taking on the Webmaster position, her

position as North East area rep will become vacant. Gus will be stepping down as Treasurer so a replacement will need to be found. An eblast will be sent out with a call for anyone interested in becoming more involved with the HVRA.

- c. **Fall Fair Report:** Gus reported that the Fall Fair was a success despite some challenging weather conditions. A good time was had by all and the Silent Auction raised a handsome sum. Gail thanked Gus, Anne, Christian and the team of volunteers for an excellent event.
 - d. **Civic Governance:** Sue reported back on some of the activities that she has been involved in with regard to the reduction of municipal wards in the City of Toronto. Work is ongoing and will continue well after the election.
 - e. **December Board Meeting:** It was agreed that the proposed date for the December board meeting, December 18th, would stand.
 - f. **Volunteer Appreciation:** The proposed date for the Volunteer Appreciation night is November 14th from 7 to 10pm at Gail's house. The Board was asked to provide a list of names of volunteers to be invited to Gail.
 - g. **Changes to Police Community Liaison Committee:** Janice Dembo has advised that she can no longer attend these meetings. Another volunteer will have to be found to take over this position.
 - h. **Approval of eblast guidelines:** Margaret presented the eblast guidelines that the Communications Committee drafted. The Board asked that there be greater clarity on the notion of a "track record" in the guidelines. Margaret moved that the guidelines be approved as amended; Regine seconded. Guidelines approved.
 - i. **Transportation Committee Guiding Principles:** Carolee presented the Transportation Committee's guiding principles to the Board. She moved that they be approved; Merrill seconded. Guiding principles adopted.
 - j. **Update on Fall Newsletter:** Anne reported that the Fall Newsletter was on track. All outstanding items are being addressed.
5. **Receipt of reports:** Gail thanked board members for sending their reports in advance. The following reports were received:
- a. **Area Reports:**
 - North East: Tafelmusik's first Fall Social Concert was lovely; large mature tree fell on Robert St. just north of Sussex
 - South West: Noise issues with renovations being done at King Edward PS.
 - South Central: The (family run) post office that was at Young Convenience on the south side of College is now at Starbank Convenience at College & Major; house fire at the bottom of Major in August that spread/caused damage to adjoining homes
 - South East: Construction at 484 Spadina began on September 10th; Ledcor Construction is managing. Work to take place from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday and Saturdays 9am to 5:00pm

- b. **Communications:** Professional proof reader Jane Auster is going to work on the print newsletter at the nearly-final stage rather than earlier in the process. Committee met with members of P&D to confer about ways to present controversial and complex news. Announcements later in the summer used the HVRA News sidebar to present breaking news as standalone stories, which can be revised easily and are visible on the site without searching. Committee prepared a statement (put to the Board for approval at this meeting) to guide decisions about which local events to include in eblasts. Website security will be upgraded.
- c. **Website:** Additional security for the website costing \$134.92 (including tax) for 12 months will be obtained. Experienced some hiccups with the website during the month which required some external resources to fix (total cost \$47.50). Website content is continually refreshed. Log in credentials were given to Gail Misra, Regine Schmid, and Andrea Poptsis for safekeeping. Reminder to Board members re: Board Area page: Board members can view and download files, but only webmasters can upload. Please continue sending files to web@harbordvillage.com to keep the content up to date.
- d. **Gardeners:** Tuesday-evening strolls continue through September. A student project on urban bees supervised by Sandy Smith generated enthusiasm and contributed valuable material to the website. Lydia Wong visited 11 back yards regularly from June to September, sharing her excitement with the gardens' owners. She also sent links to her excellent photographs and videos, along with amusing and informative illustrated notes. On August 27, she presented a superb brief talk to 25 rapt attendees, and then answered questions with admirable concision and clarity. No firm date given for installation of the in-ground planters that will replace concrete boxes at four intersections.
- e. **Parent Consultation Committee:** NIL report

6. Adjournment

Gus moved to adjourn the meeting, motion seconded by Margaret. The meeting ended at 8.55 pm.

Prepared by Andrea Poptsis, Secretary