

SLNA DELEGATES MEETING
May 31, 2006

OWN CO-OP, 115 The Esplanade

Executive Members in Attendance:	Regrets:
President and Chair: Paul Smith, St. Lawrence on the Park V	V.P. Internal: Diane Hollingsworth Secretary: Joan Campbell, Market Square, V Aurie Hensman, Old York 1, V
V.P. External: Hugh-Francis Burns, Longboat Residents Assoc. V	
Treasurer: Bruno Leps, Market Square V At Large: Wally Simpson, Crombie Park V	Guests: Ben Marans, smartliving St. Lawrence
At Large: Connie Yang, OWN Co-op V	Tom Davidson, Councillor McConnell's Office
At Large: Ronny Yaron, Woodsworth Co-op V	Blake Webb, MPP George Smitherman's Office
	Jenn Syntetos, Bill Graham's Office
In Attendance:	Beverly Carr, St. Lawrence on the Park
Cherril Baker, David B. Archer V	Sandie de Freitas, Commfest (c/o PAL)
Barbara Bell, Woodsworth Co-op V	Elisabeth Ecker, St. Lawrence on the Park
Patricia Bear Claw, Cathedral Court Co-op V	Dianne Forsyth, St. Lawrence on the Park
Keith Bricknell, The Metropole (7 King East)	Arthur Klinowicz, OWN
Janet Bryson, 25 The Esplanade V	Anita McMaster, GWNA
Dorothy Creaser, Old York Tower V	Donna Patterson, OWN
Terry Eitel, Old York Tower V	Terry Poulton, 90 Adelaide E. (St. James Park Apts)
Karl Froehr, Windmill Line Co-op V	Kathryn Sabo, St. Lawrence on the Park
Norman Hart, PAL V	Lyzabeth Shulman, Recreationist at the SLCRC
Stig Harvor, La Place Saint-Laurent V	Wendy Stockwell, 81A Front St. E. (St. Lawrence Lofts)
Ewa Jarmicka, Harmony Co-op V	Sandy Straw, Manager of Parks, Toronto/East York
Catherine Limbertie, 1 Church Street (TCHC) V	
Ron Monteith, Woodsworth Co-op V	Arlyss Ponchuk, Recording Secretary
Maria Moreno, OWN Co-op V	
Dan O'Leary, 15 Scadding (TCHC) V	ACRONYMS:
Loralie Olinyk, Harmony Co-op Homes V	BIA: Business Improvement Area
Annalee Orr, David B. Archer Co-op V	CMHC: Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corp.

Dwight Peters, 25 The Esplanade V	CPLC: Community Police Liaison Committee
Alan Seymour, Longboat Residents Assoc. V	GWNA: Gooderham&Worts Neighbourhood Assoc.
Nancy Sheppard, St Lawrence on the Park V	HRSDC: Human Resources & Skills Development Canada
Frank Touby, Harmony A. Co-op V	LEEDS: Leadership in Environmental and Energy Design
Sandra Walker, Windmill Line Co-op V	OMB: Ontario Municipal Board
Catherine West, 1 Church Street V	SLCRC: St. Lawrence Community Recreation Centre
Lois White, 140 The Esplanade V	SLN: St. Lawrence Neighbourhood
Michael Waring, New Times Square Phase 2 V	SLNA: St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association
Jacque Williams, Old York Tower V	SLSL: smartliving St. Lawrence
Lumumba Wolde-Gabriel, 140 The Esplanade V	TCHC: Toronto Community Housing Corporation
V=Voting Member	TWRC: Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Committee

1. Registration and Refreshments

2. President's Welcome and Remarks

President Paul Smith called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm and chaired the meeting. VP-External Frank Burns passed around an attendance sheet.

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion: to approve the Agenda as presented.

Moved by: Terry Eitel

Seconded by: Frank Burns

CARRIED

The Chair asked Delegates to review a summary of rules of order prepared by VP-Internal Diane Hollingsworth. A motion will be made at the June meeting to incorporate the document into the SLNA's By-laws as "Schedule A: Rules of Order for Delegates Meetings."

