

SLNA DELEGATES' MEETING

Wednesday, January 28, 2004

NORTH MARKET, St. Lawrence Market Complex

Executive Members in Attendance:

President: Nancy Sheppard, 65 Scadding Avenue V

V.P. Internal: Georgette Harris, St James Condo V

*V.P. External: Cam Miller, King George Square V

*At Large: Joan Campbell, Market Square V

In Attendance:

Alda Arthur, OWN Co-op V

Cherril Baker, David B Archer V

Barbara Bell, Woodsworth Co-op V

Alice Briesmaster, New Times Sq 2 V

Philip Conlon, David B Archer V

Dorothy Creaser, Old York Tower V

Stig Harvor, La Place St. Laurent V

Aurie Hensman, 160 Frederick St V

Ewa Jarmicka, Harmony Co-op Homes V

Lorna Kingston, Crombie Park V

Emma McBey, OWN Co-op V

Ron Monteith, Woodsworth Co-op V

Edward Nixon, Windmill Line Co-op V

Terry Pennock, New Times Sq 2 V

Paul Smith, 65 Scadding Avenue V

Michael Waring, New Times Sq 2 V

Connie Yang, OWN Co-op V

Ronny Yaron, Woodsworth Co-op V

Arlyss Ponchuk, Recording Secretary

Pam McConnell G

Jason Lisenchuk, George Smitherman's Office

G

Dugal Campbell, 80 Front St G

Robin Hart G

With Regrets:

Jim Dalziel, 65 Scadding Avenue V

Manon LePaven, Old York Tower V

Frank McLean, 25 The Esplanade V

George Millbrandt, Longboat Res. Assoc. V

Alan Seymour, Longboat Res. Assoc. V

Treasurer: Frank Burns, Longboat Res. Assoc.
V

At Large: Mohammed Hoque, New Hibret
Co-op V

At Large: Dwight Peters, 25 The Esplanade V

Frank Clarke, Bill Graham's Office G

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

1. Welcome & Round Robin

Nancy Sheppard called the meeting to order at 7:11 pm. She introduced herself and chaired the meeting. A round table of introductions was conducted. Nancy then passed around the attendance sheet.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Nancy made the following amendments:

- Agenda item 5 will not be addressed tonight. 51 and 52 Divisions sent regrets.
- Pam O'Connell will be arriving late, so agenda item 6 will be deferred to later in the meeting.
- Agenda item 7 will not be addressed tonight. Frank Clarke sent regrets and requested a copy of tonight's minutes. He asked Nancy to forward to him from delegates any issues to raise with Bill.
- Agenda item 9 will not be addressed tonight. Alan Seymour sent regrets, as he is ill.

Amendments to Agenda item 12. New Business:

- Stig Harvour added a) Dennis Mills' Appointment to Review the Waterfront Plans
- Cam Miller added b) TTC Forum
- Ronny Yaron added c) Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation
- Alice Briesmaster added d) Rec Centre Update

Motion: to approve the Agenda as amended

Moved by: Dorothy Creaser

Seconded by: Cherril Baker

Carried

3. Approval of November 26, 2003 Minutes

Motion: to approve the November 26, 2003 minutes as written.

Moved by: Joan Campbell

Seconded by: Cam Miller

Carried

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

Ronny Yaron announced that the Gardiner-Lakeshore Taskforce is under review and might be cancelled. The Mayor is reviewing all the committees. Ronny will keep SLNA delegates advised.

5. Update from 51 and/or 52 Division

Deferred.

6. City Update—Pam McConnell and/or John Argue
Nancy welcomed Pam McConnell.

Pam announced that her office has been tracing exact expenditures on safety lighting, to determine what has been completed, what has received allocations, and what funds remain. Temporary lights installed around Crombie Park will be removed in the next twelve weeks. The permanent replacements will be more in keeping with existing landscaping. Little work has been done in St. James Park. That's the next piece of the work to be done. Pam offered to do an informal walk-through in early spring with Lucy and a couple of the SLNA's executive members, to ensure that all the improvements requested are completed and that no "dark alleys" remain unaddressed.

