

SLNA DELEGATES MEETING

Wednesday, February 25, 2004

NORTH MARKET, St. Lawrence Market Complex

Executive Members in Attendance:

President: Nancy Sheppard, 65 Scadding Avenue V
V.P. External: Cam Miller, King George Square V
V.P. Internal: Georgette Harris, St James Condo V
Treasurer: Frank Burns, Longboat Res. Assoc. V
Secretary: Pam Geirman, Windmill Line V
At Large: Joan Campbell, Market Square V
At Large: Dwight Peters, 25 The Esplanade V

In Attendance:

Cherril Baker, David B Archer V
Barbara Bell, Woodsworth Co-op V
Delano Brown, Marketview Co-op V
Philip Conlon, David B Archer V
Stig Harvor, La Place St. Laurent V
Aurie Hensman, 160 Frederick St V
Ewa Jarmicka, Harmony Co-op Homes V
Bob Kemp, Pilot Place V
Helen Marangos, Family Action Network (FAN)
V
Emma McBey, O.W.N. V
Frank McLean, 25 The Esplanade V
Susan McLeod, Market Square V
George Millbrandt, Longboat Res. Assoc. V
Edward Nixon, Windmill Line Co-op V
David Sangaraille, La Place St. Laurent V
Alan Seymour, Longboat Res. Assoc. V

Arlyss Ponchuk, Recording Secretary

Michelle Buckley, Pam McConnell's Office G
Jason Lisenchuk, George Smitherman's Office G
Frank Clarke, Bill Graham's Office G
Arthur Beauregard, Parks & Rec G
Darrell Vossen, Parks & Rec G
Susan Andinon, Project Co-ordinator, St James
Garden G
Wendy Shearer, Landscape Architect, St James

With Regrets:

Ron Monteith, Woodsworth Co-op V
Paul Smith, 65 Scadding Avenue V

Garden G
Michael Shapcott, Toronto Centre NDP G

V = Voting Delegate, N = Non-Voting Delegate, G = Guest

1. Welcome & Round Robin

Nancy Sheppard called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm. She introduced herself and chaired the meeting. Nancy welcomed the following people: Michelle Buckley, the new representative from Pam McConnell's office; and Michael Shapcott, recently elected as the Federal NDP representative for the Toronto Centre. A round table of introductions was conducted. Nancy passed around an attendance sheet.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Nancy made the following amendment:

- Approval of the minutes and Business arising from the minutes moved to follow St. James Cathedral Garden update.

Motion: to approve the Agenda as amended

Moved by: Alan Seymour

Seconded by: Cheryl Baker

Carried

3. Update from 51 Division

Nancy introduced Bob Kemp, and congratulated him on his recent election to the position of President, 51 Division CPLC.

Bob Kemp and Tom Kelly announced that 51 Division is moving to the new station at the end of March or in April, and that the station might open at the end of April. They toured the new station recently. Jurisdictional boundaries will change to include from Yonge to Bloor, but not Dundas Square (which will stay with 52 Division). With boundary changes will come an influx of new officers, some from 52 Division and some from other divisions. 51 Division will try to re-establish the old idea of neighbourhood policing, where the same officers will police the area, although at times they will be pulled away for special city events. This way the police will get to know the area better, and citizens will get to know their local police better. In response to a question from Cam Miller, the officers advised that officers assigned to cars will stay in the neighbourhood six months. Foot and bicycle patrol officers will be in the area as well for extended periods, depending on the total number of officers assigned to 51 Division.

Neighbours with complaints about police issues can contact Bob Kemp directly at (416) 363-5996. He will respond the same day if possible.

A great number of personnel are currently relocated to the St. James Division. The St. James neighbourhood has had as many as two to four break-ins a day recently. Their community houses 40,000 people in a couple of square blocks. The drug squad is dealing with the drug issue. Both uniformed and plain clothes officers are on site. This pulls officers away from their own divisions.

Crime in the city is down over 20% compared to last year for the same time period (January-February). Violent crime has gone down by a couple of percents. Auto theft, sexual assaults, and break-ins are significantly down. The figures for St. Lawrence Neighbourhood are not yet included in the statistics. "If you see something that catches your attention, please do call us," because if the police receive no complaints, then minimal staff will be assigned to the division.

Undercover officers haven't seen any drug dealing outside the Methadone Clinic on Frederick Street. Aurie Hensman of 160 Frederick Street advised the officers that she and her neighbours repeatedly see drug dealing directly outside the pharmacy that houses the Methadone Clinic.

