



**MINUTES OF THE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
March 26, 2014
OWN Co-op, 115 The Esplanade**

Board of Directors in Attendance:

President: Steve Lowden - London on the Esplanade
Secretary: Jacquie Williams - Old York Tower
Treasurer: Caida Gill - London on the Esplanade
VP Internal: John Wichelow - Windmill Line Co-op
VP Internal: Maureen Walsh - 15 Scadding
VP External: Dwight Peters - 25 The Esplanade
Director at Large: Dan O'Leary - 15 Scadding

Voting Delegates in Attendance:

Robert Sherrin - Abbey Lofts
Eileen Smith - Absolute
Rhonda Parto - Caroline Co-op
Catherine Limberti - 1 Church Street
Wally Simpson - Crombie Park
Joan Lewis - David B. Archer Co-op
Margaret McQuade - David B. Archer
Lois Thomson - David B. Archer
Melville Olsberg - 160 Frederick St.
Colin Randall-Smith - 25 George St.
David Crawford - 135 St. George St. S
Debra Corey - Kings Court
Keith Bricknell - 7 King St. E
Joanne Woodwood - 72 Front St. E
Maureen Browne - London on the Esplanade
Deborah Field - Longboat Residents Assoc.
Sonja Secker - Market Square
Andrea Vechter - Market Square

Associate Members & Guests:

Councillor Pam McConnell
Hal Whitcomb & Elaine Rosenberg TFSS
Dulce Gomes Toronto Public Library

Board of Directors Regrets:

Director at Large: Ian Campbell - Woodsworth Co-op

Louise Amm - OWN
Connie Yang - OWN
Alan Seymour - Old York Tower
Duncan Ash - Old York Tower
Keith McCallum - 255 Richmond St. E
David Balcon - 313/323 Richmond St. E.
Suzanne Kavanagh - St. Lawrence on the Park
Toby Tanenbaum - St. Lawrence on the Park
Arya Beenu - 25 The Esplanade
Mary McDonald - 25 The Esplanade
Stephen Devine - 176 The Esplanade
Faith Sawyers - Windmill Line Co-op
Ronny Yaron - Woodsworth Co-op

Regrets:

Joyce Arnold - 135 St. George St. S
John Stewart - Market Square

Edward Nixon SEDNA
Frank Tobey The Bulletin
Michael Schwartz The Bulletin

1. REGISTRATION

2. OPENING OF MEETING

2.1 Opening Remarks

Steve Lowden (President) stated that he would be chairing the meeting and called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

2.2 Approval of AGM Agenda

The Chair of the Nominations Committee, Mary McDonald, was unable to attend the Annual General Meeting. It was announced that Alan Seymour would fill in as Chair of the Nominations Committee, in her place. It was resolved to approve this substitution. All were in favour and the **motion was CARRIED.**

MOVED BY: Olga Kremko
SECONDED BY: Wally Simpson

2.3 Approval of Minutes for March 27, 2013

It was resolved to approve the Minutes of the Delegates' Annual General Meeting held on March 27, 2013 as presented. All were in favour and the **motion was CARRIED**.

MOVED BY: David Crawford
SECONDED BY: Keith Bricknell

2.4 Appointment of Recording Secretary for AGM

It was resolved to appoint Andrea Vechter as Recording Secretary for the AGM. All were in favour and the **motion was CARRIED**.

MOVED BY: Don James
SECONDED BY: Dan O'Leary

3.0 NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alan Seymour, representing the Nominations and Elections Committee, thanked the current Board of Directors for their good work. He continued with an overview of the nomination and election processes. The rules of order included: only SLNA delegates may vote; nominations may be accepted from the floor. He added that, at this meeting, the Association sought to elect two new Directors, each for a three-year term. Two candidates had been put forward, as part of the pre-meeting nomination process. Their names appeared on the ballot.

Debra Corey was nominated from the floor by Caida Gill. The list of candidates was revised to include three names: Steven Devine; Dan O'Leary; and Debra Corey.

It was resolved to close the nomination process. All were in favour and the **motion was CARRIED**.

