



MINUTES OF DELEGATES' MEETING

September 24, 2008
OWN CO-OP, 115 The Esplanade

Executive Members in Attendance:

Secretary: Matthew Raizenne, Longboat Residents Assoc
Treasurer: Bruno Leps, Market Square
VP External: Lumumba Wolde-Gabriel, 140 The Esplanade
VP Internal: Jacquie Williams, Old York Tower
At Large: Dan O'Leary, 15 Scadding
At Large: Wallace Simpson, Crombie Park
At Large: Ronny Yaron, Woodsworth Co-op

Executive Member Regrets:

President: Suzanne Kavanagh, 65 Scadding

Voting Delegates in Attendance:

Leo Agosto, Marketview Housing Co-op
Cherril Baker, David B. Archer Co-op
Patricia Bear Claw, Cathedral Court Co-op
Keith Bricknell, 7 King Street E., The Metropole
David Crawford, 135 George Street South
Karl Froehr, Windmill Line Co-op
Dennis Glasgow, The Wellington
Oleg Holowaty, 25 George Street

Glen Kim, MTCC 1606, Mozo
Emma McBey, OWN
Ron Monteith, Woodsworth Co-op
Sheri Russell, 31 Princess Street
Robert Sherrin, 261 King Street East, Abbey Lofts
Farhan Syed, King Street East, The Metropole
Connie Yang, OWN

Voting Delegates Regrets:

Kanishka Banerji, 18 Yonge Street
Richard Kwong, MTCC 1606, Mozo
Arlene Markow, Woodsworth Co-op

Associate Members & Guests:

P.C. Chazz Stern, 51 Division Community Response Unit
Sergeant Nancy McLean, 51 Division Community Response Unit
Dianne Forsyth, 65 Scadding St., St. Lawrence on-the-Park
Beverly Carr, 65 Scadding St., St. Lawrence on-the-Park
Darek Kocan, 168 King Street

Chung-ye Loo, 109 Front Street East
Loralie Olinyk, 65 Scadding Street
Ed Majchrowski, TCHC, 15 Scadding Street

Guest Regrets:

Valerie Joseph, Muriel Collins Co-op

Arllys Ponchuk, Recording Secretary

1. Registration and Refreshments

2. Meeting Starts – President Suzanne Kavanagh

Corporate Secretary Matthew Raizenne called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm, and chaired the meeting.

a) Opening Remarks

The Chair advised that President Suzanne Kavanagh sent regrets that she was unable to attend the meeting.

The Chair welcomed new members in attendance.

b) Approval of Agenda

Amendment: add under Other Business: a) Elections, b) Seniors' Centre

Motion: to approve the Agenda as amended.

Moved by: Karl Froehr

Seconded by: Patricia Bear Claw

CARRIED

c) Approval of Minutes

Motion: to approve the July 2008 minutes as presented.

Moved by: Wallace Simpson

Seconded by: Jacquie Williams

CARRIED

d) Executive Meeting Highlights: letters sent, naming of laneway, TTC King subway station

3. Bike Race Update

The Chair introduced Christina Bouchard, Cycling Events Organizer, Transportation Services, City of Toronto.

Christina reported on the professional Bike Race that took place in the neighbourhood on May 30. The bike race occurred during Bike Month, a City-wide campaign to encourage people to bike more. Team Symetrics won the race. There was tremendous TV and newspaper coverage of the race. Some spectators were frustrated by closure of road crossings but on the whole it was "a pretty good night out."

Christina invited feedback and asked the SLNA to endorse the event for next year.

Dennis Glasgow advised that this year the race allowed for only two pedestrian crossing points, but if held next year there will be four, one on each corner.

Corporate Secretary Matthew Raizenne reported.

The Executive has sent a letter to the Mayor addressing safety issues at the King Street subway station as footing is slippery in wet weather.

David Crawford has brought to the attention of the Executive that some laneways in our neighbourhood are unnamed. The Executive will be putting in an application to the City to name them.

Committees will recommence meeting this fall.

e) Announcement: 251 King Street East, Public Meeting

A public meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 6 regarding the proposed building development at 251 King Street East, at the southeast corner of King and Sherbourne Streets.

