

SLNA DELEGATES MEETING

September 26, 2007

OWN CO-OP, 115 The Esplanade

Executive Members in Attendance :

President: Paul Smith, St. Lawrence on the Park
Secretary: Joan Campbell, Market Square
VP External: Hugh-Francis Burns, Longboat Residents Association
VP Internal: Ronny Yaron, Woodsworth Co-op

Treasurer: Bruno Leps, Market Square
At Large: Ani Kounavis, 25 The Esplanade
At Large: Wallace Simpson, Crombie Park
At Large: Connie Yang, O.W.N. Co-op

Voting Delegates in Attendance:

Randy Bath, 15 Scadding
Patricia Bearclaw, Cathedral Court Co-op
Keith Bricknell, The Metropole
Joan Boyd, P.A.L
Jennifer Chan, Windmill Line Co-op
Richard Cuthbert, 71 Front St E.
Terry Eitel, Old York Tower
Karl Froehr, Windmill Line Co-op
Aurie Hensman, 160 Frederick St
Catherine Limbertie, 1 Church St

Marcus Little, The Wellington
Emma McBey, O.W.N Co-op
Ronald Monteith, Woodsworth Co-op
Maria Moreno, O.W.N Co-op
Dan O'Leary, 15 Scadding
Loralie Olinyk, Harmony Co-op Homes
Sherri Russell, F.A.N.
Alan Seymour, Old York Tower
Farhan Syed, The Metropole
Jacquie Williams, Old York Tower

REGRETS: Len Anderson, 140 The Esplanade

Associate Members & Guests :

Jennifer Arp, Bill Graham's office
Michael Comstock, St Lawrence Market BIA
Marie Copkov, 176 The Esplanade
Tom Davidson, Pam McConnell's office
Ed Majchrowski, TCHC Representative
Didier Pomerleau, King's Court
Harry Renaud, 135 George St S.
Edward Nixon, Windmill Line Co-op

Tim Rourke, 15 Scadding
Ben Marans, smartLiving St. Lawrence
Janet Tomas, 222 The Esplanade
Abigail Moriah for Edward Nixon

Alyss Ponchuk, Recording Secretary

ACRONYMS:

BIA: Business Improvement Area
CMHC: Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation
CFOE Citizens for the Old Town
CPLC: Community Police Liaison Committee
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, Approval of the Agenda & Approval of July Minutes — Paul Smith

President Paul Smith called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. and chaired the meeting.

Motion: to approve the Agenda as presented.

Moved by: Patricia Bearclaw

Seconded by: Cherril Baker

CARRIED

Motion: to approve the July 2007 minutes as presented.

Moved by: Wallace Simpson

Seconded by: Sherri Russell

CARRIED

3. Presentation Re: Referendum in Next Provincial Election – Presented by Representatives from

FairVote Referendum Ontario

The Chair introduced Marta O’Brien, who is Referendum Resource Officer for Toronto Centre and is employed by Elections Ontario. Marta gave a PowerPoint presentation on why we are having a referendum, how it will work, and choices that voters can make. Voting for the referendum will occur in conjunction with the provincial elections.

Elections Ontario is a nonpartisan party that runs the elections for Ontario, and is not an advocate for any party or either voting system. She declined to answer questions outside her immediate responsibility of describing the two systems. She distributed informational brochures about the referendum.

Due to concerns by citizens about our voting system, the provincial government set up a Citizens’ Assembly to study electoral systems around the world, report on what they learned and make a recommendation. Had they recommended that we stay with our existing system, we would not be having a referendum. They recommended the mixed member proportional (MMP) electoral system. The current “First-Past-The-Post” system has been in use since 1792. This is Ontario’s first referendum since 1924.

If the referendum passes, the government structure will remain the same as now; only the election process changes.

For more information on the MMP system, see Elections Ontario’s referendum website www.yourbigdecision.ca and follow the link to the Citizens Assembly website, or email questions to Elections Ontario.

Marta described the existing electoral system and the proposed system. She assured Delegates that

The Chair thanked Marta O’Brien for her presentation.

Break (7:55 p.m. to 8:05 p.m.)

4. Committee Reports

a) Development Committee – Market Wharf – 18 Lower Jarvis

Hugh-Francis Burns reported. The City’s Planning Department has produced a preliminary report on a proposed mixed-use development on Jarvis Street south of The Esplanade. The report recommended holding a public meeting to receive

community input. A public meeting took place Monday night, September 24. Elisabeth Ecker pointed out that some of the people who spoke in favour were with the developer, not the community.

