



**MINUTES OF THE
DELEGATES' MEETING**
February 23, 2011
OWN CO-OP, 115 The Esplanade

Board of Directors in Attendance:

President: Suzanne Kavanagh, St. Lawrence on-the-Park
 Secretary: Jacquie Williams, Old York Tower
 Treasurer: Bruno Leps, Market Square
 VP Internal: Debra Corey, 230 King St. E.
 VP External: Loretta Allen, Cathedral Court Co-op
 At Large: Matthew Raizenne, Longboat Residents Assoc
 At Large: Dan O'Leary, 15 Scadding
 At Large: Cathy Waiten, The Indigo, 50 Lombard

Board of Directors Regrets:

Margaret McQuade – David B. Archer Co-op
 Connie Yang – O.W.N.
 Keith Bricknell – 7 King street East
 Abdi Nur – Muriel Collins Co-op
 Alan Seymour – Old York Tower
 Patricia Bearclaw – Cathedral Court Co-op
 Yanina Jazek - Woodsworth Co-op
 Catherine West – 1 Church Street
 Lene Anderson – 140 The Esplanade
 Marie Copov – 176 The Esplanade

Voting Delegates in Attendance:

Wallace Simpson - Crombie Park
 Wendy Devine - Windmill Line Co-op
 Shirley Lewis – 55 The Esplanade
 Joyce Arnold, 135 George Street S.
 Catherine Limbertie – 1 Church Street
 Cherril Baker – David B. Archer Co-op
 Sherri Russell – 31 Princess
 Elizabeth Ecker – St. Lawrence on the Park
 Mary McDonald – 25 The Esplanade
 John Wichelow – Windmill Line Coop
 Anna Wichelow – Windmill Line Coop
 Ian Campbell – Woodsworth Coop
 Lois Thompson – David B. Archer Co-op

Regrets:

David Crawford - 135 George Street S.
 Judith Nagata – King George Square
 Joan Campbell – Market Square – 80 Front Street E
 Brenda MacDougall – 25 The Esplanade
 Dwight Peters – 25 The Esplanade

Associate Members & Guests:

Bob Rae, MP – Toronto Centre
 Judy Gingrich – 230 King Street East
 Ronny Yaron – Woodsworth Coop
 Suzanne Smith, Recording Secretary

Tom Davidson - Councillor McConnell's Office
 Chris Drew, Glen Murray's Office
 Pat McKenzie – Market Square

1. Registration and Refreshments

2. Opening of Meeting

2.1 Opening Remarks

Suzanne Kavanagh (President) stated that she would be chairing the meeting and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2.2 Approval of Agenda

It was resolved to approve the agenda as amended. All were in favour and the **motion was CARRIED.**

MOVED BY: Cherril Baker
 SECONDED BY: Debra Corey

2.3 Approval of Minutes for January 26, 2011

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the Delegates' meeting held on January 26, 2011 as circulated. All were in favour and the **motion was CARRIED.**