Nancy thanked Tom Kelly and Bob Kemp.

4. St. James Cathedral Garden Update — Arthur Beauregard

Nancy welcomed Arthur Beauregard, of Parks & Recreation. He gave a slide presentation on the "St. James Park 19th Century Restoration Project."

The City received a \$200,000 donation from Joyce Stephenson-Coburn, to make improvements to the 19th century garden area within St. James Park, the only stipulation that a donor plaque be installed in the park. In 2002, City Council approved expenditure of the donation for restoring/repairing existing features, conducting improvements to the infrastructure, improving public safety and enjoyment, providing donor recognition, introducing new features that reinforce the 19th century gardens, and installing interpretive signage. The City also asked that the Garden Club of Toronto and St. James Cathedral be consulted. Georgette Harris, representing the SLNA, has also been consulted. The overall goal is to increase the interpretive and educational aspect of the garden. The City will also need to be able to maintain the garden at a level that the citizens expect.

An Advisory Committee was formed to develop priorities for project expenditures. The priorities: 1) heritage value of the park: restoration of existing garden features, 2) ongoing maintenance to ensure preservation, and 3) increase the profile of the garden, with embellishments such as an entrance trellis, sculpture, etc.

The committee created a proposal for companies to submit proposals for restoring the park. The successful applicant was Wendy Shearer, Landscape Architect, who specializes in heritage architecture and in horticulture. Wendy Shearer developed concept designs in consultation with the City Forestry Section and Culture Division, SLNA, etc. Parks & Recreation and Wendy Shearer first made a presentation to the Advisory Committee, and then met with the Garden Club of Toronto (an important stakeholder) who wholly endorse the project. Tonight they present their plan to the SLNA. The next stage is to tender the construction specifications. They

plan a fall construction schedule in order not to disrupt the public's summer enjoyment of the garden, with planting in Spring 2005, and the grand opening in Summer 2005.

Arthur Beauregard introduced Susan Anderson, Project Co-ordinator, City of Toronto. She introduced Wendy Shearer. Wendy passed out a copy of the plan and explained it.

Structural changes to the park have changed the horticultural needs of the park. Wendy has copies of old photos of the site for comparison. On the east side, construction has turned a sunny side of the garden shady. In some cases trees have died and have created sunny conditions. Some trees on the north side are at the end of their natural lifetime. As a result of several years of wear, some of the paved surfaces at the entrances are in need of repair. People take shortcuts into the garden from the west; the west side was originally a reclusive area, and there was no entrance intended. The soil, although regularly fertilized, needs renewal. Some of the beds over time have changed in shape and size, in a general evolution from the original planting design. Focus was lost in terms of the 19th century garden. The site demonstrates well a geometric layout, but there are many other themes from the 19th century that could also be represented. There is no aeration system. The fountain is noncirculating.

The fountain and central access walkway will remain unchanged. The main display beds will expand on the existing circular theme, and will be the main focal point of the garden. The surrounding beds present an opportunity to display, with more attention to vertical elements, plants appropriate to the mid 19th century. The shaded eastern side will look like the native woodland seen at settlers' first arrival. Along the sunny King Street side, a cottage garden will be planted, a style from the early century when plants associated with homes of early settlers were grown in more informal arrangements. A different pedestrian circulation system is designed for the west area, with a walkway circling around a central herb garden, the small cherub statue at the center. Just to the east of that will be paisley beds, typical of the 19th century. The hedge enclosing the garden will be of a uniform size, to give the garden a more symmetrical shape.

A programmable irrigation system will be installed, controlled from a central area. A recirculating system for the fountains will be installed to reduce water usage. Nighttime lighting will be added; currently ten lights are installed around the perimeter of the garden, some blocked by trees' growth.

Cam Miller asked that the lighting shine down, not up and down. Wendy responded that the lighting would be period lighting with a glare shield to force light down and not into people's eyes.

Nancy thanked Arthur Beauregard, Susan Anderson, Darryl Vossen, and Wendy Shearer for their attendance tonight and their presentations.

5. Approval of January 28, 2004 Minutes

Philip Conlon amended page 3, #6, City Update, last paragraph, second sentence: "Pam has been facilitating a discussion to find a resolution, although closing a specific drug dealing site is not

strictly speaking the city's jurisdiction." He asked to specify that the Methadone Clinic is a Ministry of Health jurisdiction.

