

Swansea Outlook

Volume 46 – Number 1

Newsletter of the Swansea Area Ratepayers' Association

May 2019

(<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: John Meijer, President; Nick Singh - Past-President; V. Wynne - Vice-President; K. Lawson - Treasurer; D. Fleming - Secretary; John Meijer - Membership Chair; Directors: Glen Gogal, Sydney Reimer, William (Bill) Roberts, Brian O'Rourke, Lindsay Whillans and Sybil Wilkinson.



IN MEMORIAM: KATE LAWSON – It is with great sadness that we must inform you of the passing of our late Treasurer and beloved board member Kate Lawson who succumbed to a long illness this past January 13th.

Kate was a dependable and reliable member of the SARA Board of Directors, for many years contributing to organization of all our public

meetings, taking care of refreshments, etc., helping out with our candidate's meetings and also deeply involved in our fundraising efforts with the Village Players, printing and selling the tickets and assisting with refreshments and ticket checking at the event. She was also a caring and concerned member of the community, involved with the Swansea Recreation Centre, Swansea Area Seniors Association and the Swansea Town Hall. She will be dearly missed by all of us who knew her and worked with her.

SARA AGM AND 90TH ANNIVERSARY – The Association will host its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday May 29th at the Swansea Town Hall, with doors opening at 7:00pm. We will be hosting a presentation on "Cannabis: Legalization and What it Means for You".

This year also marks the 90th Anniversary of the Association, formally founded in 1929. Did you know that, prior to amalgamation into the City of Toronto, we were named the Swansea Ratepayers' Association? The "Area" was added after we became part of Toronto.

VOLUNTEER TORONTO 2019 – Speaking of anniversaries... our own **William H Roberts** was nominated by the SARA Executive for a Volunteer Toronto Legacy Award, in appreciation for his **45 years(!)** of service to the Association. Volunteer Toronto's Legacy Awards celebrate six outstanding examples of volunteerism in our city. A reception was held April 9 at the Toronto Reference Library to honour the over-100 nominees.

CALL FOR BOARD MEMBERS! - The SARA Executive has several openings for volunteers on next year's Board. Can you spare an evening per month to stay informed and get involved? Contact us!

RIVERSIDE DRIVE NEIGHBOURHOOD GROUP - The residents in the Riverside Drive area have come together to form a neighbourhood sub-group under the SARA umbrella! We welcome them and support many of their concerns such as traffic speed and volumes and issues with the City's proposed street redesign.

SWANSEA TOWN HALL the Town Hall Board of Management Annual General Meeting will be held on May 16, 2019. Memberships for the Town Hall Association are always available at the Town Hall for only \$2/year. SARA's representative on the Town Hall Board of Management for 2019-2020 is William Roberts.

SARA FUNDRAISER AT THE VILLAGE PLAYHOUSE

On Nov 1, 2018 SARA held its annual fundraiser at the Village Playhouse production of "Anybody for Murder?" Thanks to all who attended, it was a success both financially and from an entertainment point of view!

BLOOR WEST AVENUE STUDY – The City completed an Avenue Study to assess the land uses, transportation and servicing infrastructure, community services and facilities, built form character and redevelopment potential for Bloor Street West between Keele Street and the Humber River. The completed study sets out recommendations for an area-specific planning framework that will guide future development and infrastructure improvements. Details are available on the City of Toronto website.

HERITAGE CONSERVATION DESIGNATION

On April 3, 2019, City Planning hosted a Community Consultation Meeting (Open House) for the Bloor West Village Heritage Conservation District Study, at the High Park Nature Centre. Links to download the display boards presented at the meeting are available on the City website using a search for "bloor west heritage".

ZONING BY-LAW HARMONIZATION

William Roberts reported that a formal response was sent on a without prejudice basis and we are awaiting a response. LPAT (formerly the OMB) has scheduled a three-day hearing starting 16 October, 2019 to hear arguments in regard to the calculation of Maximum Height, Main Wall Height, Parking and the definitions of "basement" and "first floor".

OFFICIAL PLAN REVIEW SARA is now monitoring the process.

DEVELOPMENT PERMIT SYSTEM The Divisional Court ruled against the City in its appeal of the OMB's decision. This means that the OMB's decision to suspend the case regarding the DPS stands until the City completes, or does not complete, a pilot project. It appears the Provincial Government is considering passing legislation allowing it to impose DPS on major transit corridors without community consultation. Swansea is monitoring this

2265-79 BLOOR W (AT DURIE) DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

We understand the applicant has been unable to secure all properties at the site and may be planning to move forward with a smaller scale development. SARA will remain involved as necessary.

HUMBER ODEON DEVELOPMENT – 2442-2450 BLOOR ST W

The development proposal for 2442-2454 Bloor St West reached settlement at a Hearing of the Local Planning Appeal Tribunal on April 23, 2019. The settlement, approved in principle by the LPAT, results in a 12-storey building. A site plan application has been submitted to City Planning and remains under review. SARA has requested to stay involved.

PALISADES-VALLEYMEDE WALKWAY An application was made to Superior Court by adjacent owners to vest ownership of part of an abandoned private property which acts as a walk thru forest from Valleymede to The Palisades. SARA would like to hear from residents who can attest to a historical use of the walkway.

1926 LAKESHORE (FOUR POINTS SHERATON SITE)

The developer reported that the site Plan has been approved. The developer is looking at art proposals to decorate the north face of the podium and has provided \$110K, separate from the Section 37, for the extension of the left turn lane at Ellis Ave. from eastbound Lake Shore.

1978-2002 LAKESHORE (WEST OF WINDERMERE)

The developer's application remains incomplete at this time and there is no clear position that can be taken until the developer moves forward.

SOUTHPORT PLAZA SARA is in contact with building officials on the site plan process, including the hydrological study. We understand the developer may be tweaking the plans with potential for further planning review.

MEMBERSHIP If you haven't already, please renew your membership now for 2019, at www.swanseratepayers.ca

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE FEES for 2019 (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 swanssea@swanseratepayers.ca to renew or visit the website at www.swanseratepayers.ca to pay via credit card / PayPal. Membership forms may also be sent to SARA, c/o Swansea Town Hall, Box 103, 95 Lavinia Avenue, Toronto, M6S 3H9.

SWANSEA MEMORIAL LIBRARY AND FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

Please continue to visit our Library. Usage of the Library 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 the 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

Committee of Adjustment development applications can now be searched online at City Planning's Application Information Centre. (<http://www1.toronto.ca/wps/portal/contentonly?vgnextoid=691552cc66061410VgnVCM10000071d60f89RCRD>).

SARA continues to monitor all minor variance applications in Swansea which go before the Committee of Adjustment, to ensure appropriate and desirable developments. With the Ward reduction we are now under the Toronto and East York Community Council Committee of Adjustment. Here are a couple of recent applications:

253 Riverside Dr. Minor variance request for a deck, which SARA did not oppose. Approved.

50 Kennedy This was for a rear-yard addition dissimilar to surrounding context with a GFA variance. SARA and neighbouring residents opposed, resulting in a scaled back proposal to the satisfaction of all.

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

Membership Payments also accepted at:

www.swanseratepayers.ca

SARA 2019 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

* Membership payments also taken at www.swanseratepayers.ca

