



MINUTES OF THE DELEGATES' MEETING

January 28, 2009

OWN CO-OP, 115 The Esplanade

Executive Members in Attendance:

President: Suzanne Kavanagh, 65 Scadding
 Secretary: Matthew Raizenne, Longboat Residents Assoc
 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

Voting Delegates in Attendance:

Loretta Allen, Cathedral Court Coop
 Cherril Baker, David B. Archer
 Patricia Bearclaw, Cathedral Court Coop
 Keith Bricknell, 7 King Street E. – The Metropole
 David Crawford, 135 George St. S.
 Elizabeth Ecker, 65 Scadding
 Karl Froehr, Windmill Line Coop
 Oleg Holowaty, 25 George Street
 Hawaa Kabbashy, New Hibret Coop Homes
 Catherine Limbertie, 1 Church Street
 Judith Nagata, 168 King St. E. – King George Square
 Marc Piccinato, Windmill Line Coop
 Farham Syed, 7 King Street E. – The Metropole
 Farriez Sharma, Marketview Housing Coop

Associate Members & Guests:

Stig Harvor
 Connie Yang
 Tom Davidson, Pam McConnell's Office
 I. Qureshi, 85 The Esplanade
 Maureen Walsh, 35 Scadding
 Brian Cishecki, 260 Adelaide St. E.

Darek Fiedukiewicz, Recording Secretary

Executive Member Regrets:

Treasurer: Bruno Leps, Market Square
 VP External: Lumumba Wolde-Gabriel, 140 The Esplanade

Alan Seymour, Old York Tower
 Becky Street, 109 Front St. E.
 Bob Parkin, 71 & 75 Front St. E.
 Shirley Lewis, 55 The Esplanade
 Arlene Markow, 133 Wilton Street
 Randy Bath, 15 Scadding Ave.
 Siobhan McLaughlin, 230 King St. E.
 George Milbrandt, Longboat Residents Assoc.
 Debra Corey, 230 King St. E.
 Alan Seymour, 85 The Esplanade

Regrets
 Terri Eitel, Old York Towers
 :

Robert Cisheski, 260 Adelaide St. E.
 Katrina Petrenko, EN Consulting

Regrets
 Ian Campbell, Woodsworth Coop:

1. REGISTRATION AND REFRESHMENTS

2. OPENING OF MEETING

2.1 Opening Remarks

Suzanne Kavanagh (President) acting as Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

2.2 Approval of Agenda

Ms Kavanagh announced that the City of Toronto Budget Presentation would be rescheduled to the next SLNA Delegates' Meeting.

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

MOTIONED BY: Karl Froehr
SECONDED BY: Cherril Baker

2.3 Approval of Minutes

It was resolved to approve the minutes of the Delegates' meetings held on October 29, 2008 as presented. All were in favour and the **motion was CARRIED.**

MOTIONED BY: Hawaa Kabbashy
SECONDED BY: Catherine Limbertie

2.4 Executive Meeting Highlights – Nominating Committee

Ms Kavanagh reviewed the Delegates' code of conduct.

She stated that an Executive Meeting immediately preceded the Delegates' session and the Executive is working to arrange an Annual General Meeting which will be combined with an appreciation night and key-note speaker. Additional details will follow at the February Delegates' meeting.

Next, Ms Kavanagh noted that Jacquie Williams would chair the Nominating Committee. There are three positions up for renewal including Treasurer and two Director at Large positions. Candidate nominations may be submitted through the SLNA website or by emailing Ms Williams directly.

3. 251 King Street Petition (Robert Cisheski)

Robert Cisheski introduced a website he launched regarding the building on the South-East corner of King and Sherbourne. The structure is listed as a historical building but it is not registered as such and falls just outside the boundary for the heritage conservation district. A proposed condominium project would remove it and replace it with an 18-storey building. The law firm currently using the building has put forward the proposal and would act as the developer.

Mr. Cisheski felt that the proposal constitutes poor planning and permitting even a similar development would set a poor precedent for the entire neighbourhood which could lead to very tall buildings with minimal setbacks. He felt that the approved project at 275 King East was approved after a lot of misinformation so it is important to make every effort to preserve 251 King.