Pam said her office is also looking at parcels of land potentially undergoing development within which green spaces should be reserved. She asked Nancy to invite the new Planner and Greg Linton (the past Planner) to an upcoming SLNA delegates' meeting for a general discussion. A Development Committee is in place; there are many issues to address.

Goodwill is working with the Development Committee. They want to sell their property. They don't want their trucking operation in the middle of Jarvis Street, and don't want to continue working on a site that has five or six levels. However, they do want to retain a store in the downtown community.

The development proposal for the first post office site has not yet been completed, but suggestions have been gathered. The whole area north between King and Queen Street is becoming prime property for developers. A residence for students will be built for George Brown College. SAS hasn't yet begun their building, but will. Developers have expressed interest in parking lots toward the south.

Regarding the airport bridge, Pam said the City could only tell the Port Authority and the Government of Canada that they weren't interested in the tri-partite agreement and didn't want a bridge. The Port Authority signed an agreement in December with the "Fast Ferry". Paula Fletcher and Pam McConnell are considering setting up an informal meeting between the Port Authority and surrounding area associations, including The Distillery, SLNA, etc., to encourage the Port Authority to hear the opinions of this neighbourhood.

Pam said the meeting with the Mayor went well, regarding budget initiatives and citizens' priorities. David Miller has not yet announced a synopsis of what he's heard throughout the city. That information, when it is available, will be posted on the City web site.

There are plans to close the Market Gallery. There will be deputations on Monday from the community, who will be coming forward to say "don't do this". Pam is considering options for how a community group might work with the gallery to produce a more comprehensive program and use of space.

Pam is trying to increase opportunities for citizens to be heard by the Police Services Board, particularly on budgeting and policing priorities. She said citizens want officers who are seen and available in our communities. That is a budget and allocation issue which she will continue to work on with the Chief and the citizens. She hopes to get past crisis management and develop preventive management. The vote was not passed for citizen delegations and deputations of the budget, because the budget was already approved and sent back to the Police Services Board. Kyle Rae is willing to take a delegation to the committees and meetings where the decisions are being made. Pam said that many arms' length boards are not accustomed to citizens coming forward, and that it takes initiative for citizens to find when and where the boards meet, in order to attend and provide input into their decision-making. Pam suggested that delegates aware of policing issues and interested in attending police meetings contact her to get involved.

Pam questioned whether to continue or cut off the MFP enquiry. Do we have enough information? Her office is relying on private information that a solicitor has, and will need to weight the merits of how best to proceed for accountability.

A delegate asked Pam for a response to a letter that called for action regarding drug culture affecting a local residence near a neighbourhood pharmacy. 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. She recommended that delegates identify hot spots and develop strategies specific to each site, because no one solution will resolve every situation. Nancy advised Pam that the SLNA has been working on this.

Dorothy commented on how quickly a four way stop sign was installed at Market Lane and The Esplanade. Pam advised delegates that although some allocations are in place, additional expenditures cannot be approved until the budget is finalized.

Delegates had previously expressed interest in a pedestrian friendly community group, and Pam assured delegates that that the committee will be put together.

A delegate congratulated Pam on moving police meetings to a site away from police headquarters, and asked if it were possible to hold evening meetings for the public to attend. Pam took this request under consideration.

A delegate expressed concerns about the "shabbiness and deterioration" of the St. Lawrence branch of the Public Library. Pam responded that her office is compelled to focus on stopping budget cuts rather than creating community enhancements. She is aware that the St. Lawrence community has moved beyond its first life cycle and is growing, and that the community's resources should be developed to meet community needs.

Nancy thanked Pam McConnell.

7. Update from Bill Graham's Office—Frank Clarke
Deferred.

8. Update from George Smitherman's Office—Jason Lisenchuk
Nancy welcomed Jason Lisenchuk.

Regarding the safe injection site, Jason has been in telephone contact with City Hall; he recognizes diversity of opinions on the issue amongst SLNA delegates. He announced that any delegates interested in attending a meeting planned for next week can contact him at (416) 972-7683. His fax number is (416) 972-7686.

Jason announced that George Smitherman's office is moving from 410 Sherbourne Street to 120 Carlton Street, Suite 413. The phone and fax numbers and email address will remain the same. Jason is taking a four day weekend at the end of February. The new location will open on March 2. Office hours will be extended until 5:30 pm weekdays, with the exception of Wednesdays, when the office will be open until 7:00 pm.

