

Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 18, 2023, 7:30 – 9:00 pm

by Zoom call

APPROVED MINUTES

Attendees: Kerry Clare, Sue Dexter, Anne Fleming, Michael Jara, Karen Laurence, Susan McDonald, Cathy Merkley, Lena Mortensen, Christian Mueller, Jane Perdue, Gus Sinclair, Jody Salomon, Robert Stambula

Regrets: Frank Davis Elizabeth Chen, Simon Coleman, Tania Lewis,

Special Guest: Diane Saxe, Andre Roy

Dianne Saxe updated the board on what she and the city are up to. She said a group was starting a new study on how to get more trees, and Bob should talk to the head -- Kristina Hausmanis -- about the Boulevard project. **ACTION ITEM.**

1. Chair's welcome 7:06

2. **Approval of Agenda:** Gus moved the agenda be adopted; Kerry seconded. **Motion passed.**

3. **Approval of the March 21st Board Meeting Minutes:** Gus moved the minutes be accepted as amended; Jody seconded. **Motion passed.**

4. Business Arising from Past Minutes:

4.1 **Spring Meeting Speaker:** Anne gave an update. The date will be Tuesday, May 16, at 7:00 p.m. We do not yet have a speaker. Sue suggested consulting Tim Grant, who might speak or might recommend on the subject of NetZero. There was general agreement with this suggestion.

4.2 **Spring Newsletter:** Anne gave an update. It is close to ready and will be on budget.

4.3 **Spring Clean Up:** Kerry gave an update. Everything prepped for April 22nd with Sunday the 23rd as possible rain day. She thanked the board members who had helped with organizing and poster

4.4 **Bur Oak in Chapel Hospice Lane:** Susan gave an update. An arborist has been consulted; the tree is very stressed. He will return in a couple of weeks to look at the buds and determine if, with improved care, it will survive. The owner continues to be uncooperative, but the tree would benefit from having the adjacent paved laneway replaced by a permeable surface. This would require city approval and money. An attempt, some years ago, to have it designated a Heritage Tree was rejected. Bob suggested we try again, partnered with a councilor. The councilor said we would need a letter from the arborist indicating that the

tree had a good chance of survival and would not be damaged by taking up the paving. Bob moved that a letter requesting for heritage status for the tree and permission to replace the paved surface be sent to the City (Transportation and Urban Forestry). Gus seconded. **Motion passed. ACTION ITEM.**

4.5 60 Borden: Anne gave an update. The situation is much improved by the involvement of Fred Victor staff, but there are still issues. The city has been notified.

4.6 196 Borden: Gus gave an update. He approached the developer, outlined our issues and said HVRA would likely oppose the application as it was. The developer understood the neighbourhood concerns and has sent a letter withdrawing the proposal.

5. New Business:

5.1 Bank Change for HVRA account: Lena said that though HVRA has been with RBC since the beginning, there are compelling reasons to change: there is no longer a branch in the neighbourhood, they charge us fees that are unnecessary, and most importantly RBC is the largest financier of fossil fuel projects in the world. There was general agreement with the idea that Lena should explore other options. **ACTION ITEM**

5.2 FoSTRA Annual Meeting Susan updated the Board on this. She said HVRA does not really need to attend every meeting as the minutes are available to all FoSTRA members. She suggested we find a forum on which to store/chaire those minutes. **ACTION ITEM**

5.3 First Narayever Event: Anne told the meeting that there would be a street party-type launch of the renovated building on May 28th.

5.4 Unlicensed rooming/multi-tenant houses: Jody raised the issue of this increasing problem, specifically two that have recently opened on Russell St. Neighbours have reached out to multiple parties and are not getting anywhere. She asked what we, as a resident's association, can do to help people in the neighbourhood. Sue said these are two different issues. It is hard to get action on illegal rooming houses, but if it is an unlicensed Airbnb there are city regulations that apply. Jody said the neighbours had reached out to the councilor's office and there has been no action. Sue suggested that Jody send her information to Andre so he could take the lead on this. Andre said that sounded reasonable, and he would get back to us. Jody suggested that HVRA put together a resource or process list for residents having problems of this nature. Anne concurred. **ACTION ITEM**

6. Committee and Area Rep Reports: Acknowledgement of receipt only unless action or discussion is required.

6.1 Area Rep Unwanted Email: Christian raised the question of unwanted emails being sent to HVRA addresses. Anne said she would ask the web team if there is anything they can do about it. **ACTION ITEM**

6.2 Safe Street Report: Kerry raised the issue of the traffic cones in the Ulster/Brunswick intersection. We have been communicating with the councilor's office to have them replaced with concrete planters, but little progress is being made. We need to keep up the pressure.

