

# Harbord Village Residents' Association Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 20, 2023, 7:00– 9:00 pm

by Zoom call

## DRAFT 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

**Regrets:** Elizabeth Chen, Simon Coleman, Frank Davis, Tania Lewis, Robert Stambula, Nick Provart,

**Special Guest:** Diane Saxe, Andre Roy

1. **Chair's welcome: 7:02**
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Gus moved the agenda be adopted; Lena seconded. **The agenda was approved.**
3. **Approval of the April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes:** Susan moved the April 18<sup>th</sup> minutes be adopted; Jody seconded. **The minutes were approved.**
4. **Approval of the June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 General Meeting Minutes** Christian moved the June 16<sup>th</sup> minutes be approved by the board; Sue seconded. The Spring General Meeting minutes were approved as vetted by the board.
5. **Central Tech Update:** Gus reported that for health and safety end zone space on the Central Tech field that was previously used by the community for soccer games, now had futsal "fields" installed. These fields will be open to community when not reserved by leagues. He moved (**First Proposed Motion**) that the Board ratify the recent actions regarding the Futsal courts now placed in the end zones of the Central Tech Field for the benefit of the Community and for the other users of the facility. **This motion was withdrawn until actual time available for community use has been clarified.**  
  
Gus then asked (**Second Proposed Motion**) that the Board approve the proposed installation of two Pickle Ball courts in the southeast corner of the field. This was seconded by Susan. **The second proposed motion was passed.**
6. **Conversation with Councilor Saxe:** The board and Councilor Saxe discussed how the time she had available for HVRA could best be spent. It was concluded that having outside meetings with limited board members, to deal with specific issues, would be more effective than her regularly attending board meetings. Saxe mentioned that there would be a bit of a lull at City Hall between July and September, so that would be a good

time for outside meetings. It was agreed that her aide, Andre Roy would continue to come to board meetings to keep a record of HVRA requests, facilitate communication with the councilor's office, and help HVRA when needed. Specific issues raised with Andre: bollards being ripped out on Wilcox and the Fall Fair noise permit.

Councilor Saxe raised the issue of the encampment on the St. Stephen-in-the-Fields grounds and the problems that had developed around that and said it had been decided that the encampment would have to be removed. In its place, she would like to see a memorial garden for people who have died on the streets. She said the City is in favour of this idea, but has limited money to support it, so asked if HVRA could recommend a professional landscape designer who would be prepared to work on this garden for free.

## **7. Business Arising from Past Minutes:**

**7.1 Bur Oak** – Sue reported that several arborists thought the tree had lots of life in it and would definitely be worth trying to save. A letter requesting city help was sent three weeks ago. Transportation is on board, but they don't have the money to do it all. Replacing lane pavement with a more permeable surface will cost about \$10,000. There is also a neighbour who is willing to resurface his backyard and that would be another \$2000. There will be a meeting with Transportation on Thursday to assess and talk through the situation, so we will have a much better idea of next steps after that meeting. This will probably involve HVRA fundraising, so this is something we should think about.

**7.2 St. Stephen's Encampment** -- The board discussed the councilor's request that we provide the name of a landscape designer to work gratis on this garden. It was decided that as St. Stephen's is not a part of HV, we should not get involved.

**7.3 Healy Willan Garden** – Anne reported that some residents of Palmerston Area had asked for our support in their grant application for a pollinator garden. Again, as this is not our area, and as it is uncertain whether PARA support this initiative, we will not get involved.

**7.4 College Street Construction** – Anne reported that construction of the College St. bike lanes will start this week. She said the City had a survey on construction safety that she had circulated, and she asked board members to fill it out.

## **8. New Business:**

**Borden Street Bumpouts** – Sue presented the City plan to replace planters on Borden Street with bumpouts which would allow room for more trees (see plan appended). The planter currently on the west side of Borden south of Ulster will become an 8 m

bumpout on the east side. Parking will move to the east side; the contraflow lane will be on the west. One parking spot will be lost. North of Ulster another planter will be replaced by an 8 m bumpout. This is being implemented as a part of planned street work that is scheduled to begin immediately. It will be a pilot project for the city to increase canopy and storm water management.