Aurie Hensman pointed out that delegates were not designated by name in the minutes. Nancy responded that delegate name cards were not used at the last meeting, because of the unfortunate meeting room arrangements.

Motion: to approve the January 28, 2004 minutes as amended.

Moved by: Cam Miller

Seconded by: Philip Conlon

Carried

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

7. City Update

Nancy introduced Michelle Buckley. Michelle announced that she just started work this week, taking over the responsibilities of Jennifer Laidley. Nancy suggested that delegates might give Michelle questions to carry back to Pam McConnell.

Georgette Harris asked Darryl Vossen for an update on lighting on the perimeter of St. James Park. Darryl responded that the lighting is part of an Ontario Works Project. In Crombie Park, six new light standards have been added, and the patio has been repaired at the west end of the park by Jarvis Street. The funding available for that park was around \$39,000, and work is being tendered. In Market Lane Park, bench arms were repaired; lighting was considered, but will be too expensive. Funding designated for lighting in the park will be used in Crombie Park or St. James Park, to prevent them from going over budget. In St. James Park, new lighting will be installed on the roof of the gazebo to point northeast and southwest, and an additional five post lights will be installed this year, separate from the formal garden project.

Nancy thanked Michelle Buckley for her presence tonight.

8. Update from Bill Graham's Office—Frank Clarke

Nancy welcomed Frank Clarke. Frank congratulated SEDERI for funding they received from Human Resources Development for the Old Town Labour Market Connections 2004. Bill Graham will be present for the project launch, which will be held February 26 at St. Lawrence Hall, third floor, 7:00pm, free admission.

The Mayor's summit on affordable housing is also held tomorrow, February 26, at City Hall, around 9:00 am and continuing into the afternoon. Major housing funding is being announced by the federal and provincial governments. Bill Graham will be meeting with the Mayor to discuss how the federal government can support the City. They have already provided GST relief for home buyers.

Michael Shapcott asked Frank to bring to Bill Graham a concern that Dennis Mills is not consulting with communities regarding proposed changes. Delegates and government representatives shared knowledge of correspondence with Dennis Mills, but generally agreed that he was focusing on reports already issued to make his decision. In response to a question from Stig Harvour, Frank said that Dennis Mills' recommendation is only one variable in the Prime Minister's decision, and that Dennis Mills has no further mandate beyond this assignment.

Stig Harvour asked if the occasion of Dennis Mills' announcement this Friday, 10:30am at Weston Harbour Castle, is open to the public. Frank offered to phone to find out.

Nancy thanked Frank Clarke.

9. Update from George Smitherman's Office—Jason Lisenchuk

Nancy welcomed Jason Lisenchuk. Jason reported that George Smitherman's office has discussed with Pam McConnell's office the Methadone Clinic on Frederick Street. The Province decided to take the lead on this initiative. Todd Ross, Jason's boss, responsible for intergovernmental issues, will co-ordinate the effort. They spent the last few weeks doing fact finding, to determine jurisdiction and possible remedies.

So far Todd Ross has spoken with the manager, not the owner, of the pharmacy. Todd Ross wants to convene before the next SLNA meeting a meeting of: concerned residents, a representative from the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, representative(s) from 51 Division, Dr. Phil Berger (an expert on the subject of how to properly dispense methadone through a pharmacy), and the management and owners of the clinic as appropriate.

The Province prefers not to close the clinic. They prefer that management follow safe practices. Jason emphasized that any pharmacist can dispense methadone. The only requirement set by the Ontario College of Pharmacists is that the pharmacist attend a workshop and fill out an application prior to doing so. This might be a policy or regulatory issue to be looked into. The College of Surgeons and Physicians of Ontario sets firm guidelines for doctors prescribing methadone. If doctors are mis-prescribing, the Province has recourse. If management is not willing to adopt more responsible practices, and the Province fails to convince the regulating bodies to change their current practices, a last resort is to ask the City to suspend the pharmacy's business license. But the Province prefers a peaceable solution.

Jason pointed out that no one wants a methadone dispensary in their back yard, but it serves a useful purpose—getting addicts off heroine, which is a worse problem. Any citizen who witnesses illegal drug dealing in the area should phone the police; law enforcement is a key step to this process. The Province aims to work effectively with police and residents, and to use powers at their disposal to ask management to act more responsibly and to provide more comprehensive services at that clinic.

Aurie Hensman thanked Jason for his in-depth research.