Mr. Cisheski encouraged the community to review the proposal and oppose any effort by the City to 'push heights up' in the neighbourhood – perhaps with a façade. He felt that the City is not sufficiently supporting the community in this manner and more leadership is required from the council member.

Well over six-hundred signatures (including 103 collected online) have been received thus far in a strong show of support. Mr. Cisheski reminded that community members near the development site will be most impacted.

Members may visit the website at www.bpfa.ca or via a link on the SLNA site.

It was suggested that 251 King was not simply a heritage building but also contributes to the quality of life in the community and its property values.

Concern was also raised that the City is not upholding the community's interests and instead appears to support developers but Ms Kavanagh noted that Ms McConnell had indicated her concern over the height of the proposed development. Tom Davidson (Pam McConnell's Office) insisted that the City supports good development but acknowledged that there are also bad examples in past projects. Mr. Davidson explained that the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB), the final authority above City Council control, has also made poor decisions. He cited the example of 275 King where City Council opposed the project but lost the decision when the matter went before the OMB.

City Council continues to very seriously study the current application but its priority remains the preservation of heritage buildings in the old part of Toronto which form an important part of neighbourhood's character. Ms. McConnell is reviewing various regulations as well as the Heritage Act to determine how best to influence the protection of the building as well as what may be done if the process reaches the OMB. She must ensure that the matter remains defensible. Thus far, no decision has been made but City staff is also not moving toward approval at this stage. Mr. Davidson assured those present that Ms McConnell's office will keep the community informed.

Next, Mr. Davison clarified that a developer sign has been removed after it was found to have been posted illegally. He noted that the City also continues to be in litigation with some major sign companies.

It was noted from the floor that the entire community loses value when poor developments are approved and not just those living in the immediate vicinity. A lost heritage building cannot be replaced and must therefore be preserved.

Mr. Leps observed that the City and the SLNA are often in agreement on various matters so he questioned how they may influence the OMB process. Mr. Davidson explained that the OMB lies under provincial jurisdiction. Its processes were recently reviewed but unfortunately only minor changes were implemented.

Another member recalled a commitment at a past SLNA meeting to create a heritage district within the St. Lawrence neighbourhood. She added that visitors do not visit prominent cities to view banks and condominiums.

Ms Kavanagh explained that the Heritage Conservation District Study was initiated for this purpose. She is a co-chair with Marcus Little and the group meets with Ms McConnell on a regular basis to consider various important issues. They have also interviewed architects who have advised that such a study would cost approximately \$100,000. Ms McConnell is attempting to source the funds to continue the effort to preserve heritage real-estate and ensure any new development is in keeping with the heritage aspects of the neighbourhood though Ms Kavanagh acknowledged that there has been slow progress. Mr. Davidson stated that the City planning department does not have funding to protect its heritage resources so it is seeking to re-shift funds for this purpose from elsewhere.

Mr. Sysadski noted that the old town of Toronto was the original town of York so it is clearly a heritage area. He suggested that the courts should be engaged as well since numerous OMB errors have been found in the majority of cases brought forward. The courts have also overturned OMB decisions.

Karl Froehr observed that many cities in Europe were destroyed during World War 2 and many re-established city centers do not permit high-rise development. He suggested that Toronto follow the same principles to protect its heritage area.

A member suggested that only the Province of Ontario has a municipal board but Keith Bricknell clarified that this is not the case. For example, Manitoba has a Ministry of Intergovernmental Affairs which holds even more significant powers. Mr. Bricknell suggested that such government bodies likely exist in every province in various forms.

4. CITY OF TORONTO BUDGET PRESENTATION (Judy Skinner)

Item Deferred (see above)

5. COMMUNITY POLICING UPDATE (Keith Bricknell)

Mr. Bricknell distributed a CPLC- 51 Report covering the months of September, October, and November 2008 and detailing the group's activities and meetings. The following highlights were mentioned:

September

A new Superintendent (Kimberley Greenwood) and Inspector (Heinz Kuck) were welcomed. Key statistics revealed decreases in crime indicators with an overall 18% decrease. As a result, Toronto remains one of the safest large cities in the world.

