

SWANSEA AREA RATEPAYERS' ASSOCIATION
MINUTES FOR MEETING OF June 17, 2014

Present: William Roberts, Gared Daniel, Kate Lawson, John Meijer, Elizabeth Elson, David Fleming, Sybil Wilkinson, Andrew Reitknecht, Keith Dicks, Nick Singh, Ian McIsaac

Regrets: Veronica Wynne, Louis Gris, Brian O'Rourke

1. **CALL TO ORDER and DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** John Meijer called the meeting to order at 7:24.
2. **AGENDA AMENDMENTS and APPROVAL:** David Fleming did not provide an Agenda for the meeting. Bill Roberts motioned that the the May 20, 2014 be accepted. The motion was seconded by Gared Daniel and carried.
3. **MINUTES AMENDMENTS and APPROVAL:** William Roberts motioned that the minutes from the April 15, 2014 Executive meetings be accepted as amended. The motion was seconded by Sybil Wilkinson and carried.
4. **EXECUTIVE REPORTS:**
 - a. **Membership:** John Meijer sent and update via email and provided a verbal update. Bill Roberts moved that the report be accepted, The motion was seconded by David Fleming and carried.
 - b. **Fundraising:** Louis Gris was absent, no report.
 - c. **Treasurers:** Kate explained her process for managing the dollars in trust ledgers. Kate Lawson motioned the May report to be accepted. The motion was seconded by Keith Dicks and carried.
 - d. **Expenses:** Gared Daniel - \$56.40 for membership paper and table rental. John Meijer \$52.92 for a website theme, SARA invoice for photocopies for \$131.87. Elizabeth Elson moved the expenses be paid. The motion was seconded by Nick Singh and carried.
5. **CURRENT MATTERS:**
 - a. **New Members and Guests:** Rajko Jakovik, a Swansea resident who is interested in joining the Executive. E.L. Cramp, the Secretary from the High Park Residents Association and Cynthia Chevens from the South Kingsway Neighbourhood dropped in to observe.
 - b. **Southport Plaza:** Nick Singh reported that the local condo boards are working with the Chief Building Official on getting the precondition survey completed. Nick has been asked to Chair the SKNC to help get them back on track.
 - c. **Membership Committee:** Gared Daniel reported that there is no news. John Meijer reported that he is porting the existing website to Wordpress. He will demo the new beta site in New Business. There was a discussion about the use of emails, mailing lists and emailing strategies. Keith Dicks motioned that we use three lists, SARA Newsletter for members, SARA News for all, and SARA Membership Drive for all non-members. The motion was seconded by Ian McIsaac and carried.
 - d. **Consolidated Zoning By-Law:** No new.
 - e. **West End Ratepayers' Group Meeting:** No news.
 - f. **West End Ratepayers' Group Meeting – Heritage Designation Effort:** Nick Singh reported that the effort is at a standstill as the City has lost a number of employees dealing with these matters. There may be a few years before the Heritage Designation proceeds.
 - g. **Global News's "From the Neighbourhood" Program:** No news.
 - h. **Issues with Building Permits and the Ombudsman:** No news. David Fleming will work on this over the summer break.
 - i. **Promoting SARA:** Nick Singh reported that the Bloor West Village Sidewalk Sale is coming up. There is an opportunity to set up at the BMO branch. Nick is contacting some local groups to see if we can set up a tent and table for Saturday and is arranging scheduling for people to man the booth on Friday from 1 to 3 and Saturday.

- j. **Report To Amend Zoning On Major Streets – PG26.8:** No news.
- k. **AGM – speaker, date, notify politicians and media, nominating committee, refreshments:** The AGM went well. There were about twenty guests. The new President is John Meijer. Thomas George and Louis Gris have been removed from the Executive.
- l. **City of Toronto Mayoral All Candidates Meeting:** The All Candidates Meeting will be September 30, 2014 at the Swansea Town Hall. Kate Lawson will take care notifying the candidates of the meeting and the rules.
- m. **Local Appeal Body for the City of Toronto:** Bill Roberts reported that Jennifer Keesmat is trying to push through the Local Appeal body through.
- n. **Development Permit System:** There is a Public Meeting June 19, 2014. CORRA is opposing the new system and SARA/SARG is as well. David Fleming will send a letter of opposition June 18, 2014. Nick Singh explained the DPS system.
- o. **Group Home By-law:** The by-law has passed. Close.
- p. **Provincial All Candidates Meeting:** The meeting was well attended with 5 candidates: Liberal Nancy Leblanc, NDP Cheri DiNovo, PC Jamie Ellerton, Green Party Tim Rudkins and the None of the Above Matthew Vesina. About 70 guests attended. Over 10 questions were asked to, and answered by, the candidates.

