

Swansea Outlook

Volume 38 – Number 1

Newsletter of the Swansea Area Ratepayers' Association

February, 2011

(<http://www.swansearatepayers.ca>)

EXECUTIVE MEETINGS

Please note that Executive meetings are public and held normally on the third Tuesday of each month, excluding July and August. Due to seating limitations, kindly contact the Executive before attending. Your executive as of the date of this letter: Louis Gris - Past-President; Nick Singh, President; Vacant - Vice-presidents; K. Lawson - Treasurer; D. Fleming - Secretary; John Meijer - Membership Chair; Directors: Gareed Daniel, E. Gaigalas, I. Mclsaac, William (Bill) Roberts, E. Elson, S. Wilkinson, and Brian O'Rourke

The Executive needs volunteers to help with various duties. Persons interested should contact the President and, if they wish, attend our Executive Meetings to help understand what is involved.

PROVINCIAL ELECTION ALL CANDIDATES MEETING – Early notice: SARA will host an all-candidate's meeting for the fall Provincial Election on Tuesday September 27, 2010 in the Rousseau Room of the Town Hall. The meeting will take the same format as previous ones, with doors opening at 7:00pm, and the meeting starting at 7:30. Please join us.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – The 2011 Annual General Meeting will be held in late May/early June, as usual. We are checking dates and speakers at the moment, so please stay tuned.

MEMBERSHIP Our membership year runs from January to December. If you haven't already, now is the time to renew for 2011.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE FEES for 2011 (unchanged):

Single membership	standard	\$12.00	senior	\$10.00
Family membership	standard	\$14.00	senior	\$12.00
Business membership		\$20.00		

Note: A Senior is anyone 60 plus.

Please contact John Meijer to renew. Membership forms may also be sent to Swansea Area Ratepayers' Association, c/o Swansea Town Hall, Box 103, and 95 Lavinia Avenue, Toronto, M6S 3H9.

SWANSEA TOWN HALL The Town Hall Board of Management AGM was held Feb 16, at 8:00pm. John Tory came out to speak on Municipal issues. Memberships for the Town Hall Association are always available at the Town Hall for only \$2/year!

JT BONHAM RESIDENCES – held their Annual General meeting on February 15, where the new board was elected. SARA directors were in attendance, along with Councillor Doucette.

SCOTIABANK TORONTO WATERFRONT MARATHON – This past September the Swansea partners took first prize in the neighbourhood cheering challenge! Thanks to all the participants at the cheering stand, and to our "champions". SARA, along with our partner organizations, will again participate in running the cheering stand at the bottom of Windermere at the Lakeshore on October 16, 2011. We hope to see you there once again to cheer on all the runners

2500/2490 BLOOR STREET WEST (HUMBERSIDE MOTORS) – SARA attended a meeting Feb 16 on the revised site plan for 2500 Bloor. There is an OMB pre-hearing scheduled for the 24 February, 2011. The Old Mill Community Association and Tridel have had discussions to try to resolve certain matters. Councillor Doucette called the Feb 16 meeting and SARA representatives Nick Singh and

Bill Roberts were present to assist Old Mill Community Association. Also -and related - we have been lobbying for an Avenue Study of Bloor St. West from Windermere to the Humber River; and further - for the Bloor West Urban design study to become an official guideline for planning in Bloor West.

SARA FUNDRAISER NOV 18 AT THE VILLAGE PLAYHOUSE – SARA's fundraiser - held at the Nov 18 preview of the Village Players (2190E Bloor W) presentation of "Laura" - raised over \$500 for our coffers. Thank you to all who purchased tickets and made donations.

SWANSEA REC CENTRE / RENNIE PARK

Plans are underway for the 120th anniversary of Swansea Public School, with a reunion dance scheduled for May 27. Also, stay tuned for news on the Rennie Park garage sale which is in the planning stages for this spring.

CORRA / FoNTRA – ZONING BY-LAW HARMONIZATION

SARA has appealed the new proposed consolidated zoning by-law. Over 600 appeals have been filed in total. We hope to have the Swansea R(u2) designation changed to (RS) (more restrictive). There will be a Public Hearing at the Planning and Growth committee meeting on March 24.

WEST END COMMUNITY GROUPS / CORRA REVITALIZATION

SARA initiated a kick-off meeting on Feb 1 of resident and ratepayers groups representing the west end of the City to discuss issues of common interest. There was a consensus reached that it would be desirable to operate in common thru the established organization CORRA (Confederation of Resident and Ratepayers Assoc)

SWANSEA MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Please continue to visit our Library! With our support, the usage of the Library keeps growing; this only helps to protect this community resource.