Robert Sherrin reported that a design review panel voted five to one for the Developers to redesign the proposed building. The plan covers every square inch of the site and goes as high as possible. The Developers could opt to 1) present a redesign proposal prior to or after the public meeting, or 2) by the deadline of November 20 apply to the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) for authority to proceed with the existing design.

In response to Matthew Raizenne, Christina Bouchard explained that a pedestrian overpass would be too expensive at this time but might be possible if the event grows or if a donor steps forward.

In response to Emma McBey, Christina explained that holding the race in downtown Toronto was appropriate in that attendees did not need to travel far to see the event, which supports Bike Month's premise of local commuting. Christina noted that it was ironic that the professional cyclists had to drive or fly here from far away.

In response to Karl Froehner, Christina stated that with the SLNA's support the event organizers would announce next year's race as an international event, and publicize it earlier so that international racers could participate.

For more information, see www.toronto.ca/cycling. Christina invited the community to contact her directly at cboucha@toronto.ca.

4. Toronto Waterfront Marathon

The Chair introduced Dennis Glasgow, Chung-yee Loo and Darek Kocan. Dennis reported that the three regularly meet to run in the neighbourhood. Residents are welcome to join them every Sunday at 8:00 am at the Market for an easy eight kilometer run.

This year they developed a map, a “Self-Directed Guide to Run, Walk & Roll” in St. Lawrence Market, Distillery District, and Corktown neighbourhoods. Dennis distributed copies of the map and showed a large posterboard version. Delegates applauded the initiative.

5. Police

VP External Lumumba Wolde-Gabriel referred Delegates to Keith Bricknell’s written CPLC-51 report, distributed at the meeting. The Chair introduced P.C. Chazz Stern and Sergeant Nancy McLean of 51 Division’s Community Response Unit.

Sheri Russell asked why so many police were in the neighbourhood today. P.C. Stern explained that a shooting took place about two hours ago on Yonge Street near Wellesley. One arrest has been made and guns were recovered. The police are searching for a couple more people.

Wallace Simpson asked about the status of continuing police access to residential buildings for patrols. P.C. Stern explained that buildings must resubmit permission in writing annually, for legal reasons.

Sergeant McLean advised that crime statistics are favourable at this time in part due to governmental funding for the Toronto Anti-Violence Intervention Strategy (TAVIS). TAVIS enables off-duty officers to take on extra work and go into areas identified as problematic. Keith Bricknell offered to email the Executive the Project Revival report to post on the SLNA’s website, so that Delegates can access statistics. He also referred Delegates to www.torontopolice.on.ca/statistics/crime_indicators.php.

Matthew Raizenne pointed out that Jarvis intersections are hazardous for pedestrians as the street is an access point to the Gardiner Expressway. He asked if police could do anything about it. Sergeant McLean advised that if multiple

The Chair thanked Christina Bouchard for her presentation.

Dennis announced the annual Toronto Waterfront Marathon, a run to raise funds for Dixon Hall seniors and youth programs. It takes place on Sunday, September 28 with a start/finish at Nathan Philips Square. There are cheering sections in each neighbourhood on the route. The SLNA’s is at Parliament Street and Lakeshore Boulevard. The SLNA’s cheering section will feature the Coppertones Rock and Roll Band, cheering kits, and refreshments. Marathoners pass the cheering section three times. \$6,000, \$1,000, and \$1,000 are awarded to the best cheering section, with funds going to the neighbourhood’s community centre. For more information, see www.torontowaterfrontmarathon.com.

complaints are received about one issue, the City can opt to undertake create an initiative to resolve the problem. For this issue, residents can call 51 Division and ask to speak to Traffic Services (city-wide department), or call Traffic Services directly to lay a complaint. The police act on various City initiatives generated throughout the year: ex. bike initiatives, school initiatives, etc.

Jacque Williams objected to the conduct of four patrons of a local pub who were a public nuisance all night one night on The Esplanade. A tenant phoned 911 and was told to contact a by-law officer. Sergeant McLean responded that members of the community who are made uncomfortable by any person’s behaviour can phone (416) 808-2222 and eventually police will arrive to deal with the problem.

