Church Wellesley Neighbourhood Association

Minutes Monthly Meeting May 9th, 2026
560 Church Pop-Up, 10am – 12pm.

Board members present
Present - Don Altman, Connie Langille, Scott Morrison, Kelvin Kung, Matt Bell, Phil Parsons, Luben Blagoev
Associate members – Paul Farrelly, Peter Small
Absent – Madison Charlton, Carolyn Merriam, Tara Schorr

1.Administration

1.2 Land Acknowledgment
1.3 Welcome guests – MP Evan Solomon, Rick Matthews Constituency Director
1.3 Agenda – moved Phil second Matt
1.4 Declaration of Conflict of Interest - none
1.5 Minutes of Last Meetings – April 11, 2026 – moved Scott second Luben

1.6 Actions carried forward from April 11

- Continue to monitor Pedestrianization of Church St
- Continue to monitor Queens Park Revitalization

1.72 Financial Status

- $7,004.73

2 Activities Report Out

2.1 MP Solomon

- Comments
- MP Solomon gave an overview of his community office, location 409 Parliament St. the office is staffed and community members are welcome to drop in or make an appointment to discuss concerns.
- The question of food cost and availability was asked. MP reviewed his long background in charitable food sector and the governments provision for food essentials with a payment of $1,890 for a family of four and $900 for a single person to help with food expenses. This is done through automatic enrollment so that folks do not need to apply.
- There has also been an increase in funding for school food programs across the country.
- Evan talked of a large scale national food strategy coming along that will help with food security and distribution giving people choice.
- Talked of the homeless crisis, substance abuse, the lack of housing and supports was discussed
- Evan quoted a statistic supplied by a doctor who helped open Dunn House Supportive Housing that 257 of the most chronically unhoused people in our city take up 15,000 emergency room visits a year. Many are transported by TPS which requires two officers to be off the street for intake. Much of what TPS is doing does not involve policing but addressing People In Crisis a result of a long underfunded system. Change needs to be addressed
- Calling on supportive housing to fill the need for housing and mental health supports. Access to permanent housing partnered with health services is a more successful model. Part of the key is to offer supportive housing to local community members first. As it is now supportive housing goes into a city wide pool so new housing fills up before local people have access.
- Bail reform was discussed. Making the person charged responsible of proving they deserve bail a reversal from past practices. Much of reform depends on the provincial government to act upon the legislation.
- MP talked of the government passing comprehensive legislation called Combating Hate, because there's so much hate towards the 2SLGBTQ community, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism. The Combating Hate legislation is in the Senate.
- MP covered a wide variety of topics. He invited anyone who would like to learn more to visit his constituency office.

2.2 Councillor's Office Follow-ups from April 11 meeting – no update Francesca not available

- Follow up with

2.3 Questions for Councillor – Francesca -did not attend c/o to June

- Changes at Allan Gardens, area clear of items. How will this be maintained?
- BHP, Echoes, fence - motion to council outcome?

2.2 BIA – Jaret Sereda

- Pedestrianization of Church St. BIA is the lead. In progress, logistics being worked out
- Next event Village Fest June 19-21
- There was an information Zoom held, outline of plans so far were given. More work to do to prepare for city vote to pass the proposal.

2.5 Heritage & Development

- FoStra activity – committees – elections are soon to be held

No other vital updates

- Queens Park update – Paul

May 11th, the committee will get a preview of what is going to go to the June 10th Infrastructure and Environment Meeting, and the staff report will come out.
The Friends of Queens Park committee are finding it challenging to be heard and have their recommendations taken seriously. An attending Councillor dismissed the committee as not being constructive even though several of the committee are highly qualified.
It is unclear how everything will work out. The association committee will continue it's advocacy.

- 64-66 Welles Community Consultation - Apr 14 – meeting w Tyler Apr 27, report out

Discussion was had with the developer. A proposal was sent out which CWNA reviewed. The city is also reviewing the proposal at this time. The developer is anxious to start construction on the project.

- Apr 16 Cultural District meeting update – An overview of what makes a Cultural District was laid out. The city has recently finalized a frame work for designating a cultural district. Little Jamaica will be first then other areas will follow including the CW Village. The process involves an assessment of area assets, built form, cultural and historical. This is expected to begin in 2027
- 90 Isabella has submitted another development proposal. A public meeting will be held. There was concern that little information was released to the resident who operated the Foy House on the development site. Assistance will be given to locate relevant documents and help prepare for the public meeting. There is a question of the development going ahead as a cond or switching to rental units as there is government support for building rental.

2.6 Placemaking

- Pedestrianization of Church St – update Francesca – not available
- yongeTOmorrow – Apr 21 meeting update
- The response was positive to the meeting, many community members attended at the YMCA. A large street map was available for residents to leave their input on post-ti notes. A through update was given by various department representatives. It seems the project is back on track, FIFA will put progress on hold until it is over. City web sit for yongeTOmorrow has current information and updates.
- Dundonald planters – Planters have been moved and looking forward to ordering plants for all five beds. There is a great concern with the new business on site. Their garbage is regularly piled at the east end of the site and cars illegally parked. 311 has been engaged to deal with excessive garbage, councillor's office is actively working on solutions as well.
- April 18 – AIDS Memorial meeting, Welles Comm Centre – update? No one attended
- Mural for Nightshift south wall – Emilio Puentes, principal of Church St School, commented that a mural on the south concrete wall would be great and help discourage graffiti on the space. The BIA was asked about an artist and cost. Jaret Sereda, BIA, said he had a local artist and cost would be approx $500. Don made a motion for CWNA to cover the cost of an appropriate mural. Design to be agreed upon by Emilio and CWNA. Jaret will be contacted to set the process in potion.

- TC Talks Panel June 10 – The group was asked to submit any ideas for topics or practices to be highlighted

2.7 Membership – Luben
- All new member logged, E-blast for Spring to be written. All suggestions welcome.

2.8 Communications – Scott
- Website updated with all past minutes and sundry items

2.9 Other
- CNWA insurance? - discussion – as not all members had familiarized themselves with the material and the time was late it will be discussed at the June meeting

3 Upcoming Events
- Next CWNA exec meeting June 13
- May 10 Environment Day Allan Gardens
- Placemaking & Public Realm – TC Talks Panel event happening at the St. Lawrence Community Centre on Wednesday June 10, - 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM.