



St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association Community Meeting

Held on Wednesday, May 29, 2024 from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Hosted on the Zoom Videoconferencing Platform

Meeting Agenda:

- Welcome, land acknowledgement
- TPS – 51 Division; Sgt Henry Dyck
- EV Chargers in multi-residential buildings – Michael Barkley
- Summer in the City – Robyn Posner
- Development Committee, part 2 – Suzanne Kavanagh
- Community Updates

SLNA President Stewart Linton welcomed over 60 community members and Delegates to the May 29, 2024 SLNA Community Meeting.

Stewart discussed various historical events which occurred on May 29th, including the first advertisement for James Pemberton's 'new' medicine, Coca-Cola, Bing Crosby's recording of "White Christmas", and the first ascent of Mount Everest by Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzig Norgay.

The land acknowledgement continued the exploration of the complex history of Indigenous-European relations in North America.

Toronto Police Service: 51 Division – Sgt Henry Dyck

Sgt. Dyck gave a brief review of crime statistics in the neighbourhood indicating that all 'Major Crime' categories are down in the recent quarter from one year ago; a very positive trend.

He invited all community members to two upcoming events:

- Quarterly 'Waterfront' NCO Meeting
 - St. Lawrence Community Recreation Centre: 230 The Esplanade, June 14; 6:00 PM
- 51 Division CPLC Open House
 - 51 Division: 51 Parliament Street, June 15; 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

EV Chargers in multi-residential buildings – Michael Barkley

Stewart introduced Michael Barkley, a Market Square neighborhood resident, as the first keynote speaker. Michael shared his efforts towards creating a more energy-efficient and sustainable community, focusing on the installation of electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure. He detailed the process, costs, and potential complications of the installation process, emphasizing the value

of community engagement and co-operative efforts to lower costs. Michael highlighted the importance of first determining the electrical capacity of the building, using a qualified engineer throughout the process and the potential for grants to subsidize some of the costs.

Vendor Selection and Installation

The importance of selecting a qualified EV charging vendor was emphasized, with the recommendation to choose a local, experienced vendor with an open-source system. Different types and levels of charging stations were summarized (Class 1, Class 2, Class 3), including information about where and when each might best be used and some rough cost guidelines.

To begin the project, the guideline is to start with a minimum of 20 people for a cost efficient electrical panel installation, keeping in mind the inevitable need for additional chargers as demand grows. The complexities of the installation process were highlighted, including the need for wall space, Wi-Fi, and load sharing considerations. The cost of electricity is typically borne by the individual user, not the condo.

Discussion

Discussion included differences in implementing electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure in various types of residential buildings, the benefits of community input and engagement throughout, overcoming capacity issues, and leveraging government incentives. Attendees shared experiences and findings, noting that some buildings have completed their initial installations while others are in the planning process.

Links:

- Michael Barkley's Presentation: https://100075950-309721553533551180.preview.editmysite.com/uploads/1/0/0/0/100075950/240529_slna_community_meeting_ev_presentation.pdf
- Notes accompanying the Presentation: https://100075950-309721553533551180.preview.editmysite.com/uploads/1/0/0/0/100075950/240529_slna_community_meeting_ev_charger_notes.michael_barkley.pdf

Summer in the City – Robyn Posner

Robyn Posner announced that the St. Lawrence Market Neighbourhood BIA is being rebranded to Old Town Toronto BIA, with the launch planned for summer. She elaborated on summer events programs being planned for the neighbourhood, including those sponsored by the BIA and those sponsored by the St. Lawrence Market itself. Market Street has once again been pedestrianized for the summer, with the installation of new seating and the re-introduction of the Market Street stage being completed shortly. Several popular events are returning this year, including the Music in St. James Park concert series, Berczy Beats, Feast of St. Lawrence and Bard in St. James. A three-day Salsa on Market Street will be new this year.

Robyn emphasized the BIA's commitment to community engagement and noted that community surveys will be introduced this year to guide future programming.

Discussion

Robyn indicated that any new upcoming events will be shared through the newsletter and on posters. Stewart mentioned that the SLNA calendar function has been upgraded and encouraged

community members to submit their own events for addition to the calendar [Click the **SUBMIT AN EVENT** button at the bottom left of the SLNA home page: www.slna.ca]

Links:

- Old Town Toronto BIA events: <https://oldtowntoronto.ca/events>
- St. Lawrence Market Events: <https://www.stlawrencemarket.com/events>
- Salsa on the Street: <https://salsaintoronto.com/salsa-on-market-street/>
- Music in St. James Park: <https://oldtowntoronto.ca/music-in-st-james-park/>

Development Committee, part 2 – Suzanne Kavanagh

Stewart presented a neighbourhood map, and emphasized the importance of SLNA's Development Advocacy efforts, given the large number of current developments under construction and proposed. Suzanne reviewed the Development Committee's mandate and discussed the complexities of the city of Toronto's planning policies and their impact on neighbourhoods, highlighting the success of the SLNA in maintaining positive and constructive relationships with developers, City staff and the councillors' offices.

