

Harbord Village Residents Association

Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 24, 2025, 7:00 – 9:00 pm

MINUTES

By ZOOM call

Attendees: Sue Dexter, Anne Fleming, Rosalinda Furlan, Susan McDonald, Cathy Merkley, Lena Moretensen, Nick Provart, Jody Salomon, Gus Sinclair, Fiona Smith, Sue Smith

Absent: Jordan Leith, Wolfgang Moeder Frances-Mary Morrison, Moritz Steinbauer, Douglas Walker

1. **Call to order: 7:07**
1. **Approval of Agenda:** Susan moved that the agenda be adopted; Jody seconded. **The motion passed.**
2. **Approval of the April 15, 2025 board meeting minutes:** Gus moved that the minutes be approved; Jody seconded. **The motion passed.**
3. **May 21, 2025 Spring General Meeting Minutes:** Susan moved that the minutes be approved; Rosalinda seconded. **The motion passed.**
4. **Business Arising from past minutes**
 - a. **Update on Greening Committee/Croft laneway project** – Wolfgang provided details via email about the group's plans to proceed with greening measures despite not being selected for city funding. The board confirmed that \$864 in previously allocated funds can be used for this project, but a formal budget and presentation are required. There was some discussion about potentially including the northern part of Croft Street in the project, but it was clarified that the original funds were raised specifically for the area south of Harbord. Before spending all the funds need to check if other might want money. Also look into whether permeable pavement can be plowed and if this merits more investigation. Wolfgang is in touch with Jane Purdue for advice.
 - b. **Update of bioswales** – ongoing issues with these. On Harbord there is garbage in them and the city dumps soil on top. As a part of the College upgrade Rainscape TO, which is a private company, has been subcontracted to look after them. A neighbourhood group is having a walk around this Thursday to get ideas and work with the city to address concerns about proper installation and maintenance. Sue mentioned issues with soil and trees at the new residence on Sussex and is waiting for a response from Daniels.
 - c. **Update on Bagpipe lane** – FM sent a photo of the extent of the dumping. The area needs attention, but it's complicated by the fact that part of the problematic area is private property. Rory reports is not optimistic anything will happen from the city. Dianne Saxe's assistant is focusing on it.

- d. **Update on 60 Borden** - Anne provided an update on the situation at 60 Borden, a multi-tenant dwelling with a history of mismanagement. Alana Jones, who had been managing the building and improving conditions, has been locked out by the landlord Mabel due to a rent dispute. The building is currently in a state of limbo, with legal issues and city involvement. A neighborhood group is actively monitoring the situation and advocating for the residents' well-being. The board is waiting for further developments and will offer support if needed.
- e. **Area reports**-Sue gave an update on planning and development issues. There was discussion about the changing role of the Residents Association in light of recent developments in city planning and governance. Traditional methods of engagement are becoming less effective. Concerns were expressed about the city's approach to increasing housing stock, noting that rules are being disregarded in favor of intensification. An upcoming council meeting will be discussing sixplexes and increased building heights. It seems that efforts to influence decisions through letters to MPs or participation in zoning processes are ineffective, as authorities seem to disregard community input. Community organizations are being marginalized in various processes. Sue and Rory discuss the difficulty of fighting against provincial directives that override local input, particularly regarding University of Toronto development. The group briefly discussed an upcoming meeting of Friends of Queens Park North, with Sue suggesting board representation without formal affiliation. Traditional methods of engagement are becoming less effective. We may have to consider shifting focus to higher-level advocacy and policy issues rather than individual development cases, while also recognizing the need to revisit and potentially revitalize their committee structure to better represent the neighborhood's interests.

Gus discussed the patio application for Maven restaurant, explaining the standard protocol for patio approval, including restrictions on music and service hours. Concerns were raised about trees that were supposed to be planted in the patio area. Cathy brought up a recent noise issue with Parquet restaurant. She and Mario, the landlord, will monitor the situation with Parquet and take action if necessary.

Anne shared some positive news about the installation of speed humps on Borden and Lippincott streets next summer.

5. New Business

- a. **Flags for Canada Day** – a resident suggested encouraging the neighbourhood to put up flags for Canada Day. Anne will promote it on Facebook and the e-blast to encourage participation.

6. **Recording of Correspondence for the record.** A letter to Ensure Bill 17 ensures protection of energy efficiency and affordability was circulated to HVRA online. Moved by Sue, seconded by Gus that HVRA sign the letter. **The motion passed.** Letter at: <https://taf.ca/save-green-development-standards/>
7. **Adjournment:** Gus moved that the meeting be adjourned; seconded by Susan M. **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 16
October 21 (AGM)
November 18
December 16