

**SLNA DELEGATES MEETING**  
**June 27, 2007**

**OWN CO-OP, 115 The Esplanade**

UPDATE THE ATTENDANCE!!

**Executive Members in Attendance:**

President: Paul Smith, St. Lawrence on the Park  
Secretary: Ani Kounavis, 25 The Esplanade  
VP External: Harry Renaud, 135 George St  
VP Internal: Ronny Yaron, Woodsworth Co-op  
At Large: Wallace Simpson, Crombie Park  
At Large: Dan O'Leary, 15 Scadding

**REGRETS:**

At Large: Jacquie Williams, Old York Tower  
Treasurer: Bruno Leps, Market Square

**Voting Delegates in Attendance:**

Leo Agosto, Marketview Housing Co-op  
Patricia Bearclaw, Cathedral Court Co-op  
Joan Boyd, PAL  
Keith Bricknell, The Metropole  
Hugh Francis-Burns, Longboat Residents  
Joan Campbell, Market Square  
Jennifer Chan, Windmill Line Co-op  
Elizabeth Ecker, St. Lawrence on the Park  
Karl Froehr, Windmill Line Co-op  
Aurie Hensman, Olde York Place 1  
Oleg Holowaty, 25 George St

George Millbrandt, Longboat Residents  
Ronald Monteith, Woodsworth Co-op  
Anne Moore, 71 Front St East  
Loralie Olinyk, Harmony Homes Housing Co-op  
Sherri Russell, FAN  
Alan Seymour, Old York Tower  
Robert Sherrin, Abbey Lofts  
Sara Teng, King's Court  
Frank Touby, Harmony A Housing  
Connie Yang, O.W.N.

**REGRETS:**

**Associate Members & Guests :**

Arthur Alda, O.W.N  
Tom Davidson, Pam McConnell's office  
John Kennaley, George Smitherman's office  
Ed Majchrowski, TCHC Representative  
Ed Nixon, Windmill Line Co-op  
Tim Rourke, 15 Scadding

**Guest Speakers:**

Caroline Homann, Royal Bank of Canada  
Mark Galbraith, Royal Bank of Canada  
  
Arlyss Ponchuk, Recording Secretary

**ACRONYMS:**

**BIA:** Business Improvement Area  
**CMHC:** Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation  
**CFOF** Citizens for the Old Town  
**CPLC:** Community Police Liaison Committee  
**DAS:** Downtown Alternative School  
**HRSDC:** Human Resources and Skills Development Canada  
**LEED:** Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design  
**OMB:** Ontario Municipal Board  
**OTTN:** Old Town Toronto Network  
**PSB:** Police Services Board  
**SEDERI:** South East Downtown Economic Redevelopment Initiative

**SLCRC:** St. Lawrence Community Recreation Centre  
**SLM:** St. Lawrence Market  
**SLMN-BIA:** St. Lawrence Market Neighbourhood Business Improvement Area  
**SLNA:** St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association  
**TABIA:** Toronto Association of Business Improvement Areas (BIAs)  
**TCHC:** Toronto Community Housing Corporation  
**TIACAC:** Toronto Island Airport Community Advisory Committee  
**TPA:** Toronto Port Authority  
**TWRC:** Toronto Waterfront Revitalization

## **1. Registration and Refreshments**

## **2. Opening Remarks by Paul Smith, and introduction of Kyle Knoeck, Feature Presentation speaker**

VP-External Harry Renaud announced that Paul Smith was unable to attend this evening. Ronny Yaron called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, and chaired the meeting.

## **4. Approval of the agenda & approval of May minutes**

*Motion: to approve the May 2007 minutes as presented.*

*Moved by: Aurie Hensman*

*Seconded by: Sherri Russell*

**CARRIED**

## **3. Feature presentation: New Community Improvement Plan for the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood – Kyle Knoeck, Senior City Planner**

A draft of the SLN Community Improvement Plan (CIP) is to be finalized this fall. Tonight is a chance for the community to give input.

In 2000 the City designated an area for study of public realm improvements for part of the SLN: King to Front and Yonge to Jarvis. The SLN-CIP was shelved for several years. Recently a working

group including members of the SLNA met to brainstorm. Ideas fell into two categories: neighbourhood-wide initiatives and site-specific categories.

