

SLNA DELEGATES MEETING

October 27, 2004

NORTH MARKET, St. Lawrence Market Complex

Executive Members in Attendance:

President: Cam Miller, King George Square V

V.P. Internal: Ronny Yaron, Woodsworth Co-op V

V.P. External: Frank Burns, Longboat Res. Assoc. V

Treasurer and interim Corporate Secretary: Nancy Sheppard, 65 Scadding Avenue V

At Large: Joan Campbell, Market Square V

At Large: Frank McLean, 25 The Esplanade V

In Attendance:

Cherril Baker, David B Archer V

Patricia Bear Claw, Cathedral Court Co-op V

Barbara Bell, Woodsworth Co-op V

Elisabeth Ecker, 65 Scadding V

Pam Gierman, Windmill Line Co-op V

Stig Harvor, La Place St. Laurent V

Aurie Hensman, 160 Frederick St V

Ewa Jarmicka, Harmony Co-op Homes V

Virginia Kells, PAL V

Bob Kemp, Pilot Place V

Eugene Krushelnycky, 25 George St V

Helen Marangos, FAN V

Lucie Martel, King George Square V

Ron Monteith, Woodsworth Co-op V

Dawn Murray, Windmill Line Co-op V

Terry Pennock, New Times Sq 2 V

Dwight Peters, 25 The Esplanade V

David Sangaraille, La Place St. Laurent V

Karen Serwonka, David B Archer V

Wally Simpson, Crombie Park V

Michael Waring, New Times Sq 2 V

Rose Wilner, OWN Co-op V

Connie Yang, OWN Co-op V

Arlyss Ponchuk, Recording Secretary

Michelle Buckley, Pam McConnell's Office G

With Regrets:

Alice Briesmaster, New Times Sq 2 V

Georgette Harris, St James Condo V

Robin Hart, Crombie Park V

Susan McLeod, Market Square V

Edward Nixon, SEDERI G

ACRONYMS:

CPLC: Community Police Liaison Committee

HRSD: Human Resources and Skills

Development

Canada

PSB: Police Services Board

SLCRC: St. Lawrence Community Recreation
Centre

TIACAC: Toronto Island Airport Community
Advisory

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| Lumumba Wolde-Gabriel, G Smitherman's Office G | Committee |
| Jennifer Arp, Bill Graham's Office G | TCHC: Toronto Community Housing Corporation |
| SSgt Tom Kelly, 51 Division G | TPA: Toronto Port Authority |
| Harry Beattie, 180 Frederick G | |
| Dennis Glasgow, 30 Wellington G | |
| Erin Harris, Toronto Seniors Council G | |
| Dan O'Leary, 15 Scadding G | |
| Kenneth Smookler, 30 Wellington G | |

V = Voting delegate, NV = Non-voting delegate, G = Guest

1. Welcome & Round Robin

Cam Miller called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm. He introduced himself as President and proceeded to chair the meeting. Cam welcomed Dan O'Leary, Harry Beattie and Erin Harris, residents of the neighbourhood. A round table of introductions was conducted. An attendance sheet was passed around.

2. Approval of the Agenda

At Ronny Yaron's request, Cam Miller added "VP: Internal" to the agenda, after item 11 "VP: External."

Motion: to approve the Agenda as amended.

Moved by: Dwight Peters

Seconded by: Joan Campbell

CARRIED

3. Approval of September 29, 2004 Minutes

Amendments:

Page 1 regrets: Elisabeth Ecker

Motion: to approve the September 29, 2004 minutes as amended.

Moved by: Aurie Hensman

Seconded by: Cherril Baker

CARRIED

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

None.

5. Update from Police 51 Division

Drug Dealing: Rose Wilner reported an increase in drug dealing in the neighbourhood, and expressed concern that drug dealers brought pit bulls with them. Staff Sergeant Tom

Kelly stated that Darren Hallman, who is responsible for the drug unit, looked into the matter on Monday in response to an email, and will be taking more men to the location to make arrests as necessary. He noted that 51 Division's boundaries have expanded to include the parkette system up the east side of Yonge Street, and the area of Carleton and Wellesley, which have a lot of drug activity. They expect to arrest in excess of 400 people for drug dealing and trafficking this year.