**Karen moved that:** The board support the Green Streets proposal to expand the bump-outs at Borden and Ulster. Sue seconded. **The motion was passed.**

Anne will send a support letter to the councillor in advance of the June 22<sup>nd</sup> city discussion of the motion. **Action item.**

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

**9.1 Planning & Development --** Sue advised members that the first meeting of the working group on the Metro site would be held June 21.

**9.2 Fall Fair –** Anne reported that we are starting to work on the Fall Fair and are looking for volunteers. Karen offered to head up the Silent Auction if she could find someone to help her. Cathy offered to take Permits over from Karen if she moved to Silent Auction.

**9.3 NE Area Report – Traffic congestion at Bloor and Major --** Michael reported that residents in the NE are bothered by the traffic congestion and the blocked sidewalk caused by parents picking up their children from The Spirit of Math and asked for suggestions to improve the situation. Board members agreed that this was Spirit of Math's problem to solve it, not ours. Cathy offered to speak to the school about this. **Action item.** It was agreed that if The Spirit of Math did not find a solution, we would escalate the matter by bringing in traffic control. Michael said he would raise the issue with Andre Roy as well. **Action item.**

**10. Other Business:**

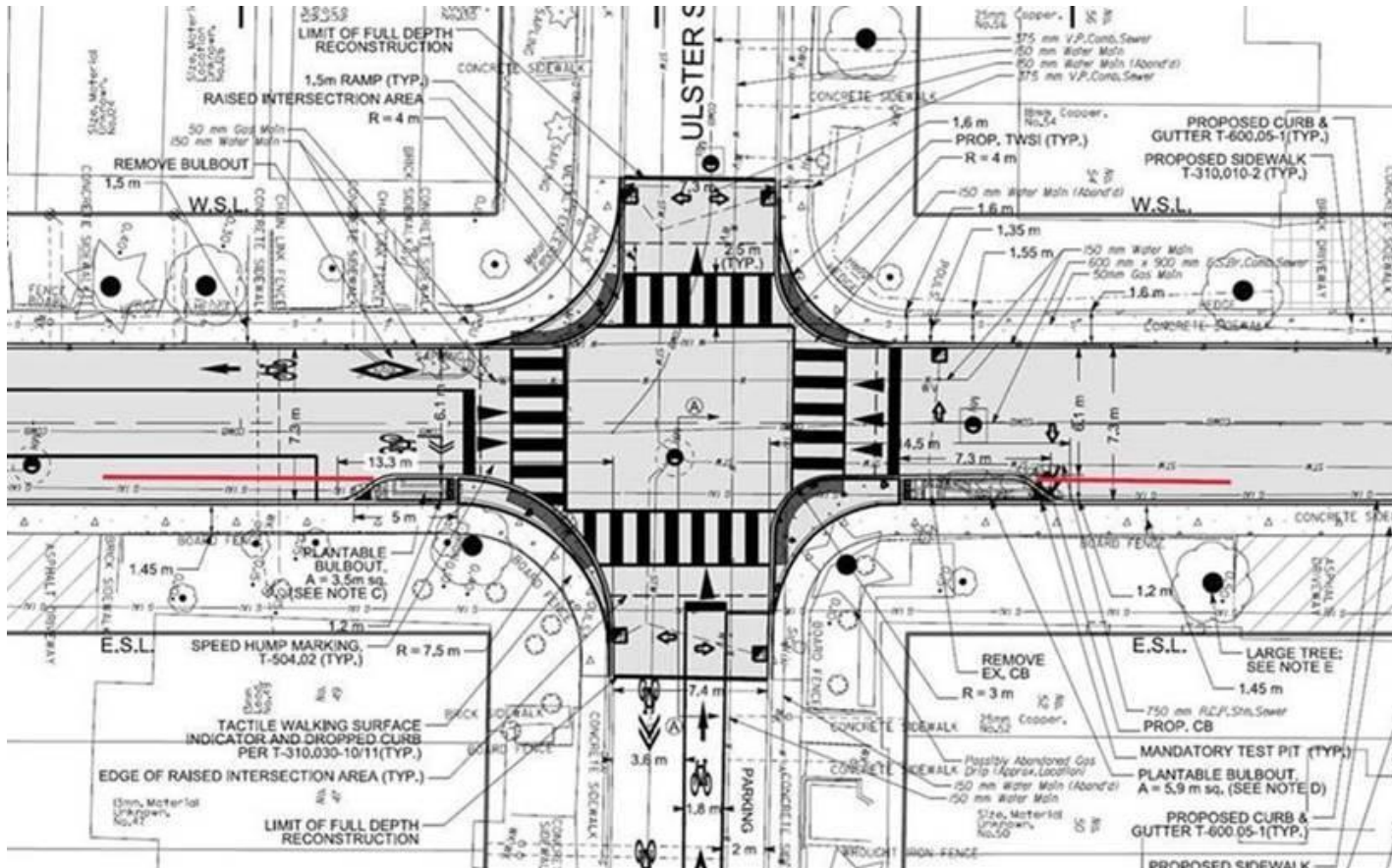
**Summer Break --** A poll was taken and it was decided that the board would meet July 18 and take August off.