4. Approval of April 26, 2006 Minutes

Amendment: Add Stig Harvor, Barbara Bell, and Annalee Orr to attendance.

Motion: to approve the April 26, 2006 minutes as amended.

Moved by: Catherine Limbertie

Seconded by: Stig Harvor

CARRIED

Note: Cherril Baker (after the meeting) and Randy Bath (before the meeting, by email) asked to be added to attendance as well.

5. Business Arising from April's Minutes

None.

6. SAS — (our new neighbour with the 'Green' building on King Street) to talk about their contribution to our parks

The Chair reported that SAS sent regrets. SAS has donated \$45,000 to the improvement of SLN parks.

7. Open Discussion of Solutions for our Unhealthy Parks

After agenda item #11, the Chair welcomed Sandy Straw, Manager of Parks for Toronto/East York and Parks By-law Enforcement Unit. She stated that she was assigned four topics to discuss:

1) The new Parks, Forestry and Recreation Structure

The City has reorganized the Parks Department, which now has five branches: parks, recreation, forestry, a strategic services group, and a design infrastructure and maintenance group. All focus on community engagement, on working with the community and on bringing a higher level of service to the community.

Sandy acknowledged Elisabeth Ecker's concern, expressed during agenda item #11, that lawn mowers are damaging tree bark, which could affect the health and life of trees in the neighbourhood. Sandy will follow-up with Parks staff. She concluded, "We are here to assist you to keep the parks beautiful."

2) "Dogs in Parks" Enforcement

The Parks Department deals with parks litter, irresponsible dog owners in parks, and park safety. Parks ambassadors, Troy and George, work within each neighbourhood park in this Ward to bring additional support, to help less fortunate members of the community who need assistance from time to time.

The "Dogs in Parks Strategy" is an order from City Council for the Parks Department to devise a plan that will help address the fact that in the last few years we now have one-quarter to one-half million dogs in Toronto. Neighbourhoods are asked to devise a plan for their own local park(s) to ensure that dogs can be integrated, ensuring safety and equitable distribution of time for parks usage. Education programs will be set up at different parks. Animal services and parks by-law enforcement are working together to become more responsive as a team.

3) Does Dog Urine Kill Grass or Make Kids Sick?

Dog urine will kill grass if it intense enough, if there is no rain to flush it out, if the type of grass is not hardy, and if the soil beneath is nonporous clay. Sandy has heard no

reports of children made ill specifically by dog urine. Soil testing was conducted in the Annex Park, a small park used by many dogs. The soil was not contaminated. The Parks Department is investigating types of soil and turf to put in off-leash areas, a variety of options to accommodate different parks as each park is unique.

4) \$45,000 Grant from SAS

Sandy was not aware whether the grant has yet been activated. It will be made available \$15,000 per year for three years. Priorities include more trees and benches, a natural ice rink, and an irrigation system in parts of the park to keep the grass alive, flushed and clean. The Parks Department is flexible and will work with the community to meet the community's needs. Parks will purchase higher quality hoses through SAS funding than is available through the Parks budget. To work with Parks, Dan O'Leary, Ron Monteith, Lumumba Wolde-Gabriel and Elisabeth Ecker volunteered to form a Greening Committee.

Dwight Peters questioned the list of priorities presented by Sandy, and recommended that more meaningful consultation be done. Two years ago, the SLCRC found no apparent support for a rink, which would be in use maybe 3 weeks per year. Sandy responded that she is searching for background documentation on the list, and suggested that perhaps it was negotiated by SAS and not the community. The funds' expenditure must meet the criteria set by SAS. Paul Smith noted that the SLNA does not know what SAS's criteria are. Neither did Sandy.

In response to Catherine West, Sandy stated that the Parks Department does not tend private property such as the centre quadrangle of a building at 1 Church Street, but does work in co-operation with Transportation Services on the shoulders of roads and up to railway tracks.