Staff Sergeant Tom Kelly reported that 51 Division this year has seen a substantial decrease in break-ins and robberies, after more officers were assigned to that matter. The street crime unit is new and has made a few arrests already. Plain clothes officers have increased from 2 to 4; they deal with prostitution and alcohol related matters, liquor license matters, and noise issues in licensed establishments. In answer to a question from Barbara Bell, Tom Kelly reported that violent crime is down because robberies and assaults are down, but that homicides are up, 6 this year compared to 4 last year.

Town Hall Meeting: Bob Kemp, Chair of the Community Police Liaison Committee (CPLC), announced a Town Hall Meeting, Monday, November 15 at St. Lawrence Hall (King Street East at Jarvis). Registration at the door begins at 6:30. The forum will address four areas of concern identified by the CPLC: looking at legislation that could help make our streets safer, developing safe open spaces such as parks and streets, fostering a safer school environment, and creating a more supportive community for our youth. Bob will email the flyer to Nancy Sheppard for distribution to delegates.

At Bob's encouragement, delegates applauded 51 Division. Ewa Jarmicka reminded Bob that in August the police did not respond to her superintendent's phone calls about drug dealing outside her residence. Tom Kelly responded that the downtown area is sometimes short-staffed as officers are sent to bigger problem areas in the suburbs, but that reports generated from phone-ins create statistics so that the Division can see how slowly officers are responding.

Bob reminded delegates that they are welcome to contact him directly with any police-related matters at bobkemp26@hotmail.com. He will pass their concerns to Tom Kelly at their weekly Friday meetings.

Cam thanked Staff Sergeant Tom Kelly and CPLC chair Bob Kemp.

6. Anti-Noise Campaign — Ewa Jarmicka

Ewa Jarmicka reported. Noisewatch was founded in the early 1990's; nevertheless, sound levels in our neighbourhood have doubled. Ewa named many organizations that handle various noise complaints in the neighbourhood. The science about harm done to our health by noise is comprehensive. Committee work toward a resolution merely creates more paperwork and bureaucracy without producing a resolution. Ewa proposed that the SLNA sponsor a major event in the spring of 2006 to promote quietness, called "A Quiet Concert," or "Now Hear This" held at the Skydome. Government representatives would

be invited. Ewa asked delegates to bring ideas to the next meeting, or email her at ejarmicka@yahoo.ca.

7. City Update from Pam McConnell's Office (Councillor) — Michelle Buckley
Cam Miller welcomed Michelle Buckley.

Noise Pollution: Michelle stated that Pam McConnell is particularly sensitive to matters of visual pollution (eg. signage) and noise pollution. The Municipal Licensing and Standards group, which enforces noise by-law compliance, is currently looking into the Distillery District in particular. Citizens can phone them with noise concerns (eg. Loud bars with open doors). A long term plan is being considered to decrease the number of cars in the downtown core to reduce noise levels. Some neighbourhoods do "sound walks" as a form of neighbourhood walk. They record the kinds of noises happening at various locations, and use the statistics to develop plans to reduce noise levels.

Delegates described sources of noise pollution: Virginia Kells mentioned that restaurant near PAL dumps liquor bottles at 3:00 every morning; Aurie Hensman mentioned drilling and rattling by City workers on weekends before 9:00 am; Elisabeth Ecker mentioned leaf blowers and lawnmowers; Wally Simpson and Conny Yang mentioned loud car stereos. Michelle advised that for excessive noise before/after hours, contact her office, or contact the police.

Newspaper Boxes: Michelle reported that Works is considering a moratorium for the next two years on any more newspaper boxes in the City. They will inventory existing boxes, and develop a plan for "cleaning them up" and assigning them locations, to reduce the visual pollution and the obstruction to pedestrian traffic.

Pedestrian Safety: The Pedestrian Committee has been meeting, and has decided to focus on the Jarvis corridor at The Esplanade. Plans include calming down the intersection over the next four months by educating and communicating with residents and regular drivers, counting traffic to determine vehicle density, perhaps installing rumble strips or signage "Welcome to Our Neighbourhood," and encouraging police to enforce speed laws.

Wally Simpson pointed out that a pedestrian sign should be located near the market, not in its current location, south of the market and facing outgoing traffic. Michelle will follow-up.

Park Benches: Rose Wilner asked about installation of park benches. Michelle said that they are on a list for follow-up.

Cam Miller thanked Michelle Buckley for her report.

8. Federal Update from Bill Graham's Office (MP) – Jennifer Arp
Cam Miller welcomed Jennifer Arp. Jennifer reported that regarding the proposed bridge to the Toronto Island Airport, discussions amongst lawyers are continuing on a weekly

basis. Minister LaPierre will brief the Cabinet next week or the week after, and she will have more information at that time.