People at the public meeting expressed concern about a serviceway for garbage trucks and delivery trucks that will exit on Market Lane, about the proposed six storeys of above-ground parking, and about increased traffic at the intersection of Market Lane and The Esplanade.

Hugh-Francis Burns gave SLNA Delegates a PowerPoint presentation that illustrated why he advocates against the proposed development. It is out of scale for the neighbourhood, 4-5 times higher than nearby buildings.

A site report indicates that the lot is on contaminated soil from previous industrial use of the land. Multiple storeys of garage space are designed for above ground, probably to avoid the prohibitive cost of excavating the contaminated soil. Cherril Baker pointed out that a development was nixed in the Distillery District 20 years ago and a park was installed, due to community complaints about disturbing the contaminated soil. The soil is polluted along the entire length of The Esplanade. Another person added that contamination has been discovered recently in a sub-ground room at the SLCRC on The Esplanade. Tom Davidson will follow-up that incident.

A person stated that sewage in the neighbourhood is already at capacity for existing residents, and cannot accommodate the proposed building. Hugh-Francis Burns pointed out that the City will have verified the capacity of the sewer system to accommodate the proposed building.

Hugh-Francis Burns stated that one more official public meeting will take place, before Community Council. He has heard of attempts to hold additional meetings. No dates were given.

Stig Harvor gave a history of the site. The owners' first proposal was for a standalone Shoppers Drug Mart with a parking lot. The community and City objected, and the owners are now appealing to the OMB. A developer is in the meantime proposing this mixed-use development. The SLNA's Development Committee objects to this

development because of its mass and height, but does not object to the idea of a mixed-use development on the lot.

Motion: that the SLNA does not support the development as proposed at 18 Lower Jarvis Street

Moved by: Marcus Little

Seconded by: Cherril Baker

WITHDRAWN

The motion was withdrawn because:

- Ronny Yaron asked that the motion state that the project should fit the heritage character of the neighbourhood.

- Tom Davidson recommended that the City could respond to the SLNA's objection if reasons are given rather than an outright negation.

Marcus Little, Hugh-Francis Burns, and Tom Davidson stepped aside to rephrase the motion while the meeting continued. This agenda item continued after items 4b and e.

b) Community Building – Membership & Community Recreational Centre

VP Internal Ronny Yaron reported on a new initiative. Old York Tower, 1 Church, OWN, and New Hybrid Co-op all have a courtyard in common on their south side. A community meeting will take place in November, tentatively at Old York Tower, to discuss ways to make this public space more pleasant for residents, and to install recreational facilities for youth. Perhaps an application could be made to the Ontario Healthy Living Coalition for government funding to enhance this green space. The SLNA executive is acting as facilitator to encourage the nearby residents to take charge of this project. People are welcome to contact Ronny Yaron with any suggestions.

A person noted that drug dealing takes place in the courtyard. Paul Smith reminded Delegates that about a year ago Councillor Pam McConnell, the Superintendent of 51 Division, the President of the SLNA, and two principals from local schools met and developed solutions to security issues in the

neighbourhood. They can hold another meeting if it becomes necessary to intervene again. Residents can also conduct security walkabouts of their property to deter trespassers.

Ronny Yaron distributed:

- a card with green resource contact information in downtown Toronto, "Go Green: Learn more about the incentives and programs offered by the City of Toronto"

- a newsletter by the City of Toronto, "Toronto Bike Plan", an update on Toronto's 10-year Bike Plan, currently in its sixth year

e) Smartliving

Paul Smith reported that Smartliving St. Lawrence is continuing, with a new plan. Co-sponsor EnerAct is hiring a replacement for Ben Marans. The SLNA Executive has formed an assisting committee of four people, including Ian Lipton (skilled in waste management), Dennis Martels (skilled in alternative energy), Dan O'Leary (skilled in greening the SLN), and Village Technologies (skilled in retrofitting). EnerAct is investigating funding, and has already raised \$50,000.

The Toronto Atmospheric Fund plans to expand Smartliving across Toronto, on proof that the program continues as a success in the SLNA.

a) Development Committee – Market Wharf – 18 Lower Jarvis, continued

Motion: that the SLNA supports mixed-use residential commercial developments in our heritage neighbourhood. The SLNA does not support the development as proposed at 18 Lower Jarvis Street.