Elisabeth Ecker reported that topsoil is needed next to the school near Crombie Park and the SLCRC. Sandy noted that the soil in Crombie Park is now so compact that it needs to be aerated by rototilling, but she hesitates to close down the park for the purpose, as it is a very busy site.

Dan O'Leary stated that people tend to think that parks are off-leash all the time. Sandy stated that there are policies and rules to be followed, and they will be enforced against the few people who are inconsiderate.

In response to Stig Harvor, Sandy offered to put more garbage containers at the basketball court on Crombie Park, as there is only one. She added that there are new garbage receptacles and new blue recyclable containers which will be installed shortly in parks. A pilot project is being conducted with green bins in some parks.

Patricia Bear Claw expressed concern about large, exuberant dogs. Sandy stated that she is developing a city-wide team of dog experts to conduct community education of dog owners.

In response to Alan Seymour, Sandy will ask City mowers to consider cutting the grass in Crombie Park on weekdays only, so that the community can enjoy the park on weekends without mowers.

Sandy Straw can be reached at sstraw@toronto.ca. The Chair thanked Sandy Straw for her report. Delegates applauded.

8. What's New from Pam McConnell's Office?

The Chair welcomed Tom Davidson, Assistant to City Councillor Pam McConnell.

North Market Redevelopment Initiative: St. Lawrence Market's North Market is to be entirely reconstructed in the next four years as a multi-storey building. The main floor of the new building will continue to house the farmers' market. A traffic study concluded recently recommends that traffic to the proposed underground garage enter from Jarvis and exit underneath Market Lane Park onto King Street. A tentative proposal has been put forward that the traffic courts become a tenant in the top two storeys. This way the City could keep the North Market, St. Lawrence Hall and the South Market an integrated block managed by the City and community without need to negotiate with third party tenants. There is also an option for traffic to exit underground into Market Square complex's parking lot, and from there onto Church Street. That decision will be voted on next week at the City's Administrative Council meeting.

At the request of Ronny Yaron, Tom stated that the traffic courts would not necessarily be the sole occupants of the second and third storeys, that space for community groups could be made available. He will bring that request back to the table for further discussion by developer and the City.

Frank Burns expressed concern that the community's recommendations for neighbourhood developments get set aside by other parties negotiating separately, even after the community has strived to get all parties working together. The new North Market was to be no higher than St. Lawrence Hall, but now appears to be designed much higher, five storeys rather than three. The traffic courts as a tenant is wholly new information tonight.

70 The Esplanade: A planning report will go before Community Council on June 13. The City's Planning Department has asked the developers for a Section 37 contribution for the community, and are considering specifically a 5-year lease for space in the building for a seniors' centre. This would give the City time to find another opportunity for more permanent space in the neighbourhood for the seniors' centre.

Frank Touby asked how the Section 37 benefit ranks as a benefit in terms of a percentage of increase in the value of the property. Tom responded that that information is not shared by the developers. Frank asked, Why are we going for a lease instead of something solid? Tom responded that a site for a seniors' centre was mentioned as one of the

priorities for the community, and acknowledged that there are positives and negatives to the 5-year lease.

Paul Smith pointed out that new Treasurer Bruno Leps is committed to locating funding promised to the neighbourhood in the past but not spent. Once the money is located, the SLNA can monitor the funds and implement how they are spent. The SLNA is aware of a large sum, some from the Heritage Interpretation Program, designated primarily for street signs and lights in the King/Parliament Street area.

Frederick Street South and Henry Lane Terrace: At the request of the community, Pam McConnell's office has investigated street lighting on Frederick Street South.. Toronto Hydro has inspected the lighting poles from Frederick to Henry Lane Terrace and has determined that the lighting is substandard. They are conducting a design review in June to bring a proposal to the community for types of lighting and decorative poles to be installed in that location.

Wally Simpson asked that Toronto Hydro inspect the entire circuit of Henry Lane Terrace as the street loses about one lamp standard per month, and there is one down now. Tom will advise Toronto Hydro.

