

**Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, June 18, 2019, 7.00 pm**  
**Kensington Gardens, 25 Brunswick Ave, Toronto, ON M5S 2L9**

**FINAL MINUTES**

**In Attendance:** Simon Coleman, Sue Dexter, Cathy Merkley, Gail Misra, Lena Mortensen, Christian Mueller, Carolee Orme, Andrea Poptsis, Margaret Procter, Nick Provart, Regine Schmid, Nicole Schulman, Gus Sinclair, Robert Stambula

**Regrets:** Jane Perdue, Merrill Swain

**Guest:** Jennette Boehmer

Meeting called to order at 7:06 pm

1. **Chair's Welcome:** Gail called the meeting to order and welcomed Jennette Boehmer who will provide an update on the in-street planter initiative.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** One additional item was added to the agenda, Jennette's update, and Carolee offered to add a discussion on extension of the Bloor Street bike lanes to the Transportation Committee update. The Chair indicated that she had a few other items to discuss under her Chair's update. Gus moved adoption of the agenda as amended; seconded by Christian. Agenda adopted.
3. **Approval of April minutes and May notes:** Gus moved approval of the April minutes; Nicole seconded; minutes approved. Two minor corrections were made to the May meeting notes regarding the names of the member who put forward the motion regarding the contingency funds and the member who was opposed to this motion. Notes amended. Christian moved for the Board to receive the notes; Gus seconded. Notes received.
4. **In street Planter update:** Jenette Boehmer  
  
Jennette provided an update on Phase 1 of the in-street planter project (construction was late, contractor was over extended, some rework needs to be done, including replanting some of the dead plants and trees and repairing the poles that have been knocked down). Phase 2 is a go but waiting on details re: construction timelines (could be fall 2019 or spring 2020). Phase 2 planters might be made a bit wider. Nicole put forward a motion to ask the board to authorize an expenditure of up to \$50 to buy annuals for the Major St planter; Margaret seconded; motion carried.
5. **Other Business**
  - a. **Community Resilience Planning Committee update:** Gail

Only two people outside of Board members and Blake Poland attended the meeting at Knox (one was a student who worked on the project with Blake). Different approaches to outreach to the community should be considered. Board members were asked to provide their ideas to Gail.

**b. Transportation update:** Carolee

Carolee referenced the report that she had previously sent to the Board which included all the details of her update. She has been attending the Bloor St. Construction Liaison meetings. Construction is going well, although 50 to 60 complaints are received weekly. The Committee is waiting to hear back from Mike's office re: meeting on transportation issues in the community. We have been asked by the ARA to lend our support behind the extension of the bike lanes on Bloor out to High Park. Carolee put forward a motion asking that the Board send a letter of support (Carolee to send); Nicole seconded. Motion carried.

**c. Community Policing Liaison Committee:** Gail

Given the lack of reporting on HVRA member attendance at this meeting, Gail will send Michael Borelli an email requesting the reports or minutes from past meetings that he has attended. If he hasn't been attending, the Board will explore finding another member to attend.

**d. Provincial changes and their impact on P&D:** Sue

The City is reviewing the Province's proposed changes to TOCore. Sue has been working with the Councillor's office on this. Other RAs have thrown their support behind the HVRA in terms of supporting our efforts, but it's not clear what we could / will do. We continue to submit letters to the Restructuring Committee at the City of Toronto to encourage greater public consultation. Gus put forward a motion to thank Sue for the tremendous amount of work she has done for the past few months on this file; seconded by Lena. Motion carried.

**e. Fall Fair planning:** Area Reps / Gus

Gus reported that Anne Fleming will shadow Gus on this fall fair with a view towards having her take over in 2020. Excellent news! Gail advised that one person had indicated they were considering taking on this project, so she will contact the individual to thank them for their potential interest, and encourage the person to remain involved with the Fall Fair.

**f. Venue / Logistics for the AGM:** Andrea / Gail

As the Board knows, Kensington Gardens is doing construction that will impact the regular meeting room for the fall meeting. The meeting room in the North building is too small. Andrea informed the Board that she will contact Knox Presbyterian to see if we can book a room for 75 people for the fall meeting. There is another option that could also be considered, the "gym" on the south west side of Trinity St. Paul's. Andrea will follow up to secure a meeting room for the 2.5 hours needed for the fall meeting.

**g. Receipt of reports** (acknowledgement of receipt of Committee and Area reports; identification of any new or pressing issues or clarifications)

**i. Transportation Committee:** "How to" lists for neighbours to use to obtain traffic calming measures, changes in parking regulations and improved signage received from the

Councillor's office have been posted on the website. A sign inventory was completed and forwarded to the Councillor's Office, from where it has been sent to the appropriate Transportation division. Follow up meeting to discuss general traffic issues has been requested with Layton; waiting for a date. Committee is attending a biweekly Bloor Street construction management committee meeting with the contractors and city representatives. Committee has been asked by ARA to support an extension of the Bloor bike lane to High Park.