Dan O’Leary asked how residents should deal with young teens out at night without supervision. P.C. Stern stated that the police can intervene only if the teen is in jeopardy. Keith Bricknell stated that under child protection legislation, people have an affirmative duty to report to Child and Family Services if you believe the child is somehow at risk, and that it is against the law for a child under the age of twelve to be unsupervised.

On behalf of a tenant in his building, Lumumba Wolde-Gabriel reported a call to (416) 808-2222 in which the dispatcher would not respond as the caller declined to give her name. Sergeant McLean stated that normally the dispatcher will forward the call to the police with a note that the caller asked to remain anonymous.

Sergeant McLean asked community members not to hesitate to call the police. "If you are second guessing something that seems fishy, call anyway Let the police determine whether it is nothing or something. We do great things because of you the community. You call us, we act on it. We're there for you."

P.C. Stern added: "We're in the neighbourhood walking and biking all the time. Stop us and let us know your concerns." The police are on rotation schedules but members of the community are here all the time and are the eyes and ears of the community.

Matthew Raizenne asked whether the police will carry tasers in 2009. Sergeant McLean spoke in favour of tasers. The public has seen only the negative side of tasers reported by the media. If the offender has a hereditary problem or health problem that could trigger an adverse reaction, that reaction is just as likely to occur during police intervention without a taser. Tasers are used only in response to aggressive behaviour, and they defuse the situation without injury to either the officer or the offender.

Delegates applauded the police report.

6. Recycling Best Practices: St. Lawrence-on-the-Park, 65 Scadding Avenue

The Chair introduced Bev Carr and Dianne Forsyth, members of MTCC 782's Green Committee, who described best practices within their building for recycling.

St. Lawrence-on-the-Park is a 251-unit condominium at the corner of Princess and Scadding Streets. On each floor it has garbage chute rooms, and at ground level it has a garbage and recycling room accessible from the street. The Green Committee was formed in 2007. Committee members accessed the City's website at www.toronto.ca/recycle and used many of the suggestions and services. Recycling initiatives included:

- ordering free posters from the City
- holding a Spring into Recycling Campaign to educate homeowners
- publishing plans in the condominium's newsletter
- having an information table at the building's Spring Fling event to hand out posters and newsletters and to discuss recycling initiatives and issues
- putting bins for recycling batteries, compact fluorescent lightbulbs, junk mail, and returnable liquor bottles in the mail room
- putting blue bins in the laundry room, party room, and kitchen
- providing signage for bins and directions to bins
- posting notices in the elevators, parking levels, and on bulletin boards as constant reminders to recycle

- developing a logo so that recycling information is immediately recognizable
- purchasing an additional recycling bin from the city for \$1,704.40, to accommodate the increase in recycling
- repairing the compactor so that garbage is now reduced from 8 to 4 bins per week
- encouraging people to flatten cardboard boxes and having staff flatten cardboard boxes when necessary
- creating a wishlist for a tri-sorting chute system to separate recycling, garbage, and organics into different bins; and for a system for recycling organic waste

Ronny Yaron advised that Woodsworth Co-op has both townhouses and a midrise building. Townhouses have free green bin pick-up service from the City. Townhouses are pairing up with people in the midrise building to share the green bins, at a cost savings to the Co-op on garbage.

Connie Yang invited Dianne and Bev possibly to speak at OWN's AGM, to "learn from each other." The Chair encouraged other buildings to do the same.

Robert Sherrin advised that any building with a mailroom can put red dots in the mailboxes as a notice not to receive junk mail.

The Chair thanked the presenters. Delegates applauded.

7. Follow-up with Volunteers who signed up for committees

Committees were posted on the SLNA website in the summer for Delegates and community members to volunteer. Matthew Raizenne gave an update on current committee membership, and described the roles of the committees:

A neighbourhood walkthrough committee conducts regular walkabouts to report dead trees, burned out streetlights, or other streetscape items in need of repair.

The Community Improvement Plan (CIP) is a large-scale program with the City to introduce improvements to the

neighbourhood's streetscape. The group will be meeting with the City this fall.

The By-law Committee will clean-up the by-laws, and in particular bring to Delegates a recommendation to amend the by-laws to specify what decisions the Executive can make independent of Delegates and what decisions require Delegates' approval.

The Membership Committee will work to increase membership in the SLNA.