6. LAND USE ITEMS:

- a. **Past Items:**
 - i. **1926 Lakeshore Blvd West - 4 Points Sheraton:** Bill Roberts reported that there is a mediation hearing June 25 and the developer is contributing to the cost of a Planner for the meeting.
 - ii. **2265 to 2279 Bloor Street West:** Nick Singh reported that the SOV meeting with Councillor Doucette and the Etobicoke York Chief Planner, Neil Cresswell. They discussed a Special Area Study that could be done within a year. The Bloor West Village Urban Desig study (2005) and the Heritage Conservation District Nomination Study (2013) could be used to contribute to the Special Area Study.
 - iii. **155 Morningside Ave:** No news.
 - iv. **2 Wendigo Way:** No news.
 - v. **1990 and 2114 Bloor Street West:** No news.
 - vi. **Humber Town:** No news.
 - vii. **185 Windermere Avenue:** No news.
 - viii. **14 Valleymede Road:** No news.
 - ix. **70 Lavinia:** Keith Dicks reported that the property is up for sale.
 - x. **156 Windermere Avenue:** Under construction.
 - xi. **52 South Kingsway:** Under construction.
 - xii. **16 Waller Ave:** The application went to the Committee of Adjustment on June 5, 2014. The application was approved. Close.
 - xiii. **246 Riverside Dr:** No news.
 - xiv. **256 South Kingsway:** No news.
 - xv. **2213 and 2215 Bloor Street West:** No news.
 - xvi. **20 Mossom Road:** No news. Louis Gris will check at the Committee of Adjustment for a decision.
 - xvii. **304 South Kingsway:** This is the building at the top of South Kingsway at Mossom Road. There is concern that the building has been turned into a rooming house. City Planning has not been effective at inspecting the building. Elizabeth Elson will contact Councillor Doucette about the matter.

b. **New Items:**

- i. **Shoppers Drug Mart at the Runnymede Theatre:** Sybil Wilkinson attended a meeting with the Shoppers Drug Mart representative and Councillor Doucette. They are not changing either the interior or exterior of the building. There were concerns about the sign and it fitting in with the neighbourhood that Shoppers will try to address.
- ii. **12 Palisades:** John Meijer reported that there will be an application coming forward.

7. **COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS:**

- a. **High Park Resource Group:** No news.
- b. **Community Police Liaison Committee:** Sybil Wilkinson reported that she brought forward the speeding concerns. Elizabeth Elson reported that cyclists are riding dangerously on South Kingsway and in High Park.
- c. **Swansea Community Recreation Centre and Rennie Park:** Kate Lawson reported that the TDSB is looking for more space and that Ed Gaigalas resigned from the Parks and Rec Advisory Counsel.
- d. **Swansea Memorial Library and Friends of the Library:** No news.
- e. **Swansea Public School:** Graduation is June 25. Sybil Wilkinson and Bill Roberts will attend and give out the awards.
- f. **Swansea Town Hall Board of Management:** The Board is going under a Governance Review.
- g. **J.T. Bonham Residences:** Keith Dicks reported that they are replacing all of the windows and they are getting new washers and dryers.
- h. **CORRA:** Bill Roberts reported that CORRA was notified that City Council was proposing to have all Ratepayers Groups designated as Lobbyists. CORRA and SARA objected and the motion was withdrawn. They are still pursuing the changes regarding DPS, Mid-rise Guidelines and digital signs. There is special concern around the Eglinton LRT that CORRA has been successful at getting involved in the Special Enhancement Zones. David Fleming motioned that we support CORRA in this matter. The motion was seconded by Keith Dicks and carried.

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. **Five Year Review of the Official Plan:** The review is ongoing. Bill Roberts reported that the Neighbourhood Policies are now being amended and we may need to get involved.
- f. **Impact of Chimneys from the Construction of Taller Buildings:** No news.
- g. **Swansea Nursery School at Swansea Town Hall:** The Nursery School being closed as a result of all day kindergarten. Close the matter.
- h. **Swansea Public School Design Team:** No news.
- i. **YIMBY (Yes In My BackYard) Festival:** No news.
- j. **Runnymede Fire Station Closure:** No news.
- k. **Toronto Casino:** No news.
- l. **Swansea Legion:** Kate Lawson reported that the owner is petitioning the community to support a yoga studio. There are concerns in the neighbourhood about the specific use that the owner is applying for. SARA will wait to see exactly what is being applied for.
- m. **Digital Signage:** No news.
- n. **Island Airport:** 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. **Western Beaches Plan:** The Bike park is being constructed.

- f. **Ukrainian Festival and Bloor Street Closures:** No news.
- g. **Swansea Traffic Study:** No news.
- h. **South Kingsway Ramps:** No news.

10. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. New SARA website demo: John Meijer demonstrated the new website he built using Wordpress. Both he and David Fleming will be administrators/editors and the rest of the Executive will be contributors. Keith Dicks motioned that John make every attempt to make the new site live as soon as possible. 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:** No news.
- 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:**

12. **NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday September 16, 2014 at 7:15 pm.

13. **ADJOURNED:** 9:50 pm.