

SWANSEA AREA RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION
MINUTES FOR MEETING OF February 18, 2013

Present: David Fleming, Nick Singh, William Roberts, Kate Lawson, Elizabeth Elson, Ian McIsaac, Brian O'Rourke, Sybil Wilkinson

Regrets: Ed Gaigalas, John Meijer, Louis Gris, Gared Daniel, Keith Dicks

1. **CALL TO ORDER and DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** Nick Singh called the meeting to order at 7:25.
2. **AGENDA AMENDMENTS and APPROVAL:** Bill Roberts moved that the agenda of February 18th, 2013 be accepted. The motion was seconded by Brian O'Rourke and carried.
3. **MINUTES AMENDMENTS and APPROVAL:** Bill Roberts moved that the minutes for January 15th, 2013 (SARA - Minutes 20130115.r2.odt) be accepted as amended. The motion was seconded by Kate Lawson and carried.
4. **EXECUTIVE REPORTS:**
 - a. **Membership:** No report.
 - b. **Fundraising:** Kate Lawson will ask Louis Gris to ask the Seniors Association if they are will continue with the Village Playhouse.
 - c. **Treasurers:** Kate Lawson read and moved approval of the January 2013 report. The motion was seconded by Ian McIssac and carried.
 - d. **Expenses:** Brian O'Rourke \$33.55 for YIMBY. Bill Roberts, copying, parking and gas for City By-Law work. \$111.87 for SARA mailbox. David Fleming moved payment of the expenses. The motion was seconded by Ian McIssac and carried.
5. **CURRENT MATTERS:**
 - a. **New Members and Guests:** Rod Muir from the Sierra Club of Canada talking about the First Annual Great High Park Cleanup on April 20, 2013 at 10am. They are arranging an organized, concerted effort of around 200 people to walk through the park from designated starting areas, cleaning up the garbage, finally meeting up at the dock by the pond. They are looking for captains to lead groups of around 20 people. It is expected to take approximately four hours. Mr Muir asked SARA for support via our email list as well as to help with the work. He has contacted local groups and councillors. It was suggested he contact Green 13, Cheese Boutique and Starbucks as well. Bill Roberts moved a motion to support the effort via our website, newsletter and email list. The motion was seconded by Sybil Wilkinson and carried.
 - b. **Membership Committee:** No news.
 - c. **Consolidated Zoning By-Law:** Bill Roberts reported that work on reviewing the by law is progressing. There are technical issues relating specifically to Swansea, in particular an exception from North and South Rosedale that requires all vehicles to be parked within a structure. They failed to import a provision to exclude second floor decks. They altered a technical area around the addition of cladding for buildings older than 1988, allowing for 20 sq metres of attic space, and an R5 exception that would encapsulate and cover our concerns about RU2 zoning. Brian O'Rourke motioned that SARA generally support the thrust of by-law, but need to discuss changes with City staff in areas identified as problematic for Swansea. The statutory public meeting is being held March 6, 2013 and SARA should write a letter of support and objection so appeals can be filed in the future if required, and additionally have SARA support CORRA in their efforts. The motion was seconded by David Fleming and carried.

- d. **Scotia Bank Toronto Waterfront Marathon – October 14, 2012:** Nick Singh reported that we have made no progress in finding another partner. He will ask Councillor Doucette for help in finding another partner. There was some discussion about proceeding with just the Legion.
- e. **Southport Plaza:** Ian McIsaac reported that the SKNC submitted a letter to City Planning on January 11, 2013 addressing retail space, commercial parking, phasing, and construction and indemnification agreements. The SKNC sent another followup letter on February 19th 2013 asking for changes. The letter could be further clarified as to its intent. Ian McIsaac will contact Veronica Wynne to attempt to clarify their position to one that basically supports the changes, but expresses their concerns.
- f. **West End Ratepayers' Group Meeting:** No news.
- g. **West End Ratepayers' Group Meeting – Heritage Designation Effort:** Nick Singh reported that things are moving along. The intern attended and has been given direction for tasks to complete. They have been successful in contacting the Bloor West BIA. The next meeting is March 5th, 2013.
- h. **Global News's "From the Neighbourhood" Program:** Elizabeth Elson motioned that we contact Global about our AGM and our guest speaker. The motion was seconded by Ian McIsaac and carried. We could also extend this to deal with Committee of Adjustment issues and the general operations of ratepayers groups. This would support in promoting SARA. Nick Singh and Ian McIsaac will help Elizabeth in moving this forward.
- i. **YIMBY (Yes in my backyard) Festival – February 16, 2013:** Bill Roberts reported that he, Ian McIsaac and Brian O'Rourke attended. Only two ratepayer groups/neighbourhood groups attended, SARA and Active 18. There is concern that the festival is losing its neighbourhood and community activity focus.
- j. **Runnymede Fire Station Closure:** No news.
- k. **Issues with Building Permits and the Ombudsmen:** Bill Roberts will work with David Fleming to write a letter to the Ombudsman regarding three properties in Swansea. Bill Roberts has compiled talking points and David Fleming will compose a letter for review.
- l. **Toronto Casino:** No news.
- m. **Annual General Meeting – 2013:** Fiona Crean, the City Ombudsman will attend as speaker. Nick Singh will confirm that the meeting will be Wednesday May 29th. In the Rousseau Room.
- n. **Promoting SARA:** Bill Roberts suggested that SARA put an ad in the Villager asking for volunteers and directors. We can also ask Counsellor Doucette to post on her web site as well. Kate Lawson will investigate the costs with the Villager.
- o. **Swansea Town Hall Garage Sale:** The sale will be April 7th. We need to have volunteers promoting SARA. Bill Roberts moved that we attend. The motion was seconded by Ian McIsaac and carried.
- p. **Sobey's Plaza Traffic Lights:** No news.
- q. **The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebration:** Kate Lawson reported that she attended. The celebration was a success. Close.