Proposed neighbourhood-wide programs include:  
- heritage (with possible funding from the Heritage Grant Program, Heritage Interpretation Program,

and Heritage Building Illumination Program), streetscapes (including design, furniture, trees, planters etc.). way-finding signage to key destinations in SLN, transportation (possible bicycle lanes for The Esplanade and Front Street), parks, pedestrians, laneways, and private property.

Proposed site-specific projects include:

- Berczy Park: remove the berm on the north side and improve the lighting
- Jarvis Street Underpass: redesign as a gateway to SLN and as a pedestrian connection to the waterfront
- Church Street terminus which ends at the Toronto Parking authority garage: redesign more attractively, perhaps add retail
- Yonge/Esplanade intersection: add traffic lights and make the underpass more attractive
- south end of SLM: make more attractive
- Scott Lane and Farquhar's Lane: redesign as pedestrian walkways possibly with retail, while still accommodating service vehicles

In response to questions, Kyle Knoeck explained that under the new City of Toronto Act the City (previously the Province) can now approve a CIP, but the City must fund the improvements. The CIP is useful for identifying public interest in specific improvements and for providing already-defined projects for improvements as funding comes available. Funding can come from Section 37 benefits from building developments that do not meet existing criteria for new buildings in the SLN.

Delegates gave Kyle Knoeck suggestions:

- resolve the odour on Scott Lane due to restaurants backing onto it. Kyle Knoeck will tell the Planners that businesses will need to deal better with garbage storage and collection.
- ensure that opportunities for sustainability initiatives are built into the CIP

## 6. Report on Safety in the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood

No report.

- increase trees and greenery
- create incentives for cyclists to stay off sidewalks
- designate bicycle lanes as shared with rollerbladers
- incorporate a local artists' sales area as a tourism draw, perhaps in Market Lane Park or on Farquhar's Lane. Perhaps add buskers and other local entertainment.
- conduct a traffic study to install a traffic signal at the Scott and Front intersection, to accommodate pedestrian traffic from the nearby two theatres, timing the study to coincide with greatest traffic
- install hoarding at the Downtown Alternative School (DAS) playground to protect children (addressed in part by DAS)

Councillor Pam McConnell explained that the SLNA can assist by providing venues for presentations to the community for feedback, and by Delegates advising their residences of the CIP to engage the community to put forward the improvements.

Kyle Knoeck advised that the SLN-CIP is a public document but is not yet online.

Councillor McConnell recommended that in conjunction with the SLN-CIP the SLN set up a fund based on the Provincial Walks and Gardens trust set up in the 1800s by the City of Toronto. Under the terms of this trust funding for parks is acquired during sale of water lots (ie. harbourfront land) or promenade land (ie. The Esplanade). The pending lease or sale of Union Station land could generate funding.

Contact information for Kyle Knoeck is: Senior Planner, Downtown Section / Community Planning, Toronto and East York / City Planning Division (416) 392-7215; fax (416) 392-1330; [kknoeck@toronto.ca](mailto:kknoeck@toronto.ca).

**7. Report from George Smitherman's Office — John Kanale**

MPP George Smitherman will attend the SLNA Delegates meeting in July and the SLNA's Canada Day event this Sunday. He was recently nominated in the St. Jamestown community as a Provincial candidate in this riding for the elections on October 10.

George Smitherman supports reducing the number of plastic bags used in Ontario (currently 7 million bags daily) by 50% in 5 years. The Provincial Flick Off campaign encourages people to turn off lights to save power.

John Kanale responded to questions:

- housing: Funding allocated for affordable housing has been dispersed, but unused federal money for housing can be brought forward. Councillor McConnell pointed out that provincial funding has been allocated by the City to two projects: 60 Richmond Street (hotel workers' co-op) and the TCHC near the SAS building. John Kanale added that George Smitherman will encourage Housing Minister John Gerretson to download infrastructure/maintenance moneys that

should have been downloaded with not-for-profit housing.

- healthcare: see [www.moh.gov.on.ca](http://www.moh.gov.on.ca) and the Ministry of Health's press releases for George Smitherman's accomplishments in healthcare in the last four years

- building developments: George Smitherman is working with Minister Gerretson and the City of Toronto to investigate how to make the OMB simpler and fairer.

The Chair proposed that George Smitherman answer directly in July a question on how to empower tenants of not-for-profit housing to manage their own residences.

Delegates can submit questions for George Smitherman in advance of the July meeting by sending them to VP-External Harry Renaud.

John Kanale offered to bring to the July meeting the dollar amount that the provincial government is prepared to put into Toronto.