Philip Conlon pointed out that the location of the Methadone Clinic is a pedestrian dead zone, which encourages shady activities. Another traffic light at Frederick and Front to complement the one at George and Front would open up pedestrian traffic in the area. As this is a municipal issue, Jason did not comment.

Barara Bell asked if the clinic's clients are local residents. Aurie Hensman said they arrive in cabs and in cars, not from just locally.

Aurie Hensman said that high traffic time is 10-11 am daily, but that on Sunday the doctor arrives later, at noon, so people mill around in advance. The doctor gets \$80 per dose. The more people, the more money he makes, besides his practice. The government determines the site; owners have no say. The sign outside says "Pharmacy," but does not specify a unique or chain name. Police say this signage is illegal. Jason thanked Aurie for this information.

Jason explained that a person stable on methadone needs to drink it only once every day or two, so more restrictive clinic hours are possible as an honourable compromise. Also, clients should not be allowed to carry the drug outside the pharmacy. Aurie added that the doctor is legally bound to ensure that (ie. observe that) the patient takes the dose. Jason added that methadone can be deadly if taken by someone who is not already dependent on it, and must be consumed under strict supervision. Jason said he would research which doctors are prescribing methadone, as there are other clinics: in Scarborough and at CAMH on Russell Street.

Jason concluded that the Province would prefer to see a full service clinic, not just methadone distribution.

Nancy thanked Jason Lisenchuk.

10. Update re North Market Initiative—Alan Seymour

Nancy welcomed Alan Seymour, who spoke on behalf of the St. Lawrence North Market Re-development Initiative. He encapsulated his talk as "This is where we've been; this is where we are; and this is where we're going."

The primary mission of the group is to maintain the North Market's farmers' market. The initiative originated as a response to a plan to establish a condominium on the site, as presented to the SLNA four and a half years ago. At a question from Georgette Harris, Alan confirmed that if the group does not proceed with plans, the City could still "go its own way" with the site. Alan presented on posterboards his team's original plans for the architecture and more recent, modified plans. The current plan allows for use of the space week-round, not only for the farmer's market on the weekend. The market would include three floors: a main floor for the market, a mezzanine for offices, second floor space for trade or business center usage weekdays, and civic areas, and a top floor for a primary tenant, possibly for Imperial Oil. There would be three underground levels of parking. Hence a "three up; three down" description of the building. An enclosed hallway

would link the North Market to St. Lawrence Hall. With St. Lawrence Hall, the complete floor space would be 50,000 to 60,000 feet.

Alan described optional entryways to the underground parking. Jarvis and Front Street are extremely busy. A ramp on the west side of the building is not practical. Parks & Recreation are agreeable to traffic coming in off Jarvis just north of the building, off the park. Alan's group recommends parking access from Front Street.

Alan said the City put together a subcommittee last summer to study the North Market development, and produced a very different plan. The building proposed by the City was 1960's in design. Alan's group recommends a building that fits in with the heritage of the area, with brick exterior. The City agrees with the "three up; three down" concept, but proposes one level of parking, not three, with parking for trucks and customers built south of or underneath the South Market. A two block walk, Alan said, would deter customers buying heavy produce. The City is considering reserving office space in the building. That would reduce the economic benefit of the site to the neighbourhood.

At questions from Georgette Harris and Barbara Bell, Alan confirmed that more convention space is needed in the downtown core, despite the presence of the Metro Toronto Convention Centre, and that the plan allows for catering and in-house food preparation, or for eating at the South Market.

Alan reminded delegates that the SLNA agreed to raise a half million as a contribution from the community. He asked for input from the SLNA on whether to proceed with the current model, re: the overall design and look of the building (three up; three down, with a heritage look), and the parking options (Front Street access). He asked delegates to browse tonight the materials his group has produced, but said there are not enough copies for everyone. He added that Council's working committee will have a final report ready this or next week.

Joan Campbell suggested that delegate input be postponed until delegates can see Council's working committee's report, and until delegates can overview Alan's group's documentation. Nancy asked Alan and his team to synopsise the working committee's report for delegates before the next meeting.

Nancy thanked Alan Seymour.

11. President—Nancy Sheppard

a) Reminder re: March AGM

Nancy reported that next month's delegates meeting will be shorter to accommodate the AGM afterward, which is why tonight's meeting is "jam packed." She encouraged delegates to attend next month as quorum is crucial for the AGM. Four elected positions are open: President, Secretary, VP-Internal, and Director-at-Large. Nominees must be current SLNA delegates.