6. LAND USE ITEMS:

- a. **Past Items:**
 - i. **155 Morningside Ave:** No news.
 - ii. **2 Windego Way:** No news.
 - iii. **1844 Bloor Street West:** The case went to the OMB and was went in the favour of the developer and the City. Nick Singh will ask for a copy of the ruling.
 - iv. **1990 and 2114 Bloor Street West:** No news. Ian McIsaac will inquire with Councillor Doucette as to the status of the development.
 - v. **Humber Town:** No news. Ian McIsaac reported that there was an article in Spacing magazine.
 - vi. **14 Valleymede Road:** No news.
 - vii. **45 Palisades:** No news.
 - viii. **70 Lavinia:** No news.
 - ix. **154 Windermere:** No news.
 - x. **271 Windermere:** No news.

- xi. **125 Beresford Avenue:** Louis Gris to report.
- xii. **156 Windermere Avenue:** No news. Kate Lawson is keeping an eye on the development.

b. **New Items:**

- i. **52 South Kingsway:** There are a number of variances, including front and side yard setbacks and an excessive GFA of .75 in a .35 zone. The setbacks need to be investigated, but the GFA is well in excess of minor. Elizabeth Elson moved that SARA object to the variances. The motion was seconded by Kate Lawson and carried.

7. **COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:**

- a. **High Park Community Advisory Council:** No news.
- b. **Community Police Liaison Committee:** Sybil Wilkinson reported that there is a meeting February 26th. Brian O'Rourke asked that Sybil ask the police to enforce the speed limit on South Kingsway. Bill Roberts asked to inquire about the merge lane from the eastbound Queensway and to the westbound Queensway to the northbound South Kingsway.
- c. **Swansea Community Recreation Centre and Rennie Park:** Kate Lawson reported that there will be a Spring Fling and are trying to organize a garage sale.
- d. **Swansea Memorial Library and Friends of the Library:** Bill Roberts reported that there has been good attendance.
- e. **Swansea Public School:** No news.
- f. **Swansea Town Hall Board of Management:** Bill Roberts reported that the AGM is coming up in February 28th. Bill Roberts asked members of SARA attend if possible.
- g. **J.T. Bonham Residences:** No news.
- h. **CORRA:** Bill Roberts reported they are encouraging ratepayer groups to get involved with the Harmonized Zoning By law changes for their areas.

8. **ITEMS BEING MONITORED:**

- a. **Windermere by the Lake:** No news.
- b. **Humber Odeon Developments:** No news.
- c. **Adopt-A-Block Program and Display Poster:** No news.
- d. **2500 Bloor Street West – Tridel Development:** No news.
- e. **Replacement of OMB by Local Appeal Board:** No news.
- f. **Five Year Review of the Official Plan:** The review is ongoing, and there have been discussions about the use of Section 37 monies.
- g. **Impact of Chimneys from the Construction of Taller Buildings:** No news.
- h. **Swansea Nursery School at Swansea Town Hall:** No news.
- i. **Swansea Public School Design Team:** The money for the addition to the school has been released.
- j. **4 Points Sheraton:** No news.

9. **ITEMS FOR COUNCILLOR DOUCETTE:**

- a. **Property Encroachment at 55 Mayfield Ave - Willard Gardens Parkette:** No news.
- b. **Humbergate Initiative:** No news.
- c. **Former Joyco Station:** No news.
- d. **Bloor West Urban Design Study:** No news.
- e. **Rennie Park Off Leash Dog Walk:** No news.
- f. **Western Beaches Plan:** No news.
- g. **Save the Zoo in High Park:** No news.

10. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **Bus stop at South Kingsway and the Queensway:** Sybil Wilkinson motioned that SARA write a letter to Councillor Doucette to see about having the 77 and 80 buses stop at the South Kingsway and Queensway. The motion was seconded by Bill Roberts and carried.

11. LONG TERM MONITOR FOR FUTURE ACTION:

- a. **Booking of Swansea Town Hall Rooms for SARA Meetings:** Meetings have been booked for 2013.
- b. **State Farm Insurance Policy:** No news.
- c. **Waterfront Master Plan and Western Beaches:** No news.
- d. **AGM – speaker, date, notify politicians and media, nominating committee, refreshments:** Nick Singh will book Wednesday May 29th in the Rousseau Room.

12. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday March 19, 2013 at 7:15 pm.

13. ADJOURNED: 9:25 pm.