

## Church Wellesley Neighbourhood Association

Minutes Monthly Meeting May 11th, 2024  
560 Church St & Zoom - 10am – 12pm.

**Board members present** – Connie Langille, Don Altman, Tara Schorr, Luben Blagoev, Neil Gibbs, Scott Morrison, Wasim Ghani, Phil Parsons

Associate members - Peter Small, Paul Farrelly

Regrets – Matti Charlton, Robert Packham

Guests – Jonathan Grimm

### **1. Administration**

#### **1.2 Land Acknowledgment**

#### **1.3 Results of the Election and Terms of Office**

- 3x3 year terms – Don, Wasim, Scott
- 1x2 year term – Phil
- 3x1 year terms – Tara, Connie, Neil

#### **1.4 Election of Officers**

- **President, Connie – VP Internal, Luben – VP External, Don – Secretary-Treasurer, Connie**
- All officers were acclaimed

#### **1.5 BIA – Adam** via phone – we accommodated BIA report out at this time

- The Sarah Hegazi mural will be restored in May-June
- The Wellesley TTC station mural is in the planning stage, it is to be paint not vinyl wrap, more info to follow. Tara asked if they were working with Street Art Toronto, they are not. BIA is however meeting with them for knowledge on mural best practices.
- The proposed Village festival is awaiting funding from the federal government, more info to follow. An outline of the proposed festival was outlined. A theme will be Indigenous and Queer.
- Luben asked about the Alexander Wood statue – There was \$120,000 allocated in the BIA budget last year however there is no indication where it came from. BIA treasurer is looking through the records.
- Luben asked about the CafeTO installations and if they will be more uniform this year. Adam said they are looking to have the jersey barriers painted to a more attractive art motif. They are soliciting input from businesses.
- Neil asked about the 2022 Parliament St installation, can there be more landscaping on Church St. and safety addressed? Adam said each business is responsible for deco. And noted community challenges.
- Phil asked about preserving the Button mural on the east side of One Properties. There is no concrete plan, the developer had mentioned representing the mural in the new development.
- Peter asked about a possible sign for The Lost Boys at the site of the north east corner at Alexander St. The BIA has registered to install a sign at the site with owners permission. Good news.

#### **1.6 Agenda** – Tara moved, Scott 2nd

#### **1.7 Declaration of Conflict of Interest** - none

#### **1.8 Minutes of Last Meeting** – April 13<sup>th</sup>., of note Safety was not covered, passed – Tara moved, Luben 2nd

#### **1.9 Review of Action Items from April 13th , 2024**

- Completed

#### **1.9 Financial Status**

- \$7,037.38 - total from AGM memberships & Pay Pal \$357.27, expenses AGM - \$145.36
- It was noted that a donation of \$200 came in last night, May 10th

### **2 Activities Report Out**

#### **2.1 Councillor's Office**

- No update was received from Councillor's office

- It was decided to book a meeting online with Councillor's office
- It was noted the Councillor's Safety Meeting for May 15 has been cancelled notice on Councillor's home page.

#### **2.4 Annual General Meeting Report out – All**

- Approximately 50 people attended
- There were several memberships renewed and new ones signed up.
- Peter found MPP Wong-Tam's remark genuine and appreciated.
- It was asked where Councillor Moise was, it was reported that he was invited several times and if unable to attend but was offered the choice of sending a video greeting. We did not hear back until the weekend, Maria Guardado his representative attended but did not bring greetings.

#### **2.5 Introductions**

- As we have new members a round of introductions followed with a bit of background information from each member.
- Everyone was thanked for their commitment and service to the community.

#### **2.6 Development & Heritage – Don, Peter**

- 88 Isabella has been given notice to vacate Oct 31, 2024
- Bill 185 – Paul noted that several meetings have taken place concerning the bill.
- The bill is of great concern, it covers many areas of development.
- To build in water zones between the Green Belt which is a “no-no.”
- One area exempts universities from planning, they will be able to disregard planning policies. This is mainly around student residents.
- Friday May 12, FoStra met with 5 MPP's, a brief outline of FoStra was given.
- It seem unlikely there will be any meaningful changes possible with Bill 185 before it is passed.
- There is a provision in Bill 185 that allow for a development to be declared lapsed after 3 years of inaction and the application can be revoked.
- There was discussion on how to be informed, Paul noted FoStra is a good resource as it encompasses the downtown and there are many members with valuable knowledge. He suggested following Community Council meetings and Planning and Housing Committee , These are two committees that will provide information on current issues. Both committees have websites.
- On the Community Council meetings you can see how all the Councillors respond to issues
- Paul note the special character area that is Church St., it has lower height restrictions etc. He cautioned that if one developer was allowed to break the character area guidelines then others would follow.
- There was a consensus that a development committee should be called as there are several items to discuss.

#### **2.6 Safety**

- Tara was asked what she frlet were the two greatest benefits of the Safety Network.
- First she pointed out that it allows people to get to know each other and have some trust, and also it allows people to share information and flag concerns, so that various stakeholders can follow up on things or coordinate services.
- Second was the ability to apply some pressure and show some need to get services in the community like Here to Help. Tara pointed out we have a couple of services that are unique just to our community, and and sometimes we share them with other regions.
- A positive that came from the Safety Network was added safety at the Dundonald TTC entrance. By consistently raising the concern the issue was addressed. There are still concerns and by advocating for supports we hope to see a change

#### **2.6 Communications**

- Luben reported there were several new memberships at the AGM.
- He noted the generous donation from a community member, \$200.
- Luben put forward Simon Liao's request to have his research study shared via CWNA email to our membership. He's doing a research study for 2SLGBTQ+ newcomers, immigrants and refugees.

- The group discussed the proposal noting we often have requests to share research projects via our membership. It was decided that we could share the information via social media but not in a specific email to members. Luben will inform Simon.

## **2.9 Placemaking**

- Nightshift plaque in the works, AIDS Memorial signs in the works
- Update website information
- Review of Pride meeting was given. Same staff so familiar with the plan, a few new staff that are very informed. Questions were asked about garbage management, it was noted that garbage management is a priority for Pride and have heard communities concerns. Food trucks will be located at the south of Church St again this year. Pride is looking to integrate other food options along the Church St. strip and encourage businesses to be creative in their offerings, grab and go as well as sit down. Drinking water stations are being improved and more of them. Washrooms will be regularly monitored and cleaned.

## **Other – Summer Meeting Break**

- Summer break from meetings – It was agreed to take July off as we did last year and not hold a meeting. Folks were welcome to arrange coffee dates.

## **Actions to carry forward**

- All committees update website information – Send updated info to Connie, she will forward to Trevor
- All committees call meeting prior to June 8th meeting
- New exec send in photos and bios for website, continuing exec refresh pics and bio if needed

## **Upcoming Events**

- Next CWNA exec meeting June 8th, 2024 – in person
- TPS Chief's Pride reception June 20, 3-5pm
- Next TPS CCC June 12th.