Suzanne presented an overview of the urban structure map of Toronto, highlighting the city's areas of intensification with a particular focus on the St. Lawrence neighborhood. She explained the city's development policies, particularly the tall building guidelines, and emphasized the importance of protecting the public realm in the current climate of ever increasing tower heights.

Suzanne emphasized the development committee's stance being fair but firm in negotiations with developers and reported that the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association has been granted full party status at the OLT for a number of files 'for the purposes of mediation' and most recently on one file for the 'settlement conference'. These are very positive developments, putting SLNA *inside the tent* where there is the greatest opportunity for its voice to be heard.

She then touched upon the proposed development at 110 Adelaide and the recent public consultation, on emerging discussions with George Brown College about the longer term potential for redevelopment of its St. James Campus properties, and the eventual development on the Dominion Public Building site by Vancouver-based Larco (on hold awaiting the completion of CIBC Square, Phase 2). Concerns about potential traffic issues were raised, which Suzanne addressed, assuring the community that any traffic issues would be managed.

Finally, Suzanne illustrated some of the Development Committee's accomplishments with photos of the new North Market (green roof), 88 Scott Street's Wellington St. frontage (expanded public realm), the new privately owned, publicly accessible space (POPS) along 177 Front Street's frontage on The Esplanade (a park-equivalent space) and the Google building at 65 King St. E. (heritage preservation and celebration).

Discussion

Suzanne responded to a question about the timing for Market Lane Park redevelopment and mentioned the efforts to improve the pedestrian connection between the Park and Market St. across Front Street. She also addressed Donna's query about retail units in condo buildings, confirming ongoing discussions to potentially enforce smaller units for more local businesses, although she noted this was a complex issue. There was discussion of the need for more business

variety in the area, the development of supportive retail strategies and the refurbishment of David Crombie Park.

Links:

- City of Toronto Application Information Centre: www.toronto.ca/city-government/planning-development/application-information-centre
- David Crombie Park Revitalization: <https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/planning-development/construction-new-facilities/improvements-expansion-redevelopment/david-crombie-park-revitalization-design/>
- SLA Report on David Crombie Park: <https://www.sla.dk/cases/david-crombie-park/>

Community Updates:

Macy Parakh from Councillor Moise office (Macy.parakh@toronto.ca) thanks the community for the high level of participation in the Community Consultation for the proposed 110 Adelaide St. redevelopment; over 100 people were in attendance. Macy also announced two upcoming events:

- MyAccessToHousingTO Sign-Up Clinics! for anyone on the Rent-Geared-to-Income (RGI) Housing Centralized Waiting List (CWL) or needing help applying for RGI housing
 - May 30, 2024 at Regent Park Community Centre, 402 Shuter St.
 - 4:00-6:00 PM
 - May 31, 2024 at St. Lawrence Community Centre, 230 The Esplanade
 - 1:00-3:00 PM and 4:00-6:00 PM
- Downtown East Action Plan Forum
 - June 5 at Central Neighbourhood House, 349 Ontario St, 6:00-8:00 PM

Link: <https://www.chrismoise.ca/events>

The next Remarket is being held June 12 and 13 at the St. Lawrence Market tent, 125 The Esplanade.

- donations: June 12 and 13
- FreeMarket: June 12, 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM
- Repair Café and CultureLink Bike Hub: June 13, 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM
 - last registration at 2:00 PM

SLNA's Canada Day Celebration returns on July 1 in St James Park. Bring your family and a picnic and spend some time with us. Happy Canada Day!

- Entertainment - Back by popular demand: Sue & Dwight (local troubadours), Alan Cohen Quartet (Jazz), Cada Family (Indigenous Dance and Stories) Adam Bunch (History talk and Heritage walk)
- New this year - Kunle (African Singer as heard on Market Street), Wayne Neon and the Amazing Tubular Trio (our very own sound engineer and friends), Kirill (Ukrainian Band).
- Activities: T-shirt painting, Face painting, Henna painting, TO's 1st PO, Giant Jenga and more!

Bring your own picnic and enjoy the day with your neighbours and local politicians.

Follow-up items:

- slides from the EV Chargers presentation and a background paper will be posted on the SLNA web site along with the minutes

- Robyn will provide updates on any added summer events in the neighbourhood and any additional programming for Market Street; updates will be circulated in the newsletter

Quick recap

[Editor's Note to Reader: The "Quick recap" paragraph below is included for reader interest. This is Zoom AI's version of a recap of the meeting. It has not been edited. For those who were at the meeting, it provides a calibration of the current capabilities (or not) of Zoom's AI function in summarizing a two hour discussion.]

"The team discussed various historical events and current community updates, including the installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure and the rebranding of St. Lawrence Market Bio to Old Town Toronto BIM. They also discussed the complexities of urban development, the importance of community engagement, and the role of the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association in maintaining relationships with the city. Lastly, they addressed plans for Market Lane Park and the pedestrianization of Front Street, as well as the development of a retail strategy and the refurbishment of David Crombie Park."