

Harbord Village Residents Association
Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 18, 2025, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

Minutes

By Zoom Call

Attendees: Sue Dexter, Anne Fleming, Rosalinda Furlan, Jordan Leith, Susan McDonald, Cathy Merkley, Wolfgang Moeder, Nicholas Provart, Jody Salomon, Gus Sinclair, Fiona Smith, Moritz Steinbauer, Douglas Walker

Absent: Lena Mortensen, Frances-Mary Morrison

1. **Call to order:** 7:03
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Gus moved that the agenda be adopted; It was seconded. **The motion passed.**
3. **Approval of the January 21, 2024 board meeting minutes:** It was moved that the minutes be adopted and seconded. **The motion passed.**
4. **Business Arising from past minutes**
 - a. **Committee Review Update.** Anne created a document and shared it during the meeting. There was discussion about the various topics and board members were encouraged to sign up. Some signed up during the meeting. The committees and members so far are:

Complete Streets -
Greening – Rosalinda Furlan and Susan M.
Outreach -
Volunteer Recruitment – Rosalinda Furlan
Housing - Anne Fleming, Moritz Steinbauer
Social – Jordan Leith
Planning & Development – Sue Dexter, Gus Sinclair
Net Zero – Susan McDonald, Jody Solomon
Heritage – Sue Dexter, Gus Sinclair
Communications – Nick Provart, Anne Fleming, Moritz Steinbauer
Fall Fair – Anne Fleming
Spring Clean Up – FM Morrison, Susan M.
PumpkinFest – Lena Mortensen, Susan M.
 - b. **FoSTRA housing committee.** A meeting on affordable housing was held last week and the guest speaker addressed the issue of renovations in large apartment buildings.

- c. **CNOY update.** Anne reported that the event was successful and more than \$16,800 was raised.
 - d. **Harbord sign removal.** Gus reported that the sign has been removed.
 - e. **Charter City letter.** Anne sent a letter to the City of Toronto Executive Committee supporting the idea of forming a special committee to study the validity of Toronto becoming a charter city. **See attachment.**
 - f. **Traffic in North West.** There was discussion about what options are available to deal with traffic issues in this part of the neighbourhood. Some changes have been made to parking restrictions at Borden and Bloor to improve traffic.
5. **New Business**
- a. **Financial Report.** The financial report is usually presented this month but as Lena is away it is rescheduled for the March meeting.
 - b. **Development issues.** Sue reported on the situation with a request from an owner to build a three storey dwelling on Antonio Fernandes Lane. A letter opposing this height has been written.
 - c. **Area Reports.** A report from the North East reps was presented.
6. **Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:10** Gus moved the motion and it was seconded. **The motion passed.**

The notes for this meeting were lost, however all motions were duly passed. Minutes prepared by Fiona Smith, Secretary

2025 HVRA Board Meeting Schedule

Unless otherwise required, board meetings and AGMs are scheduled for the third Tuesday of each month, between 7:00-9:00 p.m. For the foreseeable future, these will be held via Zoom.

January 21
February 18
March 18
April 15
May 20 (Spring General Meeting)
June 17
July 15
September 16
October 21 (AGM)
November 18
December 16

HARBORD VILLAGE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Box 68522, 360A Bloor St. W.
Toronto, ON M5S 1X1



January 27, 2025

TO: **City of Toronto Executive Committee**
Toronto City Council
Toronto City Hall

RE: **Member Motion MM24-15: Toward Municipal Autonomy and Effective Local Governance
Referred to Committee from City Council meeting December 2024**

Dear Mayor Chow and Members of the Executive Committee:

On Tuesday, **28 January 2025**, Executive Council will be considering a motion brought forward by Councillors Matlow and Myers calling for a citizen's Task Force on ways to strengthen local autonomy and democracy. I write on behalf of the Harbord Village Residents' Association, which comprises the area from Bloor St to College St and from Bathurst St to Spadina Ave.

Please be advised that the HVRA fully supports the motion; we agree that decisions which affect our city should be made locally and not by the provincial government. We urge you to adopt this proposal from Councillors Matlow and Myers.

We are already feeling the effects of provincial overreach combined with lack of revenue options – downloaded welfare that strains our coffers, election interference that guts our council, planning and development uncertainty that practically eliminates local input, and even street infrastructure micro-management that threatens the safety of vulnerable road users, with many of the downtown neighbourhoods such as ours hit hardest.

The status quo is simply not working and we as a city owe it to ourselves to consider all of our options. A well-rounded task force will get the ball rolling to a better future that meets the needs of the city, not the politicians. Your yes vote will indicate willingness to hear what the public has to say on this important issue. Be bold!

Thank you for your consideration.

Anne Fleming
Chair, HVRA
chair@harbordvillage.com