MOVED BY: Keith Bricknell
 SECONDED BY: Matt Raizenne

2.4 Board Meeting Highlights

3. Bob Rae, MP

- All are welcome to come to the office
- Working to ensure there are affordable units left
- The First Parliament Site is a provincial issue and there is a federal concern. About to be a live issue as there is now a proposal to develop a large development (20 and 57 storey buildings) by the owners of the site. It is a site of architectural interest. Nothing has been done as yet. The owners could go to the OMB. Hoping the owners may entertain a swap with the City.
- Q. Aboriginal negotiations – \$5 billion was taken off the table, will that be put back?
- A. If Liberals are elected, yes they will put this back on the table. As a country, we are far behind where we need to be.
- Q. Could negotiate to have schools built.
- A. Yes, there has to be a viable economy.
- Q. Inability of First Nations to get credit. Is there a policy in place to assist with this?
- A. Each bank has a strategy for on and off reserve lending. Don't have a viable model yet for housing. Starting to look at 99 year leasing.
- Q. Is there a possibility of developing a dialogue about aboriginals and making it separate from political views?
- A. Yes, Mr. Rae would like to see this for many issues. The model is broken right now. Have to figure out the new model. We all share a responsibility for what has happened and what has not been done in the past. We have a series of communities across the country with little to no say in their development.
- Q. Housing is a recurring theme and today's family is defined differently. CMH had a strong role in development. We have been too poor to build more housing, yet the CMH has 3.5 billion in insurance fund. Why can't we use this to build?
- A. Mr. Rae believes there is some wariness about spending that much money on housing. No country in the world has a complete absence of monies for housing. Hope to be able to influence federal decisions in future to play a stronger role in housing.
- Q. Does the federal government have the power to involve us in war?
- A. No, that is not where the country is. Important to remember that there is a significant issue regarding survival of Israel and the Middle East. Other issue is that Palestinians do not have a sovereign country. Need to share in the view that Israel deserves to be a state and have security but also that Palestinians' have a state too.
- Q. Loss of Ontario employment equity act. Disgraceful unemployment rate for disabled. What is the position?
- A. Federal covers 10%, while Provincial covers 90% of the workforce. Federal government is going to get rid of the federal; employment equity legislation. Believe that the strongest argument against is the position of disabled people. Requirement that companies achieve targets. Better than nothing. Legislation needs to be strengthened. Most impact is at the Provincial level.
- Q. Highest rate of Multiple Sclerosis (MS) in Canada. Many people are leaving to seek treatment elsewhere.
- A. Kirstie Duncan, MP from Etobicoke has raised awareness of MS and needed treatment. Make sure that people who want treatment in Canada is available. Not a political decision, but a medical decision. Treatment is about care and follow up care. Treatment should be covered by OHIP if medically necessary. Need to put more money into research.
- Q. North Africa situation.
- A. No precedent for it. Remember, more than half the population in the Arab world is under age 25. Rate of unemployment among young people is high and level of education is higher than ever before.

Dysfunctional political systems, huge gap between rich and poor, in addition to technological advances. Handheld device is as significant as the Guttenberg revolution (printing press invention). This is changing everyone's perspective of what is happening. Armies and leaders do not give up power without a struggle.

- Q. Electoral reform position? What is your view on what has happened in Ontario?
- A. In favour hybrid representation. People like a degree of geographic representation. Don't think that pure PR is the way to choose MP's. Ontario should have a proportional number of MP's who are voted in by the people. Mr. Rae advocates for electoral reform. The Premier has to take ownership of this.
- Q. China demographics; there are 25 million young, highly educated males in China without females.
- A. Different demographics because of the one child rule, therefore the demographics are quite different. There are more older people in China today and this is their demographic challenge. Ultimately democracy is a kind of government that people can give their assent to more than any other, but people need to reach this conclusion on their own.
- Q. Students no longer read. Confused by leadership in the Liberal party. Impressed by M. Ignatieff in the eighties, but now seems to be muffled away.
- A. No one is muffling him away. Politics is very different than having your own television program and he now needs to compete for his own 30 seconds in the sun. There will be a greater opportunity for M. Ignatieff in an election. People are less interested in politics than ever and low voting turnouts.
- Q. Crime comes up in elections. We don't get it right. What is the right use of dollars to enforce the laws?
- A. The crime rate is a function of how many young men there are between 14 and 25. This determines the rate of crime. We have a lower rate of crime. Just putting people in prison does not solve the problem. Opposed to legislation that increases the level of incarceration. Need more police, need to break up gangs, go into schools. Don't need changes to the criminal code. Need to enforce laws and prevent crimes from happening. Big issue for Break & Enters is booze and drugs. Many criminals have serious mental health issues. Need addiction and treatment programs.
- Q. Stephen Lewis Response to riot at Yonge & Dundas.
- A. We have more diversity on police force, more recognition of social issues regarding crime. G20 was not exclusively a function of Toronto police. The last five years, have gone backwards. No intelligent discussion and need to fight back on this issue. Going to have dramatic effect on costs.
- Q. Guaranteed annual income and the best way to get it in place?
- A. Have discussed this. Conceptually the idea has merit. It is a Federal/Provincial issue. This is not an easy issue. How much would everyone receive? There are many issues to consider. Still need housing and jobs. Multifaceted problem.
- Q. Would you restore Performing Arts Abroad program?
- A. Yes, met with Canadian Arts Alliance this afternoon. Need to have a presence in the world so that our values and our voice is heard.
- Q. Research states that disparity of income can cause a decline in a country. Consider good and bad taxes.
- A. Possible to consider taxes. Allowed this to happen without any serious discussion. Even in the federal government, there are some positions that are paid very high. Mr. Rae shared that he makes \$160K as an MP. The disparity in company salaries now is much higher than ever before.
- The SLNA has been working with Bob Rae's office to be recognized. Happy to hear that the neighbourhood is being considered to be designated as a historic district.
- The delegates thanked Mr. Rae for his time.