**11. Adjournment:** Jane moved that the meeting be adjourned; Sue seconded. **Meeting adjourned at 8:55.**

## **APPENDICIES**

- 1. Borden Street Bumpout design**
- 2. Planning and Development Report**
- 3. Area Reports**
- 4. Safe Streets Report**

...discuss the expansion of the bumpouts at Ulster/Borden to provide additional soil volume and planting space. We can expand up to the driveways on either side (see red line mark up below). However, this would impact street permit parking spaces (3 in total) which ...might be an issue for the community.



## **PLANNING REPORT JUNE 20, 2023**

Working group meetings are scheduled for 425 Bloor St. (Metro).

Carolee Orme from the p and d and Robin Bunn from Sussex and I will represent HVRA.

There are about a dozen other stakeholders including U of T, Bloor BIA, ARA, JCC, Trinity-St. Paul's and someone from the councillor's office.

The meeting schedule and agenda for each working group session follows:

Wednesday, **June 21st, 6:30-8:30 PM** Meeting 1:

Massing & Form, Movement, Streetscape & Public Realm

Tuesday, **June 27th, 6:30-8:30 PM** Meeting 2:

Environment & Resilience, Use & Community Benefit, Timing

Wednesday, **July 19th, 6:30-8:30 PM** Meeting 3:

Follow-up/Response/Revision

## AREA REPORTS – June 2023

### NW

Christian Mueller, Kerry Clare

### NE

We've had some additional reports of the Circle K on Harbord and Major being open past Midnight. The city has not returned Frank Davis's inquiries, and he plans to inquire again.

Two neighbors reported concerns to the "arearepne" alias about traffic congestion at the Spirit of Math on Bloor and Spadina every evening, as parents pick up and drop off their children. Spirit of Math has previously requested that parents not block the street, and consequently they have started blocking the sidewalk. There is also an ongoing discussion on the Facebook group.

One neighbor reported noise earlier this month prior to the agreed 6:30-7:00 start time of the Sussex Spadina residence. David Aird, our liaison to the Daniels construction company, agreed to look into it.

I have no other updates on the construction of the Sussex Spadina residence or and 666 Spadina.

Michael Jara, Frank Davis

### SE

Cathy Merkley, Jody Salomon

### SC

Susan McDonald, Tania Lewis

### SW

Activity around our neighbourhood includes:

- actively engaging City/Hydro to remove new hydro pole installed in the middle of the sidewalk (College & Borden)
- engaging City Forestry to replace 11 trees missing/cut down on College while tree pits are being expanded to new city standards as part of the new cycle track. Most are near Lippincott & Borden
- having King Edward PS quickly paint over graffiti on storage bins fronting on Lippincott when requested
- noticeably longer line ups at the Fort York Food Bank, College and Borden

Robert Stambula, Jane Perdue

### **SafeStreets June 2023 report**

Not much NEW news... updates on the olds:

Still waiting for:

- Speed Humps for Sussex (between Sussex Mews and Robert St)
- Speed humps on Brunswick Ave, College to Ulster
- Brunswick and Ulster Zebra Crossing
- Raised intersection at Borden and Ulster (part of Brunswick/Borden Contraflow, rolled into College Street Upgrades)

After our inquiry Councillor's office has told us they are following up on the traffic calming proposal for Brunswick and Ulster, but no new news

In Addition we observe that the College St upgrades are now underway in the neighbourhood. We welcome residents' feedback about the traffic redirection methods, ideally with photographs and concrete examples, so we can follow up on this issue (which caused complaints in the past) with the councillor.