

Church Wellesley Neighbourhood Association

Meeting Minutes January 14, 2022

Zoom Video - 10am – 12pm

Present – Connie Langille, Don Altman, Robert Packham, Neil Gibb, Trevor Hennig, Tara Schorr,
Attendees - Paul Farrelly, Peter Small, Marzio Silva (Councillor Moise) Regrets – Jolene Warner

1. Administration

1.2 Land Acknowledgment – revised acknowledgment

1.3 Agenda – Moved by Trevor, second Paul

1.4 Declaration of Conflict of Interest - none

1.5 Minutes of Last Meeting , November 15th, 2022 – Moved by Trevor second by Paul

1.6 Review of Action items from December 10th, 2022

ACTIONS from November

- Neil to draft letter to Mayor re TPS training – Item to be discussed at next Safety Committee meeting and brought back to the exec.
- Tara to scheduled BIA meeting Nov. 16 – Meeting was positive. Identified shared priorities, agreed to meet monthly. New Board chair to be determined. Tara to arrange next meeting.
- AIDS memorial – meeting TBD
- Meeting with planner – Paul to arrange with Marzio Silva

1.7 Financial Status - \$4,455.95

1.8 Introductions

2.1 Marzio Silva – councillor Chris Moise

- Moise busy with the budget, meeting with the public to hear from them. Don noted that public consultation is always too late. Board of Health Economic and Development, Paul noted Moise passed a package of motions.
- Marzio has lived in the community, Bleeker and Wellesley, for 12 years. He has worked for Councillor Bailao in Davenport.
- Priorities Councillor sees, housing, encampments, development with a focus on community spaces. He wants to bring community together with out focusing too much on height. Maintenance of parks and making sure the Village is revitalized.
- Don commented that community space offered is not appropriate. There has not been a needs assessment done as to what the community needs. Spaces offered have not been suitable nor are there groups with the finances or will to use the spaces, nor is there budget provided. Don recalls in the past community space being negotiated that sat empty. An appropriate space would be like a 519, a full integrated space with it's own staff etc. Also Don stated CWNA is concerned about the height of a building is important and Don is not encouraged that Councillor would give away the store unless the community space offered is sterling community space and of use. Marzio asked if what Don asked was that all spaces offered be consolidated more centralized? Don clarified that individual spaces would all need basic services, significant cost for multiple sites.
- Trevor agreed the community space issues Don stated. The city takes offered space into account when adding extra height for a developer but the space does not materialize. Trevor stressed the need for a needs assessment before agreements are made with developers.
- Neil commented on George Hislop park is still closed because of past issues. Don commented Sanctuary fills it with tents, Connie clarified Sanctuary does not advocate tents in the park
- Paul would like a meeting with Eddie LaRusic and councilor. We have had a lot of development but zero community space have been secured. Paul pointed out there is no BIA between Wood St. and Charles St. on Yonge St. and the DYBIA had talked about expanding north. Paul pointed out CWNA is the only champions of this section of Yonge St. Yonge TO is also something CWNA would like help to formulate a strategy for Yonge St. We look forward to actively working with councillor.
- Marzio asked if Karl Lohnes is part of CWNA. We clarified he was not but we do work in partnership with the resident of Montieth.

2.2 Communications & Membership

- Website is now secure with SSL (address starts with secure https: rather than unsecured http:)
- Usernames to several online tools (website editor, mailing program, zoom etc) now generic CWNA rather than linked to an individual
- Usernames and passwords for online tools are posted to shared drive
- Training on membership / communications will continue over the winter.
- News eblast should go out by end of January / early February depending on content available
- By the time the AGM in March arrives Trevor will be ready to hand over the management to Jolene