MOVED BY: David Crawford
SECONDED BY: Keith Bricknell

The Chair confirmed, by show of hands, that all voting delegates held ballot and that these ballots had been revised to include the names of the three candidates. The candidates each gave a brief statement of introduction, including why they would like to represent the community on the Board of Directors. The delegates then marked their ballots. Ballots were collected by the scrutineers and taken away for counting.

4.0 ANNUAL REPORT OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

4.1 Board Goals

Increase membership to 54 by April 2014

- Mid-term: added one more building
- End of year: currently three invoices outstanding and one non-renewal (Vu 2)
- Currently at 49 member-buildings

Increase delegate attendance by 25% (from current average of 32 to 40) by April 2014

- Mid-term report: averaging about the same level of delegate attendance
- End of year: averaged 34 delegates over the last five meetings

Review website and communications and make recommendations to delegates by October 30, 2013

- Recommendations were made and some improvements implemented
- \$2,500 in the 2014 budget to do limited work on website upgrades

4.2 Key Highlights

- Continued strong partnerships within the neighbourhood: BIA, Jamii, Recreation Centre
- Created and sustained broader connections outside our neighbourhood: SEDNA, CBRA and other close neighbours; other neighbourhood associations (RANACA)
- Took stands on issues of importance to our community and the City: bike lanes, casino, expansion of jet services
- Mobilized to help save the North Market re-development

Our sponsorships/contributions made a difference in our community.

- School nutrition programs (almost \$10,000 donated)
- Building Bridges scholarship program
- Jamii events - Nuit Blanche; Cat Walkers; Contact; movies in Crombie Park; photo exhibits in Berczy and Market Lane Parks.
- Recreation Centre – soccer program
- BIA – Music in the Park

4.3 Disappointments and Challenges

Disappointments

- Unable to stave off split of federal riding into two ridings divided by the Esplanade
- Delegate attendance did not improve

Challenges

- Getting the message out about the Association and its great work
- Attracting new people

4.4 Annual Report: Committees

SLNA Development Committee

- Development Committee Members: Cherrill Baker; James Bar; Debra Corey; David Crawford; Caida Gill (BIA rep); Stig Harvor; Suzanne Kavanagh (Chair); Marcus Little; Steve Lowden (ex officio); Dwight Peters; Robert Sherrin
- The Development Committee continues to work with the City and developers to ensure that new buildings would fit well into the historic context of the St. Lawrence neighbourhood. This Committee usually meets monthly at City Hall.
- This year we saw many changes in staff at City Hall which included Al Rezoski going to another section of midtown and Willie Macrae going to Scarborough. We hope to see them both return to our neighbourhood.
- The most significant current project is the proposal for 177 Front Street East (Sobeys/Acura site). We are also waiting for the OMB decision on 60 Colborne Street, and we are tracking the “temporary” parking lot at 154 Front Street East. The permit expires September 2014. Other projects we are tracking include 90 King Street, E, where we have noted that the owners may be appealing the City’s decision to list their buildings under the Heritage Act
- To see projects we are tracking visit the SLNA web site <http://www.slna.ca/slna-current-projects.html> .

SLNA Heritage Conservation District Committee

- Members: David Crawford; Suzanne Kavanagh (Chair); Steve Lowden (Board rep); Brittany Marsden
- This ad hoc committee was struck in 2006 with the sole purpose of getting the St. Lawrence Neighbourhood designated as a Heritage Conservation District.
- In 2013 the City started the long-promised Heritage Conservation District Study of St. Lawrence. The study area spans Yonge to Parliament (East/West) and the rail corridor to Adelaide

(North/South). Once the Study is completed, it is likely that the area (while possibly adjusted) will become more than one Heritage Conservation District. The committee is working with the consultants to carry out the built-form part of the Study.

- Volunteers from the SLNA along with students from George Brown College and Ryerson completed the survey work in early 2014. The consultants will now complete the study. The plan will be submitted to the City sometime this summer (2014).
- The next community consultation will be held April 10, 2014.

BIA Streetscape Committee (Committee with SLNA Representation)

This committee did not meet this past year but its subgroups remain active. Three key projects include:

1) The **Front Street Promenade** was finally created in summer 2013 with new street lighting, bump-outs, new road surface and improved sidewalks. The SLNA is opposed to all boulevard parking, and it is hoped that in 2014 the City will be able to deal with the boulevard parking on Frederick Street, south of Front. Four SLNA 30th Anniversary benches will be installed on Front Street, summer 2014. Garbage and re-cycle bins will also be installed.