October

A Clothing Fund Drive was run in addition to CPLC-51's continued work on various crime reports as well as enforcement and prevention efforts. Project Vanguard attempts to address illegal drug use in high-rise buildings and a pilot is being run in Division 51.

November

Mr. Bricknell recalled a 911 presentation to the SLNA a few years earlier during which many responses were vague. He presented the following classification system to clarify how calls are categorized:

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|------------------------|--|
| Priority 1 (Hot Shots) | - Operator believes the caller is in imminent danger |
| Priority 2 (High) | - A crime is in progress or recently completed |
| Priority 4 | - Operator takes a report and police attend to take a report |
| Priority 6 | - A call regarding noise or disorderly conduct |
| Priority 8 | - Details are simply received from a caller |

Various projects were also reviewed such as:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| FNTD Project | - High profile uniformed and non-uniformed presence maintained |
| Project Scrooge | - Encourages residents to place their gifts/valuable in the truck and not on the back seat of their vehicle |
| Division 51 Toy Drive | - Toys provided for 120 families! |

Dan O'Leary questioned whether Division 51 might endeavour to create a scholarship for youth. Mr. Bricknell explained that such initiatives have been undertaken in the past, some in collaboration with registered charities/non-profit organizations, and such initiatives continue to be considered periodically. Mr. Bricknell agreed to put forward the suggestion.

Karl Froehr requested that Mr. Bricknell comment on "cyber policing" efforts. He explained that his wife's website was maliciously destroyed a few months earlier and such attacks could put companies out-of-business. Mr. Bricknell advised that Division 51 does not typically deal with such matters but Phone-Busters handles both telephone and computer fraud.

Elizabeth Ecker suggested that a system in Regent Park seems to effectively mentor children. Ms Kavanagh noted that the program is called "Pathways to Education" and Mr. Bricknell added that CPLC-51 is also considering such a program.

6. OTHER BUSINESS/OPEN DISCUSSION

Matthew Raizenne announced that the SLNA had formally received recognition of its support and contribution toward the bike tour.

Marc Piccinato and Karl Froehr reported that an Outreach Committee of the Windmill Line Coop had organized a one day food drive for the Toronto Daily Break Food Bank (TDBRB). The committee is planning another such event in March and is challenging other coops in the St. Lawrence neighbourhood to conduct their own food-drives. A specific date has not yet been set but interested groups may reference the TDBFB's website (www.dailybread.ca) for additional information or contact the Chair of the Outreach Committee (Rosemary Murkley at 416-861-8654), Mr. Piccinato, or Mr. Froehr. The TDBFB requests that any organizers register their food drives before they are conducted. Food can be dropped off at specific locations and possibly even picked up by the TDBFB if a significant amount is collected. The results of the Windmill Line Coop's drive will be announced during the April SLNA meeting and others are encouraged to do the same. The TDFB will also issue tax receipts for donations of \$10 or more. Mr. Piccinato will submit an article that may be posted to the SLNA website.

Ms Kavanagh noted that a suggestion was tabled during the Executive Meeting that delegate names and their buildings should be posted to the SLNA website but privacy was a concern. It was suggested that this may be addressed by including lists of both buildings and delegate names but not linking them in any way. The matter will be considered further by the Executive Committee.

Ronny Yaron invited Residents to participate in the Adopt-a-Block program which is intended to improve streetscapes in the area. Residents may even assume a block in front of their building and monitor it for issues that warrant attention and report these to various City offices, etc. Several volunteers have already stepped forward but additional participants are both welcome and encouraged. A notice to this effect will be posted to the SLNA website.

7. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, it was resolved to adjourn the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

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

The next Delegates meeting will be held on February 25 at 7:00 pm.

Corporate Secretary

President



LIST OF MOTIONS

Delegates' Meeting: January 28, 2009

1. Approval of Agenda

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SECONDED BY: Cherril Baker

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SECONDED BY: Catherine Limbertie