

Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting

August 17, 2021, 7.00 pm

by Zoom call

MINUTES

Attendees: Simon Coleman, Sue Dexter, Anne Fleming, Susan McDonald, Christian Mueller, Gus Sinclair.

Regrets: Suzanne Dubeau, Regine Schmid, Gina Buonaguro, Lena Mortensen, Nick Provart, Robert Stambula, Cathy Merkley, Carolee Orme, Jane Perdue, Lacy Lauks.

1. **Chair's Welcome:** Anne called the meeting to order at 19:09. **Note: this meeting did not have quorum because of the number of absentees.**
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Agenda adopted with minor changes.
3. **Approval of June board meeting minutes deferred until next meeting because of lack of quorum.**
4. Gus provided an update on searches for committee replacements. Frank Davis, an environmental lawyer, has stepped forward to serve as a NE representative, replacing Carolee Orme, who is stepping off the board. Frank's appointment in this capacity is subject to a membership vote at the October AGM. Gus is still searching for a replacement for Shafeeq as NW rep.
5. **Business Arising from past minutes**
 - 5.1 **Planning (Anne)**

Anne will draft a letter to go to the city councillor, for the record, about some zoning issues around rooming houses.
6. **New Business**
 - 6.1 **Fall Event Planning (Anne)** – Anne, Gus, Christian, and Cathy met and are planning an event for September 12th. Gus has lined up a half dozen music sessions between 2:30-5:00 to play in the neighbourhood. Christian has also lined up some participants. Anne has lined up folks for a laneway gardening tour. There are also some art gallery, and children's activities planned. An update will go out in an eblast, and on the website. There is still some concern that there might be a new lockdown because of the Delta variant.
 - 6.2 **Multi-tenant housing / 57 Major Street (Sue/Susan)** – See 5.1

6.3 Anne spoke about the upcoming newsletter. And also about upcoming activities on the website as Regine steps back, and Nick takes the lead there.

6.4 Safe Streets / Pink robots (Anne) – letter will be sent to the councillor opposing these. There is also a need for better designation for loading and unloading places, and for better control of cyclists taking advantage of bike lanes at the risk of pedestrians.

7. Committee and Area Rep Reports – acknowledgements of receipt only unless action or discussion required.

7.1 Net Zero committee (Susan) – There will be an ebike event towards the end of September; more details to come.

7.2 Area Rep Reports:

- **North-East report (Nick/Carolee):-** (1) At long last U of T's contractor resodded the Robert St. field on July 21st. Fencing to allow the grass to take came down last week and people are happily using the new retaining wall along the west side to sit and enjoy a beautiful ~ 3 meter wide boulevard grassed area to the west of the field. (2) There was also movement on the Community Green Space at Sussex and Robert: sodding and planting were completed on August 6th. It looks great! Fencing will remain around the park until the grass takes (4-6 weeks, although the fencing was removed for the boulevard area by the field after 3 weeks). Sandblasting of 22 oak and maple leaves into the substituted concrete surface was completed on the 10th of August. One thing we're following up on is the apparent reduction in the size of the beds for plantings attractive to butterflies. (3) The outlines of a new City park at the north end of 666 Spadina are taking shape. A low wall along the south and west sides is complete and it looks like there will be planters on the west side of the west wall. (4) The new Esso gas station on Harbord is still not open.
- **North West report (Christian):** The Tranzac is looking for volunteers to help them clean and tidy up after they have now finished most of their major renovation work. For example, my wife and I worked a 3-hour shift today that consisted of some dusting, sweeping the floors, vacuuming furniture, and washing windows. The club plans to re-open in early October.
- **South Central report (Susan/Simon):** Discussions with Kensington Health continue. The main concerns continue to be health and safety issues around the construction site and the landscaping and replanting of the site once construction has been completed.
- **South West report (Jane/Bob):** New speed humps have been installed on Lippincott in the vicinity of King Edward Public School resulting from an independent community effort.
- **South East report (Cathy/Gina):** Nothing to report.

8. Other Business

8.1 Gus spoke about a modified Kensington hospice walk.

- 8.2 Anne spoke about the ongoing need to educate the residents about how planning and development work. Anne is in favour of developing a webinar with a guest speaker to explain how city planning works.

9. The meeting adjourned at 20:05.

Minutes prepared by Suzanne Dubeau, Secretary, 2020-21.