Ontario Hydro Transfer Station, Frederick Street South: At the request of the community, Pam McConnell's office has conducted a site inspection of the transfer station's construction site, which has standing water (a breeding ground for mosquitoes), dust from gravel, and a garbage-strewn ditch next to the street. Tom is continuing to negotiate with authorities to undertake a clean-up of the construction site.

Elisabeth Ecker recommended that a hedge be planted along the side of the site to obscure the view. Tom noted that the City can pass on this suggestion but cannot require it.

Bicycle Week: Catherine Limbertie reported that her locked bicycle was stolen on Monday, and asked what could be done to stop bike theft? Tom will speak with her separately and talk with police. He pointed out that part of the solution is underway: increased street lighting and increased police patrols.

Tree Planting: At the request of Dwight Peters, Tom will ask Urban Forestry for an update on the status of tree replacement. Dwight believes that more trees are being removed in the neighbourhood than planted, especially behind the Hummingbird Centre on The Esplanade.

The Chair thanked Tom Davidson for his report.

9. Unanswered Questions from Meeting in July with George Smitherman

The Chair introduced Blake Webb of provincial MPP George Smitherman's office. Blake reported that he reviewed the SLNA's recent minutes and found no unanswered

questions. He asked that Delegates send any as yet unanswered questions to him at gsmitherman.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org.

At the request of Ron Monteith, Blake will email an updated contact list for George Smitherman's office to the SLNA's President, for the Corporate Secretary to forward to Delegates. He noted that the office has one more new staff member.

In response to a question from Aurie Hensman at last month's meeting, Blake reported that a report on the Methadone Clinic Task Force will be issued toward the end of the year, and that he will provide a timeline as available.

At the request of Connie Yang, Blake will report at the next meeting on how Bill 102 affects seniors.

At the request of Frank Burns, Blake will report at the next meeting on OMB reform.

Paul Smith asked Blake to summarize a meeting held by George Smitherman recently at Enoch Turner Schoolhouse. Blake stated that the meeting focused on energy conservation. He added that the proposed new energy centre is not the best solution but it would enable the Province to keep energy flowing in Toronto to avoid blackouts.

The Chair thanked Blake Webb for his report.

10. Report from Bill Graham's Office

The Chair welcomed Jenn Syntetos from federal MP Bill Graham's Office. She introduced herself as the new Acting Manager, taking over from Frank Clarke who was Manager for six years. Bill Graham's office is restructuring after the federal election, due to Bill Graham's new role as Leader of the Opposition. Eighty to ninety percent of Bill Graham's office casework concerns immigration case files for constituents. Members of the community with other concerns and questions can contact Jenn at grahab8@parl.gc.ca or at (416) 954-2222. She will ensure that concerns are heard by Bill Graham, and, when possible, she can arrange for meetings with Bill. She pointed out that Bill Graham's office in Toronto has a direct line to two offices in Ottawa, so that the concerns of our community can be directly conveyed to Ottawa.

Jenn stated that she is looking forward to the Canada Day celebrations organized by Connie Yang and the SLNA.

Jenn will report at the next meeting on the following Delegates' questions:

- Frank Burns: "If the Harper government decided to abolish the Port Authority, how would Bill vote?"
- Ewa Jarmicka: The trajectory of helicopters and planes from the Toronto Island Airport has changed and they are now flying over our residential area. Who is responsible for flight plans and flight paths?
- Elisabeth Ecker: How late are planes allowed to fly?

- Wally Simpson: Is there a regulation for the railway to maintain a reasonable amount of cleanliness along the tracks?

The Chair thanked Jenn Syntetos for her report.

11. Update from smartliving St. Lawrence

The Chair welcomed Ben Marans of SLSL.

Bike Week started May 28. SLSL is hosting a free bike maintenance and safety workshop on June 3 at the SLCRC, and is hosting a bike week forum on June 8 at the SLCRC with a lineup of speakers to answer bike-related questions.

Ben thanked the 30-40 volunteers who participated in Mayor Miller's Clean-up Day on Earth Day. Thanks to Connie Yang, about 18 people from OWN participated. Delegates applauded.