Board members can describe on request what each position entails. Nancy can email the by-laws out to interested parties on request.

12. VP Internal—Georgette Harris

a) Gala Update

Georgette announced that the Gala is April 23 at St. Lawrence Hall. Ticket sales have started as of today. Arrangements were made with the box office at St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts. Tickets are \$25 each, which includes a servicing fee. An ad will appear in the upcoming *Community Bulletin*. She added, please do not confuse the box office site with the location of the event.

Georgette presented the current budget for the Gala. The Gala committee is anticipating \$3,000 sponsorship funds to date. The event itself will generate additional revenue, from the bar, ticket sales, and the silent auction. Insurance in the past was covered under St. Lawrence Works, but this year must be paid separately. Other budget line items are similar to last year.

Motion: to approve the 2004 Gala budget

Moved by: Georgette Harris

Seconded by: Alan Seymour

Carried

Georgette redistributed Volunteer Recognition Forms, along with a list of past recipients. The deadline for nominations is March 15. People who have won an award already are eligible three years later for nomination again, for continued service to the community.

Dwight Peters and Emma McBey asked how Gala revenue will be allocated. Delegates discussed the options. Nancy stepped down as Chair to participate, and designated Cam Miller as Interim Chair. Dwight Peters suggested presenting the Rec Centre's seniors program to the SLNA at a future meeting.

Moved: that the proceeds from the 2004 Gala be allocated to youth initiatives, with a small percentage being allocated to SLNA volunteerism.

Moved by: Georgette Harris

Seconded by: Pam Gierman

Carried

Nancy resumed chairing the meeting.

b) Strategic Plan Presentation

Georgette Harris circulated a strategic plan, which was prepared at an Executive session in May 2003. It includes seven key ideas, with activities and time frames suggested for each:

1. Increase membership and improving member services.

2. Increase individual involvement.
3. Heighten the profile of the SLNA.
4. Enhance SLNA activities and events.
5. Improve and renew administration.
6. Improve meetings.
7. Foster safety and togetherness.

Motion: to adopt the strategic plan as presented by Georgette Harris.

Moved by: Ronny Yaron

Seconded by: Alan Seymour

Carried

Georgette pointed out that the strategic plan can be modified, but cannot be discarded, now that it has been adopted.

Ronny Yaron originally suggested that a motion to approve the strategic plan be delayed until the AGM so that more delegates could hear about it. She now encouraged the Executive to “pull out action items for next year.” Nancy offered that as past President in the coming year, she will ensure that the plan is brought forward. Frank McLean said that the concept of “first year, second year, third year” timeframes needs clarification as some aspects will overlap; the new executive will need to adjust the mix of activities.

13. VP External—Cam Miller

a) TTC Forum

Cam Miller announced that delegates can pick up TTC’s “Ride Guide” and Eneract’s “Green Guide” (a list of environmentally-friendly companies) on leaving tonight. He then reported that yesterday he attended, as SLNA’s representative, the Community Air press conference at City Hall. Community Air has learned that a secret land deal was put together for the foot of Bathurst Street (the location of the proposed bridge to the Island Airport). The Minister of Transport has recanted the Prime Minister’s assurance that the Tripartite Agreement would be respected.

Nancy reported that the TTC forum, held February 3, was not well attended, but that those present learned the TTC’s future plans for our area. Nancy thanked Cam for organizing the event.

14. Communications—Joan Campbell

a) Newsletter

Joan Campbell reported that the current issue of the SLNA’s newsletter has been published and copies are available for pick-up on the way out of the meeting. She asked delegates to distribute copies widely. Frank Burns added that more copies are available for people who do not have access to a photocopier. At a query from Barbara Bell, Joan said that the current issue will be

posted on the SLNA's website as an Acrobat document in a few days. Nancy offered to advise delegates by email when the newsletter is posted.

Joan asked for volunteers to work on SLNA communications. The group's next meeting is March 3.

15. New Business

a) Edward Nixon

Edward Nixon announced the SEDERI project launch at St. Lawrence Hall, February 26, 7:00 pm. SEDERI presents "A Project Launch Celebration for Old Town Labour Market Connections 2004."

16. Adjournment

Nancy reminded late arrivals to sign the attendance sheet. She asked delegates to fill out the Meeting Evaluation Form. The Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:10 pm.

The next delegates meeting, followed by the AGM, will be held Wednesday, March 31, 2004, at 7:00 pm.

Recording Secretary, Arlyss Ponchuk

Chair, Nancy Sheppard