The Smartliving committee will work on environmental, green initiatives.

Matthew distributed a sign-up sheet for interested volunteers.

8. Open Discussion: news from the neighbourhood, ie. 1 Church Street update

Ronny Yaron advised that she is developing a database of all the volunteers in the neighborhood and has 45-50 names to-date. She stated that hopefully people will be given a chance to do something they like to do that will fit their skills. She added that sometimes people like to do something completely different from their skill set. Ronny offered to keep people posted as new opportunities arise.

Matthew Raizenne reported that the City is organizing a by-law project team that is seeking feedback from residents in the city to questions regarding billboards, such as:

- should there be fewer billboards
- what type of sign should be prohibited
- what areas should be billboard-free
- what power should the City have to enforce the law
- how should the City maintain safety and environmental standards for billboards

Public meetings are being held tomorrow night at City Hall and late this week in Scarborough. To give feedback, email jonathan@publicspace.ca.

The Chair advised that Marcus Little, Chair of the Development Committee, will be invited to speak at the Delegates' meeting in October, and that Councillor Pam

McConnell has been invited to speak in October or November.

Dan O'Leary passed around a plaque awarded to the SLNA from the St. Lawrence Community Recreation Centre for the SLNA's donations to the children's soccer league organized by the rec centre. The plaque will be hung in the SLNA's office.

Dan O'Leary reported on gardening initiatives. There is a core group of gardeners that tend the Princess Park Garden, Orphan Garden, and other gardens in the neighbourhood. Dan proposed that the SLNA's committees can by being in contact with members of the community draw in more members. The gardening committee is considering fundraising. The committee has decided to invite all people who garden in the neighbourhood to attend an Adult Garden Group. The first meeting will be on Wednesday, October 15, 7:00 to 9:00 pm at the St. Lawrence Community Recreation Centre's Adult Lounge. For more information, contact Dan O'Leary, (416) 703-7491. Dan explained that the group could potentially handle bulk orders, give botanical group presentations, discuss rooftop garden greening, and evolve into several kinds of meeting groups.

9. Requests for Other Best Practices

As above.

10. Other Business

a) Seniors Group

Connie Yang reported. The new seniors' centre has no centre yet, but its program is starting to build. The centre is holding a workshop for seniors on volunteering, Tuesday, October 7, 10:00 am to 2:30 pm, OWN Meeting Room. To register, contact Connie at (416) 368-2417 or Ruth at (416) 368-2620 by October 1. Anyone 55+ years of age is invited to attend. The centre is receiving funding from the federal

government's New Horizons for Seniors Program for workshops such as this and for office equipment.

b) Fair Vote

Tim Rourke handed out leaflets promoting Fair Vote Canada. A referendum about a year ago achieved a 35% vote in favour of change which, while not enough to change the voting system, shows that there is sufficient interest to continue to campaign for change. A federal election is

taking place shortly. One party might achieve majority power with only about a third of the total vote. Tim stated that it's time to talk to politicians to say we want voting reform. For more information or to volunteer for Fair Vote Canada, contact www.fairvote.ca, or info@fairvote.ca, or (416) 410-4034.

In response to Tim, the Chair advised that the Executive is organizing an All-Candidates meeting for the federal election this fall, and will advise Delegates of the date and venue as soon as possible.

c) Community Garden

Ronny Yaron announced that a Delegate from 1 Church Street, Dan O'Leary and others are working on a garden project in back of OWN with the help of the City, donors, and volunteers.

A flyer was available at the information table inviting members of the community to attend a Garden Committee meeting on Friday, September 26 at Old York Towers to help choose plants for the community garden.

d) Commfest

Flyers were distributed for COMMFEST: Community Film Festival, September 26-28, 2008 at Rainbow Cinema.

e) Journalism Student

Chelsea Murray announced that as a Masters student in Journalism at Ryerson University, she is covering the St. Lawrence neighbourhood and the Distillery District neighbourhood this fall. Community members can contact her at chelsea.murray@ryerson.ca.

11. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:32 pm.

The SLNA acknowledges the St. Lawrence Market Complex for sponsoring this evening's refreshments, and OWN for hosting tonight's meeting.

The next Delegates meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 29 at 7:00 pm.

Corporate Secretary

President