

Swansea Outlook

Volume 37 – Number 2

Newsletter of the Swansea Area Ratepayers' Association

September, 2010

(<http://www.swanseratepayers.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.

Our Dec meeting in 2010 will *exceptionally* be on Wed , Dec 15.

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: G. Dubauskas, E. Gaigalas, I. MacIsaac, William (Bill) Roberts, and S. Wilkinson.

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.

MUNICIPAL ALL CANDIDATES MEETINGS – SARA will host an Mayoral all-candidate's meeting for the fall Municipal Election on **September 28**, 2010 in the Rousseau Room of the Town Hall.

Given the number of mayoralty candidates willing to attend our meeting and to accommodate another ratepayer association we are splitting our meeting into two parts with the Councillor all candidates meeting to be held on **October 19**. The meetings will take the same format as previous ones, with doors opening at 7, and the meetings starting at 7:30. Please join us for two lively evenings!

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – The 2010 Annual General Meeting was held on Tuesday June 1, 7:30pm in the Rousseau Room at the Swansea Town Hall. **Mayor David Miller** gave a talk on "Strong Cities and Communities - Strong Canada", noting that Swansea exemplifies a strong community through its participation in city matters. He spoke on the necessity of a new deal for cities whereby other levels of government recognize the importance of strong cities and fulfill announced obligations such as the financial commitments to Transit City. He also outlined the initiatives of other cities in the C40 (20 developed and 20 developing cities), and how Toronto is taking action toward climate change issues through various economic and renewable energy strategies. All in all an interesting talk.

MEMBERSHIP Our membership year runs from January to December. It is time to renew your membership for 2010.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE FEES for 2010 (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 Association has held its first meeting of the year. It appears Phase 2 of the renovation will be proceeding, with completion of the addition on the north side ravine level. Memberships for the Town Hall Association are always available at the Town Hall for only \$2/year!

SCOTIABANK TORONTO WATERFRONT MARATHON – SARA, along with our partner organizations, will participate in running the cheering stand at the bottom of Windermere at the Lakeshore on

September 26th, 2010 at 7:30am. We hope to see you there to cheer on all the runners, including the Swansea Neighbourhood Champions!

2500/2490 BLOOR STREET WEST (HUMBERSIDE MOTORS) – Despite the Community Council voting to revise the building heights to 8 and 10 stories, Toronto City Council has approved the latest Tridel proposal for 2500 and 2490 Bloor at heights of 10 and 12 storey's respectively. SARA passed a motion to support the Old Mill Community Association if they appealed and is in the process of determining any appeal strategy..

SARA FUNDRAISER NOV 18 AT THE VILLAGE PLAYHOUSE – SARA will be holding a fundraiser by selling tickets to the Nov 18 preview at the Village Players (2190E Bloor W) showing of "LAURA" by Vera Caspary & George Sklar, a brilliant film noir murder mystery!

Tickets are \$16 and available from the SARA Executive. Please join us for a fun evening. Here is a synopsis of the play:

"Laura Hunt was the ideal modern woman: beautiful, elegant, highly ambitious, and utterly mysterious. No man could resist her charms – not even the hardboiled NYPD detective sent to find out who turned her into a faceless corpse. As this tough cop probes the mystery of Laura's death, he becomes obsessed with her strange power. Soon he realizes he's been seduced by a dead woman-or has he?"

SWANSEA REC CENTRE / RENNIE PARK

Construction on the sanitary sewer running through Rennie Park and down Ellis Avenue is completed. The Rennie Park garage sale on Sat., June 5 was a success.

CORRA / FoNTRA – ZONING BY-LAW HARMONIZATION

SARA's Bill Roberts has been active on the zoning by-law harmonization file, along with FoNTRA, CORRA, and others. They have effected various improvements to the by-law, but two areas of concern to SARA remain. The new R(u2) designation for Swansea allows for new permitted uses not in keeping with the existing character of the area. Also, the definition of secondary suites has been extended to apartment units in excess of two. SARA is concerned and may be appealing. We hope to have the Swansea designation changed to (RS) (more restrictive) - excepting the Town Hall, Legion and J.T.Bonham residences which could be zoned 'R'.

SWANSEA MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY – Please continue to visit our Library! Circulation continues it's upward trend, and there is an active children's program. Be aware that you can arrange for any movie, book or any other library material to be delivered to the Swansea branch for pickup.

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 –
69 Beresford - the city has finally enforced the parking pad restriction

71 Morningside – this application was denied at Committee of Adjustment but is being appealed to the OMB. Hearing date set for Oct 28. SARA is unaware of opposition plans at this time and is reaching out to the neighbours.

42 Morningside – this application is going to the OMB Oct 6.

25 Dacre Crescent – This application was approved at Committee of Adjustment but appealed to the OMB by an adjacent neighbour. The July 6 OMB Hearing was granted continuation to Jul 19. No decision has yet been posted on the OMB website, and SARA is yet unaware of any resolution.

155 Morningside - Currently under stop work order with no development occurring.

202 Riverside, appealed to OMB and heard on June 1. Opposing neighbour lost at OMB and the proposal was approved.

37 South Kingsway –The compromise plans - 0.60GFA, no height or depth variances, building moved in 1 metre to align with house to the north – was approved at OMB.

SOBEYS PLAZA TRAFFIC

SARA has been in contact with the City and the plaza owners about the Sobey's parking lot traffic issues. It appears that improvements are now underway - another lane on east side of central exitway and reduced inlets into the center lane on the east side.

SOUTHPORT PLAZA

There will be a second public meeting on September 27 at the Legion Hall at 7:30pm to meet with the developer and discuss commercial and residential development potential.

SOUTH KINGSWAY / QUEENSWAY

South Kingsway streetcar stop - removal of staircase to the South Kingsway streetcar stop was not beneficial to pedestrian traffic flow and SARA would like to see the stairs restored to operation.
South Kingsway ramps – there continue to be bad sightlines turning west off South Kingsway onto the Queensway and SARA would like to see the situation reviewed.

TORONTO'S 311 HELP LINE - is it working? SARA has learned anecdotally that the 311 line may not be functioning ideally. If you have any positive or negative experience we would like to hear it.

JOYCO OIL STATION The Grenadier Group has proposed a 20 year lease on operation of a restaurant facility incorporating the former Joy Oil station which was relocated south of Lakeshore Boulevard at Ellis. The proposal combines their High Park and Lakeshore leases into one and includes \$3million in capital improvements to the High Park concessions. City staff had recommended that Joy Oil be put up for bidding as a non-food related business like bicycle rental, however Council voted to start negotiations with Grenadier on long-term lease.

BLOOR STREET BRIDGE – repairs are underway to the bridge over the Humber River at Bloor Street. Temporary traffic lights are going in for two way traffic control.

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



SARA 2010 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 _____
()

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