SLSL has received a \$1,000 grant from the Toronto Parks & Trees Foundation for a native plant revitalization in a terraced area of Crombie Park near the school. The SLCRC's Youth Leadership Program will be involved, facilitated by Dan O'Leary. Planting will take place toward the end of June, beginning of July. Ben asked the SLNA to consider holding a thank-you ceremony for participants. The Youth Leadership Program will be involved in other local greening initiatives throughout the summer.

SLSL is sponsoring a team of the SLCRC's Soccer Sports League.

SLSL has two new publications: "Building Toward the Future: A guide to sustainable and efficient products and strategies, May 2006" and a brochure on SLSL. Ben plans to meet with residential boards throughout the summer to give a PowerPoint presentation on strategies to reduce energy and water consumption, from individual usage to large-scale usage. A supplier is offering a bulk discount to the neighbourhood for compact fluorescent light bulbs and low-flow showerheads. Keith Bricknell noted that it is possible to purchase bulbs which provide full-spectrum light, for people with SAD disorder or living in units that receive little sunlight. Ben advised that fluorescent bulbs must be disposed of as hazardous waste as they contain trace amounts of mercury. Contact City Works for disposal options, or store the bulbs until the next Environment Day.

SLSL arranged for Village Technologies to do a feasibility study for a renewable energy installation on the SLCRC's rooftop, solar panels to offset heating costs for the pool. There is an educational component, with workshops and signage to keep kids and other community members informed.

SLSL organized two free walking tours for the Seniors Club, two weeks ago a free historical tour of the SLN with Bruce Bell, attended by 10-15 seniors; and on June 7 a tour with Todd Irvine from LEAF: Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests. Ben

noted that LEAF has received funding recently to conduct a community engagement program on tree health, and he recommended that the SLNA set up a subgroup.

Catherine Limbertie asked how we might encourage Earth Day every day, for a litterless neighbourhood. Ben recommended that the SLNA set up a Greening Working Group, advising that he would be happy to sit on such a group and that SLSL can provide resource materials and promotional outlets. Elisabeth Ecker, Catherine West, Catherine Limbertie, and Paul Smith volunteered. Ronny Yaron recommended involving schools.

Ben can be reached at 416-488-3966 or ben@smartliving.ca. The Chair thanked Ben for his report.

12. Community Recreation Centre Drug Issue

The Chair introduced Lyzabeth Shulman, Recreationist at the SLCRC, to report on the issue of drug use at the SLCRC.

Lyzabeth reported that in February a member of staff called in police to investigate possible drug use and dealing at the SLCRC. Since then, staff have been working with police to resolve the issue. She acknowledged that a majority of staff are younger people who grew up in the neighbourhood. Some are happy to co-operate with police but some grew up with the youths who became drug users and dealers so are not comfortable reporting them to the police. Staff who know the youths involved have actually done more than anyone else because they have told the dealers, Don't do it in the Centre anymore, staff will call the police, so just stop. One night an officer asked a staff member to point out the perpetrators, and that person rightfully declined as it would have put his own safety at risk. That is the only instance of staff non-cooperation.

The SLCRC is encouraging the police to become involved in SLCRC activities, such as playing staff-versus-police basketball games or giving staff workshops in security, rather than just come in to "make a bust."

The community centre is not a place to "take kids down" but to provide alternative activities for kids. The goal is to provide programs for youth to encourage them to become better people. Activities include monthly job skills workshops, after-school homework time on computers, Saturday night youth drop in night (150 kids registered and 13-15 staff, about 7 different programs), Stomp urban dance competition, job fairs, and the youth leadership camp. The SLCRC wants the same youths who sell drugs to take part in programs and hopefully get turned around. But if staff see youths selling drugs, they will call the police. She noted that the police were called seven times on Monday but did not show up. Paul Smith stated that on behalf of the SLNA he would report this inadequate police response to Frank Bergen, Staff Sergeant of 51 Division.