Moved by: Marcus Little

Seconded by: Terry Eitel

CARRIED

Paul Smith pointed out that City planners and Councillor McConnell have not approved the development as is, and that there will likely be revisions. Marcus Little advised that people can

individually or collectively send their views to Councillor Pam McConnell and to City Planner Kyle Koenck. Marcus Little will ask the SLNA's Corporate Secretary to send to all Delegates by email information on the proposed development and the motion just passed.

c) Government Relations

Paul Smith asked Tom Davidson, Assistant to Councillor Pam McConnell, to speak to the health issue regarding polluted soil in the SLN, and how the SLNA can get answers. Delegates expressed concern in particular for gaining access to the soil test for the proposed development at Jarvis & The Esplanade, and intervention for the toxic dust and gas emitted from construction at the transformer station on The Esplanade between Sherbourne and Frederick Streets. Tom Davidson offered to follow-up.

Paul Smith reported that he met with Tom Davidson and updated the 20-Point Plan. A revised version will be made available to Delegates.

d) All-Candidates Debate

Ronny Yaron reported that Harry Renault, VP External was unable to attend this evening, but has been working hard to plan an All-Candidates meeting for the upcoming provincial elections. The SLNA is co-sponsoring the meeting with the BIA and GWNA. It will take place October 4 in the North Market. Ronny Yaron distributed flyers and asked Delegates to post them. Flyers will also be emailed to Delegates. So far four candidates, from the main parties, have confirmed their participation. The moderator will be Professor Sheldon Taylor of the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto.

f) Community Improvement Plan (CIP)

Aurie Hensman, co-chair of the committee, was not present tonight. A written report of the CIP by City Planner Kyle Koenck will be before City Council on Tuesday, October 2. The area that the CIP covers runs from George Street to Yonge Street and from King Street to the railway tracks. Five policies exist for our neighbourhood, each

designating different boundaries. The CIP covers the southwest quadrant of our neighbourhood. The SLNA plans to extend its urban design guidelines and CIP into the northwest and northeast quadrants next.

g) Development Committee

Paul Smith announced that Hugh-Francis Burns is no longer Chair of the SLNA's Development Committee and that Marcus Little has been serving as Chair. Hugh-Francis added that when he resigned as Chair he disbanded the Development Committee. He asked that people interested in joining a new Development Committee contact Marcus. Marcus pointed out that the Development Committee is not a standing committee of the SLNA, and that the SLNA's by-laws specify only that the SLNA wants beneficial development in the neighbourhood.

Motion: to ratify Marcus Little's status as Chair of the Development Committee.

Moved by: Cherril Baker

Seconded by: Ronny Yaron

CARRIED

Marcus Little explained that Section 47 of the provincial Planning Act specifies that Section 37 moneys (money that developers give communities in trade for permission to build beyond zoning guidelines) be used only for hard physical assets. Numerous organizations across the city are asking that the Official Plan be revised to allow expenditure of Section 37 moneys for studies and Part 2 Plans.

Motion: that the SLNA supports the change to the Official Plan to allow Section 37 money to be used for studies and Part 2 Plans.

Moved by: Marcus Little

Seconded by: Ronny Yaron

Cherril Baker called the question due to the lateness of the meeting.

CARRIED

5. Delegates' Issues

At the request of Connie Yang, Tom Davidson, Assistant to Councillor Pam McConnell, will look into clean-up of empty public spaces next to PAL and a studio, and west of OWN and PAL.

6. Other Business

a) 2007 Stand Up For Kids Award

Patricia Bearclaw announced that Dr. Michael C. Irving, Ph.D., has been chosen to receive the "2007 Stand Up for Kids Award." The award presentation will take place on Tuesday, October 2 at the Toronto Eaton Centre. Mayor David Miller and other Toronto personalities will "Give Kids a Hand" in protection against child abuse. See Dr.

Irving's art projects, workshops and clinical work at www.irvingstudies.com.

b) Next Meeting

The next SLNA Delegates' meeting will take place on October 24 at OWN Co-op. Delegates agreed to reschedule the meeting as Wednesday, October 31 is Halloween.

6. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:13 pm.

The SLNA acknowledge the St. Lawrence Market for hosting tonight's meeting.

The next Delegates meeting will be held on Wednesday, **October 24** at 7:00 pm. at OWN Co-op.

Corporate Secretary

President