**8. Report from Pam McConnell's Office — Tom Davidson**

A few months ago a resident complained about the sidewalk buckling on the south side of The Esplanade. Temporary asphalt has been installed. City staff, Clean and Beautiful Fund staff, the SLMN-BIA and the community are now developing a design for the sidewalk to maintain the special character of the promenade, for installation this fall. Tom Davidson thanked the community for its input. The Clean and Beautiful Program enables works projects undertaken by the Departments of Parks and Transportation to be enhanced with design features and identification of special landmarks.

Councillor McConnell's office is also looking into how to deter parked cars from encroaching on sidewalks, and how to encourage property owners to respect property lines. Once new sidewalks are

installed at some sites, perhaps owners will respect the public realm.

Councillor Pam McConnell reported. Highlights:

A working group is developing a plan for the SLM Precinct. She conducted a walkabout of SLM with the City's Deputy Manager in charge of facilities, to bring to his attention the need for cleanliness inside and out of the world-renowned Market and the historical SLH. "He's excited. Everyone is paying attention now." Senior bureaucracy now talk in the same breath of Nathan Philips Square, Union Station and the St. Lawrence Market Precinct. Also, the City plans to relocate a training facility from the second floor of SLH, to reserve SLH for a more historically appropriate use.

City Council has approved a new garbage plan. Up to now only half the city has had access to a green bin program that for which everyone has been paying taxes. Green bins will now be made available to all residences. As early as autumn City workers will undertake a building-by-building needs assessment as “one size doesn’t fit all.”

A planning document with 13 pages of 14 recommendations plus subsets will be rephrased in lay terms with perhaps a ten point summary of the City’s specific plans for next year so that the Planning Department can give a presentation to the SLNA for feedback.

Revenue tools were granted to the City under the City of Toronto Act. City Council has approved a land transfer tax although not on a first home) and car licensing revenue (to encourage people to think environmentally about car use), but has declined to tax alcohol and entertainment as being too difficult to administer.

## 5. Update on Smartliving – Ben Marans

Ben Marans reminded Delegates of smartlivings’ continuing projects. New initiatives include:

- applying for continuing funding for the program as a whole. Ben Marans thanked Councillor McConnell for agreeing to be a reference. Ben Marans asked the community to consider giving back to the program through funding dollars, as the program has give so much so far to the community.
- free lighting audit and retrofit blitz at SLM in conjunction with the SLMN-BIA and TABIA’s environmental program GreenTBiz. SLM

## 9. Other Business

- a) Mayor Miller’s 1¢ Campaign Endorsement

The City needs to raise about a half billion dollars per year to keep up with what needs to be done to build and maintain the city. The City has a current deficit of about a half billion. The City is committed to continuing discussions with the Province to encourage the Federal government to contribute more funding to municipalities. Moneys were removed from the provincial budget so that now the province can help municipalities only by raising new funding. Toronto has been on the edge of bankruptcy for five years, as it has not received sustainable amounts of money to run the City. Councillor McConnell encouraged people to become more educated about the specific issues and to push for change at the provincial and federal level. It is a fundamental constitutional right for all of us to have fairness, yet redistribution of funds differs across provinces. The current procedure is bankrupting all of the cities in Ontario. If the Federal government will not respond, Toronto will need to make a constitutional challenge. “If we don’t get action, we need court action.” She asked that Delegates and members of the community make this a major issue for the provincial election this year.

management has offered to subsidize the retrofit by 50%.

The City has a new climate action plan and sustainable energy plan, and is rolling out the smartliving program across the city. Delegates applauded.

Councillor McConnell offered to pass on to the head of the TTC an idea proposed to put smaller buses or vans on routes with less traffic or at times of day with less traffic, as an energy and cost savings measure.

Stig Harvour asked that the Secretary bring forward to the Delegates meeting in July a motion

to endorse Mayor Millor's 1¢ Campaign, which advocates that 1¢ of each 6¢ of GST go toward cities. Councillor McConnell added that at the Federation of Canadian Municipalities, 1,800 mayors and councilors voted unanimously in support of it.

b) Canada Day Celebration

Ronny Yaron asked Delegates to post flyers in their buildings for the Canada Day celebration. Connie Yang added that events include an essay contest for students, to be judged by SLNA President Paul Smith.

#### 14. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:58 pm.

The SLNA acknowledges the Hot House Café for sponsoring this evening's refreshments, and OWN for hosting tonight's meeting.

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

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**Corporate Secretary**

**President**