4. Alan Seymour

- Call for Nominations is on the website
- There are two vacancies – B. Leps and D. O'Leary will not run again
- Please nominate yourself or another delegate, the nominated delegates must sign the form
- To be eligible to participate all fees must be paid in full by March 1, 2011, A. Seymour requested a list of all paid up members from B. Leps.
- Forms can be mailed or hand delivered to A. Seymour.
- List of who has not been paid will be sent out.

5. Other Business

- The SLNA AGM will take place in March and the speaker is Chris Hume
- Sunday, Feb 27 – 1 Church Street – Black History Month Celebration dance. Notice to be sent via email.
- Premiers of NB and NS – Feb 24 at St. Lawrence Market – link will be sent out so please vote to designate Bay of Fundy one of the seven wonders of nature
- Tom Davidson:
 - The Esplanade sewer construction project delays in funding, now going to begin in spring. The BIA is connecting with staff to discuss streetscape and timing to minimize impact
 - Debate on capital and operating budgets in taking place now. This year is not the year for budget cuts. Able to balance the budget from surpluses in future years. One cut is being made to priority community centres. St. Lawrence is not one of them. Classes for adults will have to be paid for. There is a petition going around and is available on the Pam McConnell.ca website to support agreements not to cut funding.
 - First Parliament Site: Car wash site owned by the Bresslers. There have been efforts led by the Province to secure a deal which have not been accepted. The Bresslers have now submitted a development application with a public plaza on the lands already owned.
 - Q. Could the City and the Province expropriate the property?
 - A. It is possible, but the cost is much higher than through a land transfer.
 - Q. Greyhound site just sold for \$15 mil. Is this a precedent?
 - A. That is what this application is about. The application is about the fact that the Bresslers believe that the property is worth a lot in development potential. Working with Glen Murray's office to seek a solution.
 - Q. Has the site been designated historical?
 - A. Not accepted on a technical level and Mr. Rae is pursuing this.
 - Seniors Centre – The Burczy Condominium secured senior centre for five years. Building is now being constructed. Looking for a longer term space which will be in the North Market space. Will take a cash out option to fund and provide amenities in the North Market.

Seniors Centre:

It was resolved to support the decision to accept the cash out option from the Burczy Condominium for the seniors centre and support the move of the development of a senior's centre of at least 90 square metres to the North Market. All were in favour and the **motion was CARRIED.**

MOVED BY: Cherril Baker
 SECONDED BY: Matt Raizenne

- Chris Drew
 - Pam McConnell and Glen Murray met this week. They are developing a strategy based on the community's views. Assembling a team to do a detailed analysis to determine what opportunities exist. Three levels of government are working on the protection of this site.
 - Ontario Heritage Trust now has occupancy of the building and will be part of the bicentennial of the war of 1812 next year. Will keep you updated and let you know what may be needed from you.

6. Adjournment

There being no further business, it was resolved to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

The next Delegates meeting and the Annual General Meeting will be held on March 30, 2011 at 7:00 pm.

Secretary

President



LIST OF MOTIONS

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MOVED BY: Cherril Baker
SECONDED BY: Debra Corey

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MOVED BY: Keith Bricknell
SECONDED BY: Matt Raizenne

3. Seniors Centre

It was resolved to support the decision to accept the cash out option from the Burczy Condominium for the seniors centre and support the move of the development of a senior's centre of at least 90 square metres to the North Market. All were in favour and the **motion was CARRIED.**

MOVED BY: Cherril Baker
SECONDED BY: Matt Raizenne