

Church Wellesley Neighbourhood Association

Minutes

Monthly Meeting 15 August, 2020

Zoom Video - 10am – 12pm.

Present: Connie Langille, Paul Farrelly, Robert Packham, Tara Schorr, Trevor Hennig, Neil Gibb, Don Altman, Peter Small

Regrets: Kyle Iannuzzi

Non-board: Judy Young

1. Administration

1.2 Land Acknowledgment

1.3 Agenda – amended and approved

1.4 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

1.5 Minutes of Last Meeting July 2020 – amended and approved

1.6 Review of Action items from July 2020

Tara: connect with 519 to discuss alternative food service providers in area. Done: *519 is now only going to be providing one meal a day (lunch) and food service will be at rear of building.*

Connie / Tara: reach out to 519 and BIA to start formulating a united strategy in dealing with the hate preacher. *Both Connie and Tara spoke with 519 and Connie connected with BIA, both which agreed the approach should be to not engage with the preacher and to call police. We will push this message out to the community. Still no date for a meeting with Crown Attorney regarding charges being dropped for previous incidents.*

Tara & Kyle: Discuss human rights approach to hate preacher: *Have not met on this yet*

Connie: Flesh out the context and Board participants of a meeting with Sanctuary regarding George Hislop park, encampments and gentrification. *There is a meeting pending next week.*

Connie: Agenda for councillor's meeting on July 28. *Done*

Connie: Add to councillor's meeting agenda: What is the rehab plan for George Hislop Park? What stage are we at in the renewal of both George Hislop and Norman Jewison Parks? CAN-Alliance influence on park designs? *Done*

Tara and Trevor: discuss membership fees. Trevor send out renewals. *Keeping fee at \$5 with ask for donations of greater amounts; everyone on mailing list has been asked to renew or become a member.*

Tara: start e-mail discussion with Board members regarding opening up Board meetings; include Kyle's motion as a starting point. *Deferred to September meeting, when Kyle is in attendance. Tara will provide two options as to how this would work before the next directors' meeting.*

Paul: Contact Deepak Ruparell to clarify how he is connected to CAN-Alliance. *Not done; carried to next month.*

1.7 Financial Status - \$2,262.43 (+\$400 in PayPal account)

2 Activities Report Out

2.1 Deferred motion re observation / participation of community members at Directors' meetings

– deferred to Sept meeting (Tara to provide options before meeting)

2.2 Development

- 625 Church St (Traders' Building)
 - Manulife made a revised development proposal to City; Robert reported that though he had been part of the working group, Manulife has not asked for more consultation prior to the recent revision. (Technically the building is not within the CWN boundaries). West side façade is being preserved, though south is not; there is no additional open space.
- 64 Wellesley (ONE Properties @ Church and Wellesley)
 - Don reported that the developer has scheduled a meeting with principal stakeholders, including Paul Kane Co-op and (our lawyer) Ian Flett, for Wednesday. Paul posited that mediation with the City has failed and that the City is lining up expert witnesses for the September LPAT hearing. Purpose of Wednesday's hearing is likely to reschedule the LPAT hearing to a later date.
- Crews / Tango (Graywood Development)
 - developer submitted its application to the City in late July for a 15-storey mixed-use development; there will be a public consultation within the next few months as well as an opportunity for CWNA to meet with the City planner in charge. Later in the process we will provide input on the site plan, including laneway improvements.
- 20-26 Maitland (Catholic Children's Aid site)
 - Tara indicated that residents of 25 Wellesley E. will fight for the preservation of the laneway and communal

garden as the Plaza Corp proposal advances. Ownership of the laneway is unclear.

2.3 Heritage

- Connie, Tara and Trevor had noticed that the Paul Kane House had a lot of ivy growing on the front wall, eavestrough and roof and were concerned about damage to the heritage structure. Don suggested writing the Paul Kane Co-op about our concerns (which will also clarify if the co-op or Parks Dept. is responsible); Connie said she would do so.