7. Other Business

Community builders – Anne reported that the original candidate for the award had already received one. Jim Robinson will be the recipient.

8. Meeting adjourned; Susan moved the meeting be adjourned; Jody seconded. **Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:14**

APPENDICIES

- 1. April Area Reps Reports**
- 2. April Safe Streets Committee Report**

AREA REPORTS – April 2023

NW

It has been reported by a neighbour who lives across the street from Sally Bird Parkette that police officers and social workers took down the encampment in the park yesterday. Not sure what made them take action at this time; perhaps it's the warmer weather we've had lately or the increasing number of "campers". While some neighbours have been sympathetic to those living there, they have also expressed concerns about fire safety. In addition, there's evidence that a series of squatters (up to five!) have moved in and out of the abandoned and boarded up house a few doors north of the park over the last few weeks.

Christian Mueller, Kerry Clare

NE

Spadina Sussex Residence Construction

We have a new report as of April 17 that noise is beginning before the agreed time of 6:30 AM, weekdays and Saturdays. We were under the impression that, although Daniels (the construction company) has permission to start as early as 5:00 AM, that they were waiting until 6:30 AM as a compromise with the neighbors.

666 Spadina Construction

At a CLC meeting (newly resumed), the site supervisor (Christian Concepcion) for the construction company (Ashford Calderdale Group) reported that they plan to be doing above grade construction from April through October 2023, and have the building open for residence in December of 2024. They have permits for noise outside of normal hours, and plan to start as early as 6 AM and work as late as 11 PM when allowed. After completing the first four floors, they target completing one per week. We are awaiting copies of the noise permits and a schedule for when the company plans for "excess noise".

Michael Jara

SW

We welcome the opening of Ma Maison / Auntie & Uncle on Lippincott. They have longer hours than before (8:30 to 8:30 I believe).

We've also engaged King Edward (KE) Jr & Sr Public School to address growing graffiti on their large metal storage bins. The Principal Corinne Promislow was very responsive to the request (as she has been in the past), so we expect action to be taken soon.

Illegal truck traffic is on the rise southbound on Lippincott... driving past KE Jr & Sr Public School. A No truck sign remains at Ulster and Bathurst, the route needed for southbound Lippincott traffic (to avoid a left on College). At some point I recall that all entry points into HV south of Harbord had no truck signs.

Concerns have spread regarding (suspected) residents of 60 Borden acting out and the absence of security at the facility.

Robert Stambula, Jane Perdue

SafeStreets April 2023 report

Councillor's Office updated us on the following issues:

- **Speed Humps for Sussex** (between Sussex Mews and Robert St) seems stalled -- Councillor's Office suggests the residents do a poll for a longer stretch of the road so they can bring it to Community Council. They are open to other ideas from the HVRA
- **Speed humps on Brunswick Ave**, College to Ulster are "in the pipeline" but there is no clear date for installation yet
- Brunswick and Ulster **Zebra Crossing** is scheduled to be installed this spring/summer
- **Raised intersection at Borden and Ulster** (part of Brunswick/Borden Contraflow, rolled into College Street Upgrades) is to be delivered this year
- SafeStreets Cost-effective **traffic calming proposal** for Brunswick and Ulster was passed on to the Vision Zero Committee but seems to have gotten lost (they claim they sent a response but no one has received anything). We will continue to pursue this.

In Addition we observe that:

- The College St upgrades have commenced but are not yet in HV (they seem to be working from West to East). We welcome residents' feedback about the traffic redirection methods, ideally with photographs and concrete examples, so we can follow up on the issue with the councillor.
- Some of the surplus planters proposed for blocking Ulster/Brunswick have vanished, but there are still four to use. We are hoping they will be redeployed to calm traffic in place of the orange cones.
- City finally cleared a lot of the leaf debris congesting the bike lane and blocking gutters (from last year) -- this is good news because there was considerably flooding at many of the street crossings due to blocked gutters. There were also flooded in ground planters, for the same reason. The HVRA should remind residents to try to clear the gutter drains near their house to prevent flooded intersections.