George Smitherman's office also plans to organize open houses at least twice a month, social occasions to draw residents into the new office. Jason added that they want to start bringing a laptop into various communities interested in hosting them on Saturdays and Sundays, to "bring the office out" to the community. Jason says they hope these measures will increase accessibility, and counteract the possible impression that the office is no longer accessible as it is moving from a street-front building to the fourth floor of a condo some distance away from its current location.

At Nancy's request, Jason agreed to email to her a notice of the upcoming move for distribution to SLNA delegates.

Nancy thanked Jason Lisenchuk.

9. Update re: North Market Initiative—Alan Seymour
Deferred.

10. President—Nancy Sheppard

a) Reminder re: March AGM

Nancy reminded delegates that the SLNA's AGM will be held the last Wednesday in March (March 31, 2004). The following positions on the Executive are open to nominations: President, VP-Internal, one Director at Large, and Secretary. Nancy asked delegates to attend the AGM, and to run for those positions. The AGM is open to the general public, but only SLNA delegates are eligible to stand for election.

Nancy will distribute to delegates a general notice announcing the AGM to the public. Joan Campbell will place a notice in the February issue of the SLNA's newsletter.

11. VP Internal—Georgette Harris

a) Gala Update

Georgette announced that the Gala date has changed from April 16 to April 23. Musical entertainment already booked include Bradley and the Bouncers, and Karen Manion. Bruce Bell has agreed to do one history presentation. Georgette asked delegates to ask around for items for the silent auction. Biagio's Ristorante will again cater. Sponsor packages have been mailed out. St. Lawrence Market will provide the hall and a financial contribution. The *Community Bulletin* will provide \$3,000 in ad space. The King Edward Hotel will provide a \$2,000 weekend package. The bar will be streamlined, as it has required many volunteers in the past. The St. Lawrence Centre for the Arts is under consideration as the site for ticket purchases. Georgette expects that tickets will be available as of Monday, February 23. Ticket prices will be \$25. Even at that cost, each ticket will be subsidized by 50% thru sponsorship participation.

Georgette reported that the Volunteer Recognition Form has been updated, and that she will hand out copies later this evening. An article published in the *Community Bulletin* last month mislead readers with its headline, which called for volunteers. The article was a request for people in the community to nominate colleagues for the awards. Therefore the deadline for nominations has been extended from February 1 to February 25.

Georgette said she will present a more detailed budget of the Gala at the next meeting. Because the event is scheduled six weeks later in the year this year than last year, the Gala Committee is easily on schedule.

A delegate pointed out that the sponsor letters target youth initiatives. She recommended that more funding be allocated to seniors. Georgette and Nancy responded that the package is positioned so that not all funds will go only to youth initiatives, but that funds can go to other initiatives, including support for volunteerism. Georgette proposed that seniors issues be addressed in the agenda for the next SLNA meeting.

George announced that she has updated the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood brochure. She passed around four draft copies. It was prepared in-house. She asked delegates to ask around for photographs to build an SLNA Archive.

Georgette reported that the Executive held a workshop last May on strategic planning, the results of which will be presented at the next Delegates' Meeting.

12. New Business

a) Dennis Mill's Appointment – Stig Harvour

Stig Harvour reported that the Prime Minister has appointed Dennis Mills to do a review of the plans for the revitalization of the waterfront, to be submitted in six weeks (ie. the end of February). Dennis Mills is the Liberal MP in the riding next to ours, covering part of the waterfront. Stig pointed out that public consultations have already taken place on plans prepared by the City and the Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation, and that there is an ongoing process to discuss these plans which involves the public.

Stig recommended that the SLNA send a letter to Mr. Mills, and a copy to the Prime Minister. The SLNA should urge Mr. Mills to familiarize himself with all the extensive waterfront plans and studies already in place, and to support the ongoing public process of consultation. He recommended appending a St. Lawrence Neighbourhood brochure.

Stig advised delegates that a February 12 meeting will put forward plans for the West Don Lands' precinct planning. The processes for both West Don Lands and East/Bay/Front have been ongoing since last fall.