She announced that SEDERI has received a grant from the National Crime Prevention Council for their arts-related crime prevention program.

Cam Miller thanked Jennifer Arp for her report.

9. Provincial Update from George Smitherman's Office (MPP) — Lumumba Wolde-Gabriel

Cam Miller welcomed Lumumba Wolde-Gabriel. Lumumba reported that he will be representing George Smitherman's office from now on at SLNA meetings. George Smitherman's office is open to the public Monday through Friday, 9:00 to 5:00.

Rose Wilner congratulated George Smitherman on his work to date with doctors, and asked for more nurse practitioners and midwives.

Dwight Peters asked that George Smitherman look into restructuring the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB), as it currently takes away the City's ability to develop itself. Kenneth Smookler pointed out that the OMB was originally set up to assist small municipalities that did not have the technical infrastructure to approve local development, yet Toronto is treated the same as these small municipalities. A top down approach from government, not a grass roots appeal from citizens, he said, is needed to correct this flaw.

Cam Miller thanked Lumumba Wolde-Gabriel.

10. President's Report — Cam Miller

a) Island Airport and Bridge

Cam reported that he attended a meeting with John Godfrey toward the end of August. A follow-up meeting will take place on November 11. Minister LaPierre's office responded to a letter from the SLNA, expressing an intention to deal with Joe Volpe.

Medivac companies are currently located at the Toronto Island Airport, attracted by lower fees which we taxpayers subsidize. Medivac would be better situated well north of Toronto, to centralize them within the populated landmass, which would decrease travel times, enabling them to deliver patients sooner. The SLNA is in touch with George Smitherman's office on this issue and hopes to meet with him or hear from him shortly.

TWRC: Stig Harvour recommended that the SLNA write letters to the federal, provincial and municipal governments to ask that the Toronto Waterfront Revitalization Corporation (TWRC) receive authority to set into action its recommendations. \$1.5 billion was promised by the governments about 4-5 years ago, but no development has taken place. Stig held out a copy of a recent letter from the Gooderham Worts Neighbourhood

Association to Mayor Miller as a model. Cam said that the SLNA is represented at Community Air, which is pressing hard on all aspects of this issue, and he asked Stig to distribute a copy of the letter to interested delegates.

11. VP External Report – Frank Burns

a) Development Issues (40 The Esplanade)

Frank Burns reported that about 17 sites are under development in the neighbourhood. Developers propose to build at 40 The Esplanade a podium and two towers, one 33 storeys, the other 25 storeys. They are asking for quadruple density and quintuple height compared to the current by-law allowances. They are willing to accept a counterproposal from the Councillor and Planning Department for the 25 storeys to be reduced to 16. At a meeting held this afternoon at the Council Chambers, Frank, Cam Miller, Dwight Peters, Michael Comstock of the BIA and Edward Nixon of SEDERI grudgingly agreed. If the developers take their original plan on appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board, chances are that they will win. By accepting a 16 storey tower, we will discourage 70 The Esplanade (at Front and Church), which is also under development, from applying for a building higher than 16 storeys. Frank described this as a domino effect, as neighbouring buildings ask for permits to build at heights similar to their neighbours.

Ewa Jarmicka asked why the by-laws, with their height and density restrictions, are not followed. Frank responded that the by-laws are old, which by definition reduces them to “bad” by-laws. Ewa asked, Can we not renew the old by-laws and make them new again? Frank responded that the working group will attempt to produce some design for updating the by-laws. There is a danger that Council, if alienated, could generate new by-laws with increased height and density allowance.

Ewa Jarmicka noted that Toronto currently has a 6% vacancy rate, and asked whether the new buildings might remain half finished or half occupied. Frank responded that 80% occupancy must be sold for the buildings to be constructed. The absorption rate for condos is slowing down, but is still strong.

Wally Simpson pointed out that several Town Hall meetings were held last year on these development issues, and expressed concern that public opinion provided then is not being acknowledged in the decision-making. Frank responded that in some instances the SLNA has had an impact on the OMB, particularly for density and height restrictions placed on The Space condominium and at 311 Adelaide Street East, but that these instances did not guarantee favourable results this time.

Connie Yang pointed out that tourists visit our neighbourhood for the historical ambiance. The film industry also injects funds into the neighbourhood. Frank affirmed that the developers’ plans for towers could destroy the character of the neighbourhood.