2) The restoration work on **The Esplanade** (Scott to Jarvis) has been extremely slow, caused in part by a desire to interfere as little as possible with 'patio season'. The BIA has organised a large number of stakeholder meetings - over 50 - and the end result will be a model for our neighbourhood. This should be completed in early summer 2014.

3) The plans for **Lower Sherbourne Street**, which were discussed with Delegates in 2011, were finalised during 2013. Work will start in summer 2014. The cycle tracks will be extended south from King Street, the right-turn channels south of the rail bridge will be regularised and the street-lighting will be improved. There will also be new sidewalks, road surface and trees.

Note: The SLNA is pressing the City to provide **more garbage, re-cycling and cigarette-butt receptacles** along Front Street, the Esplanade (between Berkeley and Jarvis) and King St (near Jarvis). Members are encouraged to keep sending emails to 311. When the City receives a critical mass of resident requests/ complaints, they do pay attention.

The BIA Parks Committee (Committee with SLNA Representation)

- In 2013 the full BIA Parks Committee did not meet as all efforts were on the **Berczy Park** revitalisation project. The SLNA is represented on that Working Group. The reconstruction design for Berczy Park has now been completed.
- The next park to be revitalised is **St James**. Preliminary plans have been discussed, following the 8-80 Cities Report commissioned by the BIA. It is expected that work in St James will be less 'dramatic' and will deal more with replacement of missing and dead trees, improved park furniture, better pathways and making a better pedestrian connection to Church Street. It is anticipated that neighbourhood input will be sought in 2014/15, with work scheduled to begin after the Pan-Am Games.
- We continue to keep the needs of other neighbourhood parks in mind and keep trying to have the City Parks Department install missing benches, replace trees, and improve maintenance. In 2013 we managed to get two new benches on The Esplanade just east of Frederick and continue to press City staff for others. The general maintenance budget for City parks is clearly inadequate, and we continue to press for improvements.
- Though it is not connected to the BIA Parks Committee, we continue to report missing and dead street trees to the City each year and have been greatly encouraged by City forestry staff who have planted many replacement trees (up to 60) in our neighbourhood. There are plans to plant many more in 2014 to replace those removed due to the Emerald Ash Borer.

First Parliament Site (Committee with SLNA Representation)

- The First Parliament Working Group, chaired by Councillor McConnell, has met twice since its formation, and members – who represent a wide range of local and provincial interests - are being educated about the history of the site and the possible plans for its future.
- The site is now all under public ownership – the City and the Ontario Heritage Trust – and will be home to a new and larger public library. This Branch will replace the current St. Lawrence Branch on Front Street and serve the growing population in the neighbourhood. There will also be some kind of heritage interpretation building on site, as well as additional open space.
- Detailed plans will be developed and public consultations will be held over the next two years. Construction is expected to start in 2017, with a completion date of 2019.

Webmaster

- During the past year the website has seen some general ‘maintenance’ but not a complete overhaul. As it serves as the Association’s ‘archive’, much of the older material has been moved to separate pages. Information is updated when it is sent to the Webmaster by the Board and our various representatives.
- Usage of the site remains fairly high.
- The Board set up a separate Facebook page and has discussed creating a blog. The Facebook page is linked to the Association’s website. The blog, once created, will also be linked to the website. Stephen Devine, an SLNA Delegate, will take over the Association’s Facebook site. Links to other blogs, such as the Community Police Liaison blog, have been suggested by Delegates and are being considered.
- The current Web Master (who signed on for a year) has now been in office for six years.

The West of Jarvis Courtyard Committee (Committee with SLNA Representation)

- This space runs east to west between Lower Market and Church Streets, behind the Esplanade.
- Last spring a committee of volunteers from the community set out on a project to rejuvenate the garden with funds donated for this location from the Film Company who did some shoots for the movie RED. The garden is now a lush haven of wonderful planting with an abundance of rose trees/bushes, lilac bushes and an impressive display of assorted flowers. This summer should be exceptional as most of the new planting was done during the summer of 2013. Some people have already found this oasis and come to sit among the beautiful blooms to read or just chat.
- All are encouraged to check out this community garden and/or donate some time to help with its care.