Motion: to send a letter to Dennis Mills as per Stig Harvour's recommendations, copied to the Prime Minister

Moved by: Joan Campell

Seconded by: Cherril Baker

Carried

Cam Miller announced that on February 19 a policy/finance council meeting will look at TIACAC. Cam will convey more information on this meeting to delegates as he receives it.

b) TTC Forum – Cam Miller

Cam Miller asked delegates to spread the word that the TTC Forum is scheduled for February 3, and will be held at St. Lawrence North Market from 7:00-9:00 pm. It is open to the public. The purpose of the forum is not to complain about incidents that have happened on the TTC, but to give feedback on how to make the TTC viable and productive. Cam encouraged people to bring useful questions to the forum.

Cam has received notice from the Senior Planner at the TTC that he would like input from local citizens on alternatives that the TTC is considering. The TTC representative will also give a presentation, covering points in the notice that was sent to them. Cam will relay those questions to Nancy tomorrow for her to forward to delegates.

c) Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation – Ronny Yaron

Ronny Yaron distributed two handouts: "TWRC Backgrounder: Precinct Planning" and "Waterfront Corporation Selects Urban Design Team to Lead Precinct Planning in West Don Lands."

She explained that the precinct planning process started in November. Precinct planning covers everything to do with quality of life in a neighbourhood, including parks, public spaces and promenades, streets and blocks, building locations, transportation and public facilities. East/Bay/Front includes our neighbourhood, and covers Jarvis Street to Cherry Street, south of the tracks. A meeting will be held on February 12 at the Novotel Hotel, 5:00-7:00 pm for viewing the model, and 7:00-9:00 pm for the meeting. The meeting is open to the public.

Nancy will send a notice of the next West Don Lands meeting to delegates. West Don Lands is positioned between the mouth of the Don River and Parliament Street, south of King Street.

Ronny will give Nancy the address of a website to distribute by email to delegates.

Ronny advised delegates that planning is being done quickly; implementation will take much longer.

d) Rec Centre Update – Alice Briesmaster

Alice Briesmaster reported on the Rec Centre's first Open House, held on Saturday, December 13. Two hundred people attended. There were tours and demonstrations (including kayaks in the pool). The lobby was dedicated to P.J. Nicolson. His family was there, including his wife in a wheelchair. Some of his family came from the States. Pam McConnell gave a speech. George Smitherman was present. Tea was provided by seniors. Refreshments included sandwiches. The Rec Centre was full of people all day; there was a very good turnout.

Alice reported that the Senior's Christmas dinner was held the week before. Fifty-six tickets were sold. The room was full. Seniors enjoyed a turkey dinner.

Alice attended a volunteer recognition dinner at Christmas. She is on the Advisory Committee as a representative from the SLNA.

The Rec Centre has plans for new programs in the coming year. In one afternoon program, a dozen or so high school students cook dinner and eat together. The Centre is looking into the feasibility of installing a climbing wall along a long wall in the hallway. Some funds are available; some would have to be raised.

A delegate added that Seniors have organized a bridge and euchre games night, held every Thursday from 6:00-8:00 pm.

e) New Times Square – Alice Briesmaster

Alice Briesmaster reported that New Times Square (NTS) has won an appeal against the hotel conglomerate Skyline, re: short term rental restrictions in NTS. NTS also won the

right to have three out of five Board members as residence owners, so that Skyline representatives cannot control the Board. NTS is now negotiating to getting back legal fees owed by Skyline, and is starting an exit plan. Delegates congratulated Alice and NTS on their success, and Alice and Nancy thanked the community for their involvement: The SLNA, particularly George Smitherman's and Pam McConnell's offices.

13. Adjournment

Nancy reminded late arrivals to sign the attendance sheet. She asked delegates to fill out the Meeting Evaluation Form. She apologized that there was no time to make alternate arrangements for refreshments this evening, in light of the last minute relocation. Nancy also apologized for the short notice regarding the change of location. She reminded delegates to distribute the notice for the TTC forum and to attend the forum.

Georgette passed out the revised Volunteer Nomination Forms.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:37 pm.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 25, 2004, at 7:00 pm.

Recording Secretary, Arlyss Ponchuk

Chair, Nancy Sheppard