Barbara Bell questioned whether the SLNA should continue funding youth programs in the SLCRC while drug dealing is taking place, because although most youths are there for the programs, they could come in contact with the drug culture in building hot spots,

such as the washrooms. The Chair responded that the SLNA has decided to give the SLCRC time to resolve the problem. The SLNA will monitor the situation, and continue the funding, in order not to penalize youths.

Dorothy Creaser suggested using plainclothes officers. Lyzabeth explained that plainclothes officers are readily identified by SLCRA youth, who are a tight-knit community.

Barbara Bell proposed fundraising for a surveillance camera at the entrance. Lyzabeth stated that she would bring this proposal to the attention of the SLCRC. She added that she has called Bell three times, asking them to remove a public payphone out front used by the drug dealers. Dwight Peters of the SLCRC's Advisory Committee stated that because they know who the problem people are, surveillance cameras are not necessary.

Dwight Peters pointed out that ten years ago the City cut funding for recreational programs; those kids have grown up without being integrated into the community. He added, We need good youth programs or we deliver our children into the arms of predatory drug dealers. SLCRC staff are working with police. Give them the time and support to fix the problem, and continue to give the kids ongoing programs.

The Chair thanked Lyzabeth for her report. Delegates applauded.

13. Development Committee Report

Due to the length of the agenda, Frank Burns deferred his report.

14. Finance Committee Comment

Treasurer Bruno Leps reported that the finances are on budget with no surprises. Invoices for 2006 membership renewals will be sent in the next week or so. Bruno looks forward to the SLNA's fundraising element becoming a lot stronger. He plans to identify one or two major initiatives for 2007 for which to pursue funding from all levels of government, as well as corporate and private funding. He intends to present a plan at the Delegates meeting in September or October.

15. Plans for Canada Day Celebration

Connie Yang reported. She encouraged everyone to participate in the Canada Day celebration and picnic and passed around a volunteer/participation sheet. Donations have been given by George Smitherman's Office and Caroline Co-op. Local shops are considering contributing in some way, and the St. Lawrence Market will donate 125 t-shirts. Canada Heritage has promised a monetary contribution.

The parade will begin at 10:30 a.m. at the baseball diamond at Crombie Park (The Esplanade and Sherbourne) and will proceed from Sherbourne Street to King Street, from King to Yonge, and Yonge to Front. A school band might participate. Wellington Street will be decorated with large flags donated by Dennis Glasgow. The picnic will take place in Berczy Park, to the west of the Flatiron Building. The picnic will include Lion Dancers

and a Mexican DJ. The organizers of Commffest will make a documentary of the parade and picnic. MP Bill Graham and MPP George Smitherman will attend, and Councillor Pam McConnell will be Grand Marshall.

16. Other Business

a) greenliving magazine / Green Awards

Ronny Yaron asked Delegates to take free copies of the Summer 2006 issue of *greenliving* magazine to their buildings. Copies were available on the registration table. The magazine's office is on The Esplanade. The current issue cites winners of Toronto's Green Awards (the City of Toronto's environmental awards of excellence) for local community projects.

b) North Market Redevelopment Initiative

Alan Seymour recommended another 15-20 minute presentation on the North Market Redevelopment Initiative, which has been active for 7 years, as some people tonight expressed no awareness of it. The Chair agreed to add it to the agenda of the June meeting.

c) Commffest

On behalf of the local Commffest Community Film Festival based in The Performing Arts Lodge (PAL), Sandie de Freitas asked for the SLNA's support.

Motion: that the SLNA write a letter to Jorge Carvalho, Manager of St. Lawrence Market, supporting Community Film Festival.

Moved by: Cherril Baker

Seconded by: Barbara Bell

CARRIED

17. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:23 pm. The SLNA thanks OWN for hosting tonight's meeting. The SLNA acknowledges the St. Lawrence Market Complex for sponsoring this evening's refreshments.

The next Delegates meeting will be held on Wednesday June 28, 2006, at 7:00 pm.

Corporate Secretary

Chair