

Harbord Village Residents Association
Board Meeting
Tuesday, August 19 2025, 7:00 – 9:00 pm
MINUTES
By ZOOM call

Attendees: Sue Dexter, Anne Fleming, Rosalinda Furlan, Jordan Leith, Cathy Merkley, Frances-Mary Morrison, Jody Salomon, Fiona Smith, Sue Smith, Moritz Steinbauer, Douglas Walker

Absent: Susan McDonald, Lena Moretenen, Gus Sinclair, Nick Provart

1. **Call to order: 7:05**
1. **Approval of Agenda:** Sue S. moved that the agenda be adopted; Rosalinda seconded. **The motion passed.**
2. **Approval of the June 24, 2025 board meeting minutes:** Sue D. moved that the minutes be approved; Rosalinda seconded. **The motion passed.**
1. **Business Arising from past minutes**
 - a. **Update on Fall Fair September 7** – Anne reported that the fall fair is coming together with a great team this year. Permits, music, food, volunteers, kids activities are all in order. There is a new silent auction team. New merchandise, gift certificates and tickets would be appreciated for the auction. Many thanks to Sue Smith for stepping up to be the new food person. Volunteers are needed and board members encouraged to sign up for a shift.
 - b. **Update on bioswale/planters-** A walk around was arranged in June and Anne attended along with all parties involved with the bioswales. Rainscape TO has been hired by the city to maintain the bioswales. They were under the impression neighbourhood people could help keep them up. It was made clear that we cannot take care of these. It was good to establish connections with the different parties in the city as they don't always talk. So issue has been resolved as to who is looking after the bioswales. Sue D mentioned that some Harbord St. neighbours are concerned that what they thought were planters are just concrete and want to have planters installed on the concrete. It wasn't possible to tell from the city plan that was sent to us. Again, these couldn't be maintained by us and would have to be done by the city. People need to contact the city directly about any problems.
 - c. **Update on 60 Borden** – Anne gave an overview of the past issue at 60 Borden. What is happening now is that the city has not reappointed Alannah as manager and have hired staff from Fred Victor to be involved. There is a meeting next month and Anne and a neighbour will attend. We are not directly involved but just keeping in the loop as to what is happening with the situation.

- d. **Queen's Park update** – Sue D. reported that the renderings for the park were upsetting to many neighbourhood groups. There is push back from many of the RA groups. The city has accepted the money from the Hilary Weston and the consultation process is underway. One thing that has been established is that trees and ecosystem have to be considered. The group is now working on drafting terms of engagement. There is an existing heritage report that was done in the past and not all were aware of it. That report was holistic and looked at an area broader than just the park. There are two parts to the issue – the park and the heritage side.

2. **New Business**

- a. **New meeting dates** – New date for September meeting is now Tuesday September 23 and new date for October AGM will be Tuesday October 14.
- b. **Pumpkinfest** – Anne said it might not go ahead if the construction on Harbord St. is not completed. Lena is on sabbatical and Anne is away. We need someone to take the lead for the HVRA part. We partner with the BIA and they are the lead.
- c. **Financial update** – The insurance has been renewed and we pay the same premium as last year.
- d. **Toronto Hydro potential speaker** – promote electrification in big buildings. There are no current plans but they are looking to provide support to organizations. Tim Grant and the Net Zero group are the contacts.
- e. **TAF grant application** – The Net Zero group is trying to get a grant from TAF. They have an idea for an EV fair and to organize it for next spring. Harbord St. is not a candidate for EV charging stations because of the hydro poles. The stations have to be right on the curb. After some discussion about the benefits of EV cargo bikes and ability to rent these there was a motion from Sue Dexter and seconded by Jody that the city explore the possibility of adding cargo bikes to their bike rental programs to the end of lessening dependence for short trips on the use of cars.
The motion passed.
- f. **Non-residential laneway uses** – Someone named Blair from the City was referred to Anne by the councillor. The city is looking at non residential – commercial and other - uses for laneways and how we can leverage or promote laneway buildings etc. We don't know exactly what this means because he hasn't got to back to Anne yet.
- g. **Architectural Conservancy of Ontario membership** – Richard Longley, HVRA resident, has been very helpful to us in heritage matters. He suggested that HVRA should renew our membership in ACO. We had one a few years ago and they were helpful to us in heritage issues. After discussion Sue D. made a motion that HVRA join the ACO. FM seconded.
The motion passed.

3. **Other Business**

- a. **Bagpipe Lane**: Anne congratulated FM and Doug on their efforts in getting Bagpipe Lane cleaned up. The BIA has installed cameras to help.

- b. **Box with rat poison:** Sue D. found a discarded black box that contained rat poison. After calling 311, poison control and the police the fire department was called and they came and took it away. Sue wrote to the mayor and councillors to thank 311 for their efforts to solve the issue.
 - c. **Wilcocks St.:** Jody reported that work to repair the damage on Wilcocks St. is being done. One truck was caught and is fixing the boulevard by doing grading work and putting down grass seed. Sue D. got a film crew to bring large rocks to protect the boulevard.
4. **Adjournment:** Jody moved that the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Rosalinda.
The motion passed.

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 24
August 19
September 23
October 21 (AGM)
November 18
December 16