- ii. **Gardeners:** The 5th annual Plant Fair was a huge success on June 2. 120 trees and shrubs were distributed as part of TreesforMe and a good quantity of annuals and perennials were given out as well. The event collected \$53.30 in donations against expenses of \$53. Special thanks to the group of volunteers who helped to run the Plant Fair and to the group who helped with the TreesForMe program (including Nicole Schulman and Cathy Merkley and her daughter), distributing doorhanger tags and postcards to local houses, posting flyers outside apartment buildings and helping on the ground at the Plant Fair to distribute the trees and shrubs. TreesForMe was a very helpful organization and the program was a success. The gardeners continue their weekly Tuesday night strolls. Margaret also reports that email communication to the 85 recipients on the HV Gardeners mailing list is now handled by MailChimp through a separate free account for HV Gardeners. Margaret is looking for others to assist in the outbound communications to HV Gardeners.
- iii. **Planning & 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.
- iv. **Membership:** Technical issues with reset password function on the website are being worked on; an outside consultant has been asked to assist. A renewal campaign will be initiated once the password issues have been resolved.
- v. **Webmaster's Report:** The website itself is working well and continues to be updated with new content.
- vi. **Area Reports:**
  - **North East:** The 40 km/h sign for the Sussex Mews alleyway north of Sussex Ave. was removed; Robert St tennis courts are being locked after 9pm. Nick Provart has the key. A Construction Committee Meeting will be struck soon for 666 Spadina. Final plan for the new community greenspace at Robert and Sussex has been agreed.
  - **North West:** The new mural at the top of Brunswick, along with West wall of Rexall, has been completed and people seem to like it a lot. Ongoing issues with abandonment/neglect of houses in the area. Central Tech in 20/21 will

house another high school (in addition to itself) while that school undergoes renovations.

- **South Central:** Neighbour initiated petition for speed humps on Brunswick between College and Ulster; Simon is investigating Council policy on the location of chargers for electric vehicles on the request of a resident; damage to the in-ground planting at Ulster and Major will be repaired by Purolator (who caused the damage).

h. **Chair's Report / Miscellaneous:** Gail

- **CAFÉ (Cannabis Café):** Continues to stay in operation along with its 3 other locations despite being illegal. Calls to MLS have gone unreturned. The establishment is building something at the back and they have been in violation of the building code in the past. A discussion was had about the best approach to deal with the establishment. The Harbord Street BIA is also frustrated. It was suggested that the HVRA write the councillor and get him to engage MLS. The letter should focus on city bylaw issues - safety issues, traffic - and a copy of the letter should go to Chief Saunders. Gus will also ask the HSBIA if they would send a letter in conjunction with us to the councillor.
- **Fort York Food Bank:** They are trying to get permits to build something around their garbage area. They have been having trouble moving this initiative forward. Gail got an email from them asking her to write to the councillor to ask them to work with the FYFB on this. FYFB have asked if there is anyone on the Board who wants to join their board. Gail will respond to the FYFB's request for someone to join their board by giving them Christian's contact information as an interested person they may reach out to. He'll report back what happens.
- **Roncesvalles Reduces:** Lena will look into it and report back at the next meeting if there are things we can do either on our own or in conjunction with the HSBIA.
- **August meeting:** If there are no pressing items, Gail suggested we forgo having a meeting in August, unless the Chair decides we need to meet. Andrea will send out a request for reports in early August in lieu of the meeting itself.
- **Street closure initiative:** Albany St. is closed regularly to allow kids to play in the street / community use. There was a discussion about interest in the HV in getting an initiative like this going. It seems the deadlines have passed for this summer season, but a communication will go out by eblast to inform people of the Albany events and potentially to solicit a volunteer to take this on in 2020. Andrea will send a note promoting the Albany event.
- **Parent Consultation Committee:** Nicole will put together an eblast note to request broader participation in the PCC. It's gone a bit quiet in recent months and could use some broader representation.

- **CTS Community Swim:** Lena reports that the community swim is likely to be coming to an end as the funding has been cut or is running out.
- **School yard revitalizations in the HV:** Gus will contact the school superintendent re: the plans for the revitalization of KE, LL and Kensington
- **Tree Loss:** Christian reported that a number of orange dots have appeared on trees in the community. These are dead or dying trees that have been earmarked for removal. Perhaps further discussion is needed to talk about a strategy to infill the lost trees.

Gus put forward a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Christian.

Meeting adjourned at 8.57pm.

Minutes prepared by Andrea Poptsis, Secretary.