

Swansea Outlook

Volume 40 – Number 1

Newsletter of the Swansea Area Ratepayers' Association

May, 2013

(<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: Gared 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.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – The 2013 Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 29, doors open at 7:00pm for refreshments, and the meeting starts at 7:30pm in the Rosseau Room of the Swansea Town Hall. **Fiona Crean**, City of Toronto Ombudsman, will be the speaker.

MEMBERSHIP If you haven't already, please renew your membership now for 2012.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE FEES for 2012 (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 Memberships for the Town Hall Association are always available at the Town Hall for only \$2/year!

NEW CITY PLANNER SARA sent a congratulatory letter to the new city planner, Jennifer Keesmat, with whom we have dealt in past on a number of development issues including the Bloor West Village Urban Design Study.

SCOTIABANK TORONTO WATERFRONT MARATHON – SARA, along with our partner organizations (the Royal Canadian Legion, Swansea Branch 46, and the Swansea Town Hall), participated in our neighbourhood cheering section on Lakeshore Blvd. near Sunnyside Pavilion on Oct 14. Early rain showers did not dampen the enthusiasm of the cheering group, who were much appreciated by all the runners and walkers!

BUILDING PERMITS AND THE OMBUDSMAN
Lklkjl

TORONTO CASINO

It appears the casino was turned down by a sizeable majority, both downtown and Woodbine.

2500/2490 BLOOR STREET WEST (HUMBERSIDE MOTORS) – We are monitoring the ongoing development of these sites.

SARA FUNDRAISER NOV 2013 AT THE VILLAGE PLAYHOUSE
Tickets should be available shortly for SARA's annual fundraiser: the

preview night of the Village Playhouse November production. To be held on Thursday Nov 8, 2012, with tickets at \$16 available from any SARA Executive member. 416-769-1891.

CORRA – CORRA AGM this Saturday, May 25th. Elections, and appeal of harmonized by-law. Didn't oppose expansion, but raised concern about the nearby bird sanctuary.

RENNIE PARK GARAGE SALE – To be held June 1. Come out for some great deals.

WEST END RATEPAYER GROUPS

The west end ratepayer groups are investigating designating areas within Bloor West and Swansea as heritage conservation districts. The Councillor is supportive of the initiative; and has been involved in ongoing communications. Anyone willing to help or who has expertise please contact us at <http://www.swansearatepayers.ca>. SARA supported the Heritage Conservation report and wrote a letter in support.

ZONING BY-LAW HARMONIZATION / OFFICIAL PLAN REVIEW

SARA is appealing the City's Zoning By-Law harmonization, and SARA will be filing an appeal to the OMB over certain by-law loosening pertaining to R1S areas. SARA is also monitoring the Official Plan review.

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. Spread the word; there are children's programs and you can order your books for convenient pick up at our branch.

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

– SARA continues to monitor all minor variance applications in Swansea which go before the Committee of Adjustment. This is to ensure their appropriateness and desirability for the neighbourhood and community. Below are some recent applications of interest:

155 Morningside, sold, new owner moving in shortly.

2 Wendigo – no news

1844 Bloor West – OMB approved

Humbertown – large meeting on the 14th. EYCC voted it down unanimously, incl Rob Ford. City planner wrote a positive report.

185 windermere no news

45 Palisades – cut into hill, and tree removal. Retaining wall in for garage.

154 Windemere- Going to OMB June 6. For consent to sever, unsure how many dwellings.

96 Durie – This application for a covered front porch, front balcony, rear deck, increased 1st fl height, and a 1 storey rear addition, plus a complete 2nd storey addition over existing and new rear addition was approved at Committee of Adjustment and appealed by a neighbour to the OMB Jul 24. The appeal was denied, and the application granted.

223 Riverside Drive – The application was modified somewhat to alleviate concerns of the adjacent neighbour. The development is proceeding.

156 Windermere – no sign of construction, wall are being supported.

24 Kennedy: An addition was approved by C of A at 0.83 GFA in a 0.6 zone. No appeal was undertaken, to SARA's knowledge. Second story and rear addition, to bungalow.l

52 South Kingsway – no evidence of construction yet.

107 Kennedy – Will be going to OMB shortly. SARA will support the City in opposition to this appeal.

45 Brule – CoA affirmative decision is being appealed by adjacent neighbour. SARA to support neighbours at OMB.

76 Runnymede – building a garage, need city easement for retaining wall.

6 Wendigo – going to OMB. SARA unsure of who appealed.

1990 – going to OMB May28 for prehearing City is opposing developer.

1990, and 2114-30, Bloor Street West
Northdrive Investments is the developer for both of these properties. 1990 Bloor (Parkview Gardens) is planned at 12 stories and 131 units, while 2114-30 Bloor is slated for 10 stories and 110 units. There were two separate public consultations in June over these proposals, however it appear the applicant will proceed to OMB for 1990, even before a decision has been made on the application. It is believed neither the Councillor nor City staff is supportive.

Four Points Sheraton –

SOUTHPORT PLAZA

SARA has been working with the South Kingsway Neighbourhood Committee. The development application was passed at Etobicoke York community council on Oct 10 with the support of our local Councillor. The application is for 558 units in two towers or 26 and 29 stories, with 2,203 sq. metres of commercial space (shops and offices), and 16 three story townhouses incorporating live/work space. Issues of height, density and traffic remain, along with the adequacy of the bylaw. SARA and SKNC are concerned about the height of the buildings and will be fighting at the OMB three-day hearing commencing Aug 19.



SARA 2013 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
- Special Events
- Fundraising
- Web Content
- Other – specify
- Committee Chair
- Board of Director
- Community Liaison
- Media Relations

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

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