2.4 Placemaking

- August Placemaking Meeting (Connie, Tara, Trevor)
 - Paul Kane House Wellesley planters – Connie to contact Parks re watering them
 - Needed waste / recycling receptacles on Wellesley - Trevor to identify areas and contact 311 or BIA
 - Farmer's Market - Tara (see below)
 - Wellesley planters – still awaiting delivery of plants from City; in meantime we will mulch more planters
 - James Canning Gardens (see below)
 - CafeTO on Church – while the setup does animate the street and help out some businesses, the main drawback is that there is little room for pedestrians.
- Barbara Hall Park meeting (August 7; reported out via email / summarized below);
Connie met with Councillor Wong-Tam; Tyler Johnson; Curran Stikuts & Lisa Duplessis (519); Paul Orichefsky & Ester Afrait – Parks
 1. Benches – Connie expressed disappointment that promised free standing benches had not been installed (free form type like in Ramsden Park) nor had benches on the retaining wall been completed. Paul & Ester expressed wanting to fulfill the past promise. They will look into it and get back to Connie.
 2. Garbage & Parking - Lisa outlined proposal 519 has for improved waste management, moving from side of building to rear. Proposal has been stalled with the City since last year. Councillor said she would look into it and have it included in the capital budget. Regarding 519 staff parking, 519 says having parking onsite helps with staff safety when leaving in the evening. Councillor expressed the need for the space to be reclaimed. 519 & Councillor will continue conversation for solution.
 3. Cleaning - 519 and Parks to better coordinate times of cleaning so it is spread out through the day and thus more effective. They will make a schedule and circulate.
 4. Lighting - Tyler and Paul O worked on the issue of lights not working in back of park near path entrance and along the walkway to the AIDS memorial. Paul will have lights fixed.
 5. Trees - Paul was asked to have trees trimmed to improve sight lines and to maximize lighting. Paul agreed.
 6. Trans memorial - the memorial was pointed out, Ester photographed it, to inform Paul & Ester of its significance and need to not have it accidentally removed.
 7. Temporary fence - It was pointed out that garbage is collecting behind the temporary fencing on the south side. Paul said he will have it addressed as it possible to disconnect the fence pieces to do the work.
 8. Curran asked that the needle disposal box be moved away from the main entrance.
 9. Connie asked if there could be signage for the AIDS Memorial as community members had asked. Parks will look into separate signage or inclusion on the main park signs.
- James Canning Gardens etc. - Meeting with George Riopelle (Concord / The Clover) (Connie and Trevor). Park should be hardscaped and the park opened by mid-October, but the City must then plant. Connie has already put Parks on notice about this.
- Farmers' Market – Tara is exploring the possibility of getting a farmers' market going in Barbara Hall Park. The Board supports the idea. There is still much legwork to do. Tara will lead this; Neil, Peter and Robert have volunteered to help.
- George Hislop Park Closure / Walkway – at the July 30 meeting with the Councillor, Connie and Tara advocated strongly for a fenced walkway through George Hislop Park so that it is not completely closed to the public for years. Connie and Robert are communicating regarding possible design ideas. We will continue to push for a park throughway, so pedestrians have the choice of walking through the three linear parks.
- Citizen / Guerilla Gardening – Neil noted the laneway garden behind 17 Wellesley (by big Green P lot) looked after by Sue was a great example of what could be done in other parts of the neighbourhood. He suggested a profile be written up for the website, for which he will take photos. Paul said another example is Luke P., who this summer created the garden beside the Maple Leaf Convenience at Alexander and Church, at his own cost.

2.5 Membership

- Membership payment reminder
 - Trevor sent eblasts to 2019 members who had not renewed and to other subscribers who were not members. We got around 20 renewals.

- Tara will send personal thank-you's to those who donated more than the base \$5 membership.
- From now on we can send two versions of our news eblasts to the 500 subscribers, one targeted at subscribers who are not members, asking them to join.

- Pay Pal
 - Trevor will set up a new PayPal account so as to replace outdated contact information. Primary email will be info@cwna.ca. This should be complete by next Director's meeting.
 - Peter found PayPal sign-up (with credit card) was not straightforward; Trevor will look into the process and update the membership sign-up page.
- CWNA Boundaries
 - one person who lives east of Jarvis asked about CWNA extending its boundaries. The Upper Jarvis Residents Association does not appear to be active. Peter was in favor, as there is a large population of people not represented by an association. Connie will start an email discussion with other directors to explore the possibility of expanding.

2.6 Safety

- Church Wellesley Safety Network – Paul
 - The network has been administered by the Community Development Officer Stephanie Mazarole. The City wants the network to be administered by the community. Paul would like CWNA to step up. He would be willing to co-chair but there should be an alternate from CWNA. Neil suggested that Paul mentor someone. Tara would be willing to be an alternate. (The BIA and the 519 have co-chaired before). Paul, Don and Peter were in favor, but Tara and Connie said they'd like to see the Chair job description before committing CWNA. Paul will distribute the information to directors and we will take it up again at the next meeting.
- Downtown East Action Plan – CWSN is planning for a community meeting to explain what is happening with the Downtown East Action Plan.

2.7 Communications

- New website posts on Crews/Tango development & on George Hislop Park closure; will also add post on strategy for dealing with hate preacher. These will also be sent out in eblast.
- Starting to work on article "State of Our Parks" which will talk about status and issues in each of our parks and what we can expect in the coming months & years.
- Elaborating on Neil's idea, Trevor will start working on a series of blog posts on greening projects taken on by residents in the neighbourhood. Neil will be the photographer. Trevor will coordinate with Peter to do some of the writing for the series..

2.8 AGM

- Plan 2020 virtual meeting
 - AGM will be late November or early December, online (Zoom)
 - want to keep the time down, so likely no guest speakers
 - technology and format of presentations to be determined
 - elections: members would be provided candidate list / bios in advance, proxies
 - Trevor and Tara will email all directors and schedule a separate meeting to start fleshing out the above, to be presented and further discussed at next Directors' meeting.

2.9 KWT meeting

- Connie sent an email summary of the July 30 meeting with the Councillor to Board members on August 6.
- Most items in the meeting have been discussed in points above
- Of note, Downtown East Action Plan (including parks maintenance and enforcement) is not in full effect because of the redeployment of resources due to the COVID-19 pandemic; higher level of service should return with Stage 3.
- Off agenda, there was a discussion of our FaceBook group, in which some users post uncivil remarks aimed at the Councillor. Our group has rules of conduct and it is moderated and we do try to keep the discussions from falling into toxicity.

3 Recap of Actions & Upcoming Events

- Tara and Trevor to schedule an AGM Committee meeting before next directors meeting, to which all directors will be invited.
- Trevor: news eblasts in August and September
- Trevor: complete PayPal transition and edit sign-up instructions.

- Tara: write up item on hate preacher strategy
- Tara: start e-mail discussion with Board members regarding opening up Board meetings; include Kyle's motion as a starting point.
- Paul: share documents re structure of CWSN, especially role and responsibilities of the Chair / co-chair
- Paul: contact Deepak Ruparell to clarify how he is connected to CAN-Alliance
- Connie: work with Robert to come up with ideas for George Hislop Park fenced walkway.
- Neil: take photos of Sue's lane garden and Luke P's Alexander / Church garden.

Next CWNA meeting Sept. 19, 2020