

## Church Wellesley Neighbourhood Association

Minutes Monthly Meeting August 9th, 2025  
560 Church Pop-Up, 10am – 12pm.

### Board members present

Phil Parsons, Matt Bell, Kelvin Kung, Don Altman, Connie Langille

Associate members – Paul Farrelly

Regrets – Scott Morrison, Luben Blagoev, Peter Small, Madison Charlton, Tara Schorr

Guests – Peter Morris, Erin McLaughlin

### 1. Administration

#### **1.2 Land Acknowledgment**

#### **1.3 Agenda moved Phil, second Matt**

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

#### **1.5 Minutes of last meeting – June 14 moved Matt, second Phil**

#### **1.6 Review of Actions Items from June 14**

- Queens Park e-blast – sent to members with OLT update
- Safety Network update – no info yet.

#### **1.7 Financial Status**

- \$7,238.13 CWNA funds
- \$20,873.73 total funds raised, paid \$5,000 retainer, balance = \$15,873.73

### **2. Welcome guests**

- Erin McLaughlin – 86 Gloucester St condo resident and interested in participating in CWNA. Erin's main concern is safety in the community and asked how she can help.
- Peter Morris is a community elder and very connected to the AIDS community. He is a spokesman for the PWA organization. Brian is concerned about the AIDS Memorial and current conditions around the memorial and in the park in general. Brian reminisced about tour buses in the past touring Church St. The question of revitalizing this practice was raised.

### **3 Activities Report Out**

#### **3.1 Councillor's Office – Update**

- Sidewalk decals are being installed around the ward. Positive feedback so far. More needs to be done to encourage proper use of e-bikes etc.
- See Councillor Moises's latest newsletter for detailed updates on community issues.

#### **3.2 BIA** – Jaret Sereda emailed

- Three exciting vibrant new murals coming soon to the Church Wellesley Village!
- We been giving the Village some TLC, new paint, planters, removing graffiti.
- Halloween on Church Street - is back once again this year- New Stage location at the Parking lot at 512 Church Street with a beer garden!

#### **3.3 Heritage & Development**

- FoStra activity – committees – Don reported out on Affordable Housing, still a work in progress. Other members are welcome to the meetings.
- OLT review – Over all the feeling was the hearing went very well. Ian Flett and Gary Davidson did an extremely professional job of defending the Church St. Character Area. The results of the hearing usually take 3-4 months but we are hopeful the outcome will be positive. We will ask Ian Flett to advise us about next steps if the outcome unfavorable.
- Discussion about OLT invoice to be discussed in camera at the end of the meeting.
- Current developments were reviewed by Paul. 2-12 Cawthra was asking for additional height, 63 stories and 619-9637 Yonge was asking for 70 stories. Paul invited anyone interested in development to contact him and join the committee. Paul informed all that information can be found about all

developments at the city Application Information Centre.

- Paul explained that planners use Block Context plans to assess future development potential, noting that many residential areas are classified as "soft sites" where tall buildings could be built in the future
- Don gave an overview of the demolition underway at 88 Isabella St. Vibration monitors have been set up by the developer around the impacted area. Don talked about a slide presentation on the subject that was given. Other members were interested in the slides and asked Don to forward them to the board. Don also briefly talked about the underground water system that impacts current and future sites in the community.

### **3.4 Safety**

- The Safety Network is in the process of redefining its framework. As per Don no update is available.
- Barbara Hall Park – many expressed concern about safety related to BHP. The consensus was not everyone feels safe about the park and there needs to be stronger measures taken to provide community safety. Though there are some measures to deal with open drug use, loitering, antisocial behaviour it is unclear how the measures are carried out with consistency. The disrespect around the AIDS Memorial was also discussed. Community is looking for protections for the memorial and enforcement that better respects the memorial and maintains it as a safe space to visit. Conversations will continue with TPS, the city and other relevant partners.
- Don provided an update on the Sanctuary Community Committee. The meeting covered updates on the Sanctuary Committee, with a new director recently appointed and a discussion about increased police presence in the area due to changes in public drug use policies.

### **3.5 Membership** – Luben

- Luben was not available for the meeting
- Paul told the group about brothers who live at City Co-op and their plan to bring membership in CWNA to the next meeting. The co-op has approximately 700 members.
- Matt reported Grace McInnis to present to their membership at the next AGM in November the proposal to become a member building.

### **3.6 Communications** – Scott

- Scott was not available for the meeting

### **3.7 Placemaking** - Connie

- Removal of stage in BHP – Sept. The city and Parks are ready to move ahead. We will be updated closer to the work date.
- Queen's Park Revitalization - Donald and Kelvin reported on the Queen's Park revitalization project—very high level discussions on how to realize Weston's donation, clarify how partnerships are created in the design vision (part of the working design vision statement mentioned partnerships), strong support for the value of trees brought to the park, discussion on potentials of fountains, safety, and facilities such as washrooms. Further focus groups as well as public-wide engagements are being scheduled. No decisions have been made.
- TTC - The group also heard Kelvin's TTC update, where construction-related delays and unreliable express bus routes were major concerns, leading to calls for a centralized online database for service information.
- TDSB – supporting Church St School. A discussion was had about the current state of the TDSB and the take over by the province. It was explained that all current trustees no longer have access to their TDSB email or phone. It was also shared that no trustee is being paid. It was outlined ways CWNA may support Church St School during this time. The question of donations came up but monetary donations are not possible. CWNA can show support by raising awareness in the community, Participating in information sessions outside the school to better inform parents etc. We will ask the principal Emilio Puentes in Sept how we can help.
- Isabella St lane naming request – Recently Adam Wynne requested CWNA support the name Ambulance Blues Lane as a tribute to Neil Young for the lane that runs south off of 79 Isabella St. Connie reviewed how CWNA was in the process of naming the two lanes south off of Isabella St when Covid hit. The names we were looking at had been chosen by the 2 Spirited community. The names had

been forwarded to the city for approval by their Indigenous Dept. The process was restarted in 2023. Adam was informed of this. There is a question of the lanes being one L shaped lane or two separate lanes as identified by the city in 2020. Connie is in communication with the city seeking clarification. The dilemma is do we ignore the 2 Spirited names for the recent suggestion? Connie would like to wait to hear back from the city before making any decisions. Those present agreed. Adam will be updated.

- Open house after OLT decision, Ian & Gary as guests – It was discussed introducing Ian and Gary to the community at an Open House at the pop-up when the OLT decision is reached. It was felt that regardless of the outcome the community would appreciate knowing who represented the Village at the hearing. All agreed. Once the decision is reached an open house will be arranged.
- Mural unveiling took place at Welles TTC – all went well. The mural looks great.
- Blockobana a fab success, neighbourhood really enjoyed the event. Lots of smiles and positive reviews. It is hoped Blockobana will continue in the years to come.

#### **4 AGM 2026**

- the 2026 AGM will be at the 519 Ballroom March 18, 2026. All were asked to mark their calendars.

#### **5 Other**

- All committees are to call a meeting to familiarize new members with the committees and encourage participation. Development is keen to welcome folks aboard.
- OLT invoicing – in camera session

#### **6 Upcoming events**

- Next CWNA exec meeting September 13, 2025

#### **8 Actions to carry forward to September**

- City to report on Isabella lane status and decision of Indigenous names
- All committees to call a meeting
- Don to share slide deck from 88 Isabella meeting with the group