LIBRARY HOURS ARE:

Monday:	Closed
Tuesday:	10:00 A.M. - 12:00 & (*) 1:00 - 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday:1:00 - 8:00 P.M.
Thursday:	10:00 A.M.-12:00 & (*) 1:00 - 6:00 P.M.
Friday:	Closed
Saturday:	10:00 A.M. 5:00 P.M.
Sunday:	Closed

(*) closed for lunch from 12:00 - 1:00 P.M. Tuesday & Thursday

Friends of Library contact: G. Dubauskas at 416 - 762 -6413.

COMMITTEE OF ADJUSTMENT/ PLANNING MATTERS –

71 Morningside – this application was appealed to the OMB, and was heard in early January. SARA supported the neighbours in appeal. The OMB decision, delivered Feb 17, denied the most important variances respecting gross floor area, height, front yard setback, etc... The side yard setbacks were granted. This was a positive decision for the neighbourhood, and may bolster chances of blocking similar undesirable developments in future.

42 Morningside – this application went to the OMB Oct 6, where a negotiated compromise - satisfactory to the neighbours - was reached.

25 Dacre Crescent – This application was heard by the OMB back in July. The decision of Nov 2 dismissed the appeal by the adjacent neighbour and authorized the variances with conditions.

155 Morningside - Currently under stop work order. It is our understanding that our new Councillor S. Doucette is organizing a meeting of affected persons to discuss what should happen. SARA will attend.

212 Windermere, This application was deferred in October, and there is no news at this time.

70 Lavinia, Fourteen variances were approved by the Committee of Adjustment on Feb 3 for an application to construct a second story addition, front and rear additions and a second suite. SARA is watching for a potential appeal (deadline Feb 23), and will consider its position at that time.

45 Morningside, This property is planned for severance and the construction of two narrow detached homes. A Committee of Adjustment hearing is scheduled for 3 March, 2011. SARA will continue to oppose the over development of this site.

16 Wendigo Way, Construction of an outdoor kitchen was approved at Committee of Adjustment, and built. There may be potential building code issues which the adjacent neighbour is attempting to determine from city staff.

15 Runnymede Road, An application to construct an additional dwelling unit in the existing building, resulting in a Triplex, was denied by CoA on Feb 3, after failing to meet the tests of the planning act.

30 Old Mill Drive – the Committee of Adjustment passed the variances requested for this site including one additional floor, no additional GFA, and an increased number of dwelling units. SARA officially opposed the proposal. There has been no appeal. Some additional Section 37 funds were provided by the developer.

SOUTHPORT PLAZA

SARA is fundraising for a retail marketing study to examine potential commercial opportunities at the Southport Plaza site, with a goal to influence development on the site to the betterment of the community.

SOUTH KINGSWAY / QUEENSWAY RAMPS

SARA would like to see the stairwell from South Kingsway down to the Queensway restored to operation, and the improvement of sightlines turning west off South Kingsway onto the Queensway. We have raised the issues with city staff and Ward 13 Councillor Doucette.

JOYCO OIL STATION The Grenadier Group has proposed a 20 year lease on operation of a restaurant facility incorporating the former Joy Oil. City staff are preparing a report on the site and Council is awaiting this report before entering into any possible negotiations.

BLOOR STREET BRIDGE – repairs are ongoing to the bridge over the Humber River at Bloor Street.

William (Bill) Roberts / John Meijer: Editors
Nick Singh: Advisory Committee



SARA 2011 Membership Application Form

Yes, I want to renew/join SARA as a:

- Individual Membership \$12.00 / \$10.00 Senior
 Family Membership \$14.00 / \$12.00 Senior
 Business/Organization \$20.00

Please indicate if:

- New Member Renewing Member

Please note that memberships are for a one year term: January->December

Name

Company/Organization

Address

Suite/Apt/Unit Number

City

Province Postal Code

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Area Code Telephone Number

Email Address

Yes, I want to get involved and help with:

- Membership Committee Chair
 Special Events Board of Director
 Fundraising Community Liaison
 Web Content Media Relations
 Other – specify

Payment:

Please make your cheque payable to the:
Swansea Area Ratepayers Association

Please send this completed form along with your cheque to:

Swansea Area Ratepayers Association, c/o John Meijer,
Membership Chair, 16 The Palisades, Toronto ON M6S 2W8