4.5 SLNA-sponsored Events

The SLNA sponsored two major events this year:

- 1) Canada Day
 - Well-attended with over 500 people in attendance throughout the afternoon
 - Received strong support from our elected officials
 - Special thanks to the Committee who mobilized quickly to save and put on the event
- 2) Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon
 - Raised almost \$10,000 for Toronto Foundation for Student Success, \$750 for Jamii and \$750 for the Children’s Play Garden
 - Took second place (again!) out of 14 neighbourhood cheering sections

5.0 ACCEPTANCE OF TREASURER’S REPORT (CAIDA GILL)

The audited financial statements were not available at the time of this meeting so the Delegates were not able to vote to accept the report. It was decided to defer the vote until the Delegates’ meeting in April 2014.

6.0 CONFIRMATION OF ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR UPCOMING TERM (CAIDA GILL)

As the Auditor's report was not available at the time of this meeting, it was decided to defer the vote to confirm the accounting firm for the upcoming term until the April Delegates' meeting.

7.0 ACCEPTANCE OF INCOMING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alan Seymour, as acting Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee, thanked the scrutineers for their help in collecting and counting of the ballots. The incoming directors will complete a 3-year term, beginning at the end of April of this year. The incoming directors are: **Debra Corey and Stephen Devine.**

It was resolved to accept the new directors. All were in favour and the motion was **CARRIED.**

MOVED BY: Steve Lowden
SECONDED BY: Don James

8.0 Adjournment (Deferred)

As Delegates were not able to vote on agenda items 7 and 8 (acceptance of Treasurer's Report and confirmation of accounting firm), it was **moved** that the meeting not be adjourned, but be left open, to be continued on April 30, 2014. All were in favour and the motion was **CARRIED.**

9. RECOMMENCEMENT OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

9.1 Opening Remarks

On April 30, 2014, Steve Lowden (President) welcomed back delegates and stated that he would be chairing the continuation of the Annual General Meeting and called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

10.0 APPROVAL OF AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The audited financial statements (which had been circulated earlier) were presented.

It was resolved to approve the audited Financial Statements for the period ending December 31, 2013 as circulated. All were in favour and the **motion was CARRIED.**

MOVED BY: Don James
SECONDED BY: Wally Simpson

11.0 CONFIRMATION OF ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR UPCOMING TERM

It was resolved to appoint the firm of Cowperthwaite Mehta Chartered Accountants LLP as the auditors until the next Annual General Meeting. All were in favour and the **motion was CARRIED.**

MOVED BY: John Wichelow
SECONDED BY: Dan O'Leary

There being no further business, it was moved by Wally Simpson and agreed by the delegates to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.



LIST OF MOTIONS

Annual General Meeting: March 26, 2014

1. Approval of Agenda

The Chair of the Nominations Committee, Mary McDonald, was unable to attend the Annual General Meeting. It was announced that Alan Seymour would fill in as Chair of the Nominations Committee, in her place. It was resolved to approve this substitution. All were in favour and the **motion was CARRIED**.

MOVED BY: Olga Kremko
SECONDED BY: Wally Simpson

2. Approval of 2013 AGM Minutes

It was resolved to approve the Minutes of the Delegates' Annual General Meeting held on March 27, 2013 as presented. All were in favour and the **motion was CARRIED**.

MOVED BY: David Crawford
SECONDED BY: Keith Bricknell

3. Appointment of Recording Secretary for AGM

It was resolved to appoint Andrea Vechter as Recording Secretary for the AGM. All were in favour and the **motion was CARRIED**.

MOVED BY: Don James
SECONDED BY: Dan O'Leary

4. Approval of Audited Financial Statements

It was resolved to approve the audited Financial Statements for the period ending December 31, 2013 as circulated. All were in favour and the **motion was CARRIED**.

MOVED BY: Don James
SECONDED BY: Wally Simpson

5. Appointment of Auditors

It was resolved to appoint the firm of Cowperthwaite Mehta Chartered Accountants LLP as the auditors until the next Annual General Meeting. All were in favour and the **motion was CARRIED**.

MOVED BY: John Wichelow
SECONDED BY: Dan O'Leary