2.3 Development & Heritage - Paul

- Donation of \$500 for the OLT on Yonge St. BCCA settled with Kingsett just before the election. Discussion followed. CWNA asked that the donation be returned to us.
- OPA 183 was explained, North Downtown Yonge Planning Frame work, BCCA to Bay & CWNA to Church. Phase 1 has been past and phase 2 deals with heritage and is still under appeal. We are waiting for appeal to be heard. Kingsett is the biggest appellant in the appeal. Paul explained there are funds to cover the appeal. No date has been set for the hearing.
- FoSTRA update – Paul passed on the two housing meetings that are happening and encouraged members to attend one if not both as they focus on housing. One is Mark Richardson from FoSTRA an activist on Housing Now and on expedited projects currently happening. The webinar is a joint venture with TMU & Uof T city groups.
- Paul displayed a map of 9 current proposals. See attached pic. And chart of addresses
- These developments represent an additional approx 10,00 residents, 6,800 units
- Paul asked to meet with Eddie LaRusic, the planner Alex Teixeira and Councillor and staff to make sure everyone is on the same page prior to meeting with developers. Community benefits, green space, community space could be defined. There is section 37 funds that could be added
- Paul encouraged Councillor to meet with developer Kingsett to the communities advantage.
- Don asked if the Beer Store site would be subject to the Vacancy Tax. No one was sure we have had no contact with the developer in spite of email attempts.
- Robert asked for clarification on the new changes to Heritage in Bill 23. Paul will circulate the new regulations. If a building is currently listed it expires in two years if not designated and can not be put on the register unless it is designated.

2.4 Placemaking - Connie

- BH Park revitalization -
- Meeting with Maura Lawless and Curran Stikuts the 519, Thurs Jan. 12th – concerning the revitalization of BH Park. It was explained that construction at the 519 is under the control of the city not the 519. The back drainage project is done but a second project to deal with water draining off the roof and damaging the basement. The 519 can not begin it's project to relocate the garbage until the city is done.
- Priorities for BH Park – all were asked for input what should stay and what should change. Trevor commented that antisocial behaviours seem to be driving the revitalization.
- Paul noted the AIDS Memorial needs to be better respected along with the Trans Memorial. It was pointed out the 519 has approx. \$55,000. Connie mentioned that making the Cathraw entrance could be made grander with proper signage and are onboard to consider having the AIDS Memorial could be on designated. This would elevate the memorial and give it added respect.
- Trevor commented that the gardens around the monument could be a community garden space.
- Connie reported 519 conversation also included a garden space on the south side of the building, a grander entrance off of Church St where the stage. Extend the dog run to the west for small dogs.
- Jan 15 is an initial meeting with Daniel for the redesign.
- We asked that Marzio make sure there is a move forward with the reconstruction of George Hislop and Norman Jewison parks. George Hislop has been closed for three seasons.
- Marzio comment that he is aware of the area due to complaints about encampments. Paul offered to take Marzio around the area.
- Connie commented that Sanctuary takes the most marginalized people and takes them as they are. Sanctuary has been in the area a long time, before condos. Connie asked that Marzio's opinion be tempered by more than a few opinions/complaints.

- Marzio was also asked to advocate for the Pigeon Lady be dealt with at George Hislop Park.
- It was noted that the 519 can find no alternative space for their PRIDE Green Space event and we asked Marzio to have Councillor advocate for alternative space.

2.5 Safety – Tara

- Tara gave an overview of the CW Safety Network for Marzio
- Last met in Dec., Tara pointed out it would be useful for councilor's office to attend.
- Tara noted the 519 reported incidents with TPS that are being dealt with. There is some concern that newer community officers may not always be sensitive. Though there are positive interactions there can always be improvement. It was noted that there are fewer drug dealers in the park at the end of summer into the fall, they seem to have dispersed to a wider area.
- Tara also noted that there needs to be a broad strategy for the entire neighbourhood not just BH Park.
- Tara asked that Marzio look into the laneway area behind 25 Wellesley E to ensure public safety. It is unclear who owns the lane and who is responsible for maintenance. Tara will forward a map and pictures to Marzio for clarification.
- Tara noted that the Safety Network does not have a proper mandate or outline of priorities. She hopes this is on the next agenda as clarification is needed for the committee to work.

The meeting ended..

3 Recap of Actions & Upcoming Events

- Next CWNA meeting February 11, 2023 – Zoom
- Meeting w Councillor, Edward LaRusic and planners – Paul to arrange
- Affordable Housing meeting – Neil to arrange
- Safety Meeting – Tara to arrange, Neil to draft letter re TPS training
- CW Safety Network meeting TBD
- AIDS Memorial meeting TBD, work w 519 to arrange
- Tara to arrange next BIA meeting