Frank stated that the SLNA has four working committees which are addressing various developers’ plans.

Stig Harvour read an announcement from the City of a public meeting regarding 40 The Esplanade. The project will be put forward at the Community Council Meeting, Nov. 16, at City Hall, starting at 10:00 am. The public is invited to make submissions and to comment. Pre-register with the City Clerk. You are allowed up to five minutes for a presentation. You can submit your comments in writing or orally. Stig noted that the politicians on the Community Council are impressed if there is a good turn-out of the community at these meetings. Ronny Yaron recommended asking Boards of residences to send letters of concern, as a way to generate yet more neighbourhood feedback to Council.

b) St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Vision Working Group

(*NOTE:* The formation of this Working Group preceded the events outlined in Frank Burns' report above. The report below was made by Frank McLean, Convenor, referred to as "Frank")

Progress Report: For details, Frank referred Delegates to a report he had submitted to the Secretary and distributed to Delegates at the beginning of this meeting: "St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Vision Working Group, Progress Report: September 29 - October 18, 2004", October 27, 2004, pp. 14."

Formation of Working Group: Frank cited the last, September 29th Delegates' Meeting. Delegates expressed numerous concerns about the City's presentation on numerous properties proposed for development in the neighbourhood. Upon adjournment several Delegates, who had expressed concerns, including several members of the Development Committee, formed the Working Group to address simultaneously: a) these urgent and strategic site development proposals (e.g. initially 40 The Esplanade) and b) the need to concurrently develop a widely supported vision for the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood.

Concurrent Vision and Development Site Assessment: Frank noted that a vision is a necessary standard in our own community development, in city planning and in negotiating, site by site with developers. Only by stating what we want our community to become as it develops, is it possible to measure and assess the potential benefits and damages caused by our own initiatives and by development proposals. Frank reported on a breakfast seminar that morning organized by the Canadian Urban Institute on Heritage. It addressed a wide range of recent developments in heritage practice and public policy. He cited one person's report of a locality in England that developed a list of the buildings residents disliked and hopefully could be converted to other uses. He cited the orange and white-striped Pizza Pizza building, which was allowed across the street from the historic Flat Iron Building, as his nomination to start our neighbourhood's own such list. He noted that CUI had held a recent event on Heritage Districts and that its web site has directions for a neighbourhood to pursue Heritage District Status – which St. Lawrence has not yet done.

Computer Modeling of Vision and Site Development Proposals: A suggestion at its first meeting by a member of the Working Group, Rollo Meyers, led to a site visit by Cam Miller, Frank McLean and Dwight Peters with the Director of the Centre for Landscape Research at the University of Toronto. The Director agreed to use the Centre's computer model to generate maps, site corridors, view planes and other representations that provide accurate and realistic images of proposed site developments as well as the neighbourhood's vision. The Director also responded favourably to a question as to whether the Centre could serve as neutral turf for a demonstration and discussion of development proposals and neighbourhood vision among City, Neighbourhood and Developers.

40 The Esplanade Community Consultation, September 7: Frank reported strong preparation for and participation in this meeting by members of the Working Group - all well-received by neighborhood residents attending. This included a slide presentation delivered by Cam Miller, "A Vision for St. Lawrence-Old Town". *NOTE:* This presentation incorporates newly-developed Principles based on the Working Group's discussions - including the need to reflect the interests and attract the support of the diverse elements of St. Lawrence Neighbourhood. (See "Principles" at Appendix E of the Progress Report.) The City voiced interest in these "Principles" at the end of the Community Consultation and a copy has been shared with the Planner for this site. The slide presentation was based on an earlier version "A Vision for The Old Town" presented by Dwight Peters at the West St. Lawrence Planning Framework Charette, September 22-23. This charette was organized by the City to address half a dozen or so emerging neighbourhood property development initiatives from Jarvis west to Yonge.

Frank McLean reported that, due to the intense workload devoted to the Working Group coupled with his professional practice time constraints, he retired as Convenor and turned the Chairmanship of the working group over to Cam.

NOTE: Frank's resignation as Convenor was effective with the Executive Committee Meeting of September 13. Shortly thereafter, City Planners requested of him time to meet with the Working Group at its September 18 meeting to facilitate issuing an immediate public announcement of an unplanned third Community Consultation on 40 The Esplanade. Frank referred this request to Cam. Cam chaired the Sept 18th meeting of the Working Group when the City proposed a partnership with SLNA's Working Group to develop Urban Development Guidelines. Such guidelines have been developed and put in place in place for years for a large number of other neighbourhoods in the City. This proposal was accepted by the Working Group subject to some modifications. Subsequent to this meeting, Cam turned over the Chair of the Working Group to Frank Burns, whose report is minuted above.

12. VP Internal Report – Ronny Yaron

a) St. Lawrence Community Recreation Centre (SLCRC) Award
Ronny reported that at the SLCRC's AGM, she received on behalf of the SLNA a thank-you certificate for the SLNA's support of their youth initiatives. Pam Gierman asked for

an explanation of the support. Treasurer Nancy Sheppard reported that the SLNA gave \$1,200 to the SLCRC sports program to sponsor 6 teams, and \$6,700 to the camping program. Monies were also provided to run the Youth Aquatics Leadership program, but she did not have a total dollar figure.

b) New Delegates

Ronny welcomed Dawn Murray of Windmill Line Co-op as a new delegate. She reported that she and Cam Miller have prepared a flyer to recruit more delegates in buildings that have paid annual SLNA fees but do not have their quota of delegates.

13. Treasurer — Nancy Sheppard

a) September 2004 Financial Statements

Nancy distributed and summarized the financial statements for the period ending September 30, 2004.

The Gala attained a profit of \$11,500. The Festival has so far attained a profit of \$2,300, which will be reduced to about \$2,000 once two outstanding invoices are received and paid. Profits from the Gala and Festival will eventually be moved over to the Special Fund column, but they remain in the Operations column until a final total for each is determined.

The total for Membership (currently \$22) will rise significantly by year-end, because just this month membership renewals have been mailed. Currently the budget is overspent by \$3,661 but the deficit will disappear once membership fees are received.

Delegates applauded the team that organized the September Festival.

Nancy offered to respond to any questions by email or phone.

14. New Business

a) St. Lawrence Market Events

Ronny Yaron reported that the Market is holding another celebration for their 200th anniversary on November 6 in the North Market. Several events will take place at The Market on November 26: the BIA's Open House, the launch of the Cavalcade of Lights, and the launch of the Nutcracker Festival. Details will be available on the SLNA's website and will be emailed to delegates.

b) St. Lawrence Community Recreation Centre (SLCRC)

Alice Briesmaster, SLNA rep to the SLCRC Advisory Council, submitted a written report, along with regrets for not attending.

The SLCRC Advisory Council held its AGM on Thursday, Oct. 21, at 7:00 pm at the Recreation Centre. The evening started with an awards ceremony. Thank-you certificates

were handed out to sponsors and to volunteers in the Summer Sports and Synergetic Adults programs. Ronny Yaron of the SLNA received a thank-you certificate for the SLNA's support of the CRC Youth Programs.

CRC accomplishments during the year include the first Open House and dedication of the P.J. Nicholson Lobby, the continued success of the Aquatic Leadership Program, completion of a \$99,000 Ontario Works Project training young women to be coaches, hosting of the Girls Unlimited Conference with Public Health, the first year of the Synergetic Adults Program (under Dorothy Creaser's leadership), and a series of Older Adult Consultations to focus on the needs of this age group in our community.

The summer soccer leagues had the most participants ever and there were five summer camps for various ages. Kevin Muise, the Youth Rep to the Council, reported on his 3-day Youth Leadership Camp experience at Lake Huron.

A representative from Parks and Rec., Lucy Trossi-Stern, commented that she was impressed with the enthusiasm of the Advisory Council members, the thoroughness of the financial report, and how well the Council worked together with the Rec. Centre staff.

Elections of the CRC Advisory Council members were held. The new Council includes:

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| <i>Chair</i> – Dwight Peters | <i>Older Adults Rep</i> – Ann Turner |
| <i>Vice Chair</i> – Dorothy Creaser | <i>Youth Rep</i> – Kevin Muise |
| <i>Treasurer</i> – Paul Parker | <i>Special Needs Rep</i> – Pam Gierman |
| <i>Secretary</i> – Abdi Nur | <i>Members at Large</i> – Halima Mohammed, Melanie McNeil, Jim Dalziel, Ron Monteith |

15. Adjournment

Cam will try to book 51 Division public meeting room for the next SLNA meeting.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:49 pm.

The next delegates' meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 24, 2004, at 7:00 pm.

Nancy Sheppard, Acting Corporate Secretary

Cam Miller, Chair