

## Church Wellesley Neighbourhood Association

### Minutes

Monthly Meeting June 12, 2021

Zoom Video - 10am – 12pm.

Board Members Present: Connie Langille, Sam Katz, Tara Schorr, Paul Farrelly, Robert Packham, Trevor Hennig, Donald Altman

Regrets: Kyle Iannuzzi,

Guests: Peter Small; Adam Wynne

### **1. Administration**

#### **1.2 Land Acknowledgment**

#### **1.3 Agenda**

#### **1.4 Declaration of Conflict of Interest (none)**

#### **1.5 Minutes of Last Meeting , May 15, 2021 (passed)**

#### **1.6 Review of Action items from May 15, 2021**

- Paul / Robert: Next Development meeting: invite Tyler and Connie; s.37 discussion; laneway standards (not held)
- Paul / Robert: meeting with BCCA (planning it)
- Committee Chairs: meet if you ought to
- Connie: let Tara know about next TPS CCC meeting (done)
- Connie: agenda item / meeting: Wellesley Green P parking lot's future (discuss with Tyler)
- Connie / Tara: meet with 519 / BIA re Friends of Barabara Hall Park (done) Hennig
- Trevor: compose call-out for Alexander Street Parkette names (renaming on hold)

#### **1.7 Financial Status - \$3,455.37**

#### **1.8 Guests** – Peter Small; Adam Wynne

### **2. Activities Report Out**

#### **2.1 Governance - Don**

- Report out June meeting - Rules of Order

#### **2.2 Communications & Membership - Trevor**

- E-blast sent in May; another coming out in June (good news summer issue)

#### **2.3 Safety – Tara**

- Safety Network Meeting - June 9 (Paul attended); Community Officer Robert Chevalier has been seconded as 2SLGBTQ+ Liaison Officer (previously Carmen Wong's position);
  - "Here to Help" is the name given to the de-escalation teams that will be in action very soon; on June 16 there will be a briefing to community groups / organizations; public info to follow shortly after
  - ban on rental evictions has been lifted
- CWNA Safety Committee meeting
  - looking into Safety Audits for the neighbourhood

- safety information (who to call for what) sheets to be designed and distributed to buildings; available as pdf for download; possibly electronic via elevator news screens
- bicycle lanes – what vehicles are allowed or not / compliance
- battling bird feeders – by-law is to be expanded to cover all public property rather than just parks, but compliance will still be an issue. Contraceptive seed might be an option.
- police relations statement or policy tabled until Government Relations Committee moves forward; Tara has distributed background information; needs a specific meeting.
- Community Safety Outreach Meeting (Neil and Tara attended) was a research survey (Downtown East Action Plan).

#### **2.4 Development & Heritage - Paul**

- 66 Wellesley E Ontario Land Tribunal decision. The OLT rejected the developer’s application, striking down the idea of a development straddling two character areas. Tall tower was denied, but clear indication that a substantially shorter tower with a 4-storey base would be acceptable to Ontario Land Tribunal. OLT was not concerned with shadow on Barbara Hall Park. Phase 1 of the Toronto Official Plan Amendment 183 Secondary Plan (OPA183 – covering north downtown Yonge area), which CWNA and BCCA worked hard to get passed, was upheld.
- Heritage Nominations (Adam Wynne)..
  - Crews Tangos Boutique: 506 (Boutique Bar) seems destined for the wrecker’s ball; 508-510 (Crews/ Tangos – developer says it will retain much of the building but City staff have not moved to list or designate as a heritage property. Adam has notes on several other properties that have not so far been nominated.

Discussion as to whether or not to proceed with a Batch Listing of properties for Listing in the Heritage Register, or to nominate properties one at a time. Paul noted that the existing map of potential heritage properties in the *North Downtown Yonge Design Guidelines* leaves out some potential properties on the side streets. Robert said a batch listing should go ahead with the existing map, rather than trying to add other properties, as the existing map is established in the *Design Guidelines*, properties on the side streets are not under immediate threat, and trying to add more could cause delays. Adam countered that if a batch listing goes ahead leaving out some properties, there may be reluctance or delays in adding those properties in the future. Tara suggested we investigate applying for a grant for heritage property research. CWNA Heritage Committee will be meeting and getting a better idea from Heritage Board as to what route is most practicable.
- Downtown North Development Round-table coming up, Sat. June 19. Peter and Don to attend.
- Phase 2 OPA 183 Case Conference (Peter and Paul are on committee with Andrew Horberry; will meet with BCCA and lawyer); also will be discussing with the BCCA regarding tall building development proposals on both sides of Yonge.

#### **2.45 Barbara Hall Park Animation 2021 Presentation**

Taylor (TK) Gesner & Stephanie McCracken presented plans for animation of Barbara Hall Park this summer and fall. Plans (still to be finalized and in accordance with pandemic rules) to transform the park into playful environments for social interaction and shared experiences, spaces for small gatherings and games, an area with movable furniture, and an herb container garden. Music in the Park will continue its commitment to showcase local performing artists, but with a broader range of music genres and performance types. Additional activations may incorporate sports, fitness and active play, children’s content, an artisans’ market and picnics in the park. The animations will be funded by two municipal grants to the BIA totalling \$100,000.

#### **2.5 Placemaking - Connie**

- James Canning Gardens - playground is almost done

- More rainbow / trans crosswalks are coming; meeting with Tyler Johnson tomorrow
- BIA's proposal to remove Alexander Wood statue – CWNA is waiting for more information before making a statement. Adam Wynne did substantial research on how other jurisdictions have dealt with controversial historical figures and outlined several options for reconciliation (appendix attached). Tara emphasized that a key part of reconciliation is that it be in full consultation and partnership with Indigenous peoples from the start. The BIA president is consulting with Indigenous leadership, which is a good starting point.
- Streets/Lanes Names City Review – renaming process for street names is on hold until new City policy is implemented

## **2.6 Toronto Police Service 2SLGBTQ+ Community Consultation Committee**

- Met June 10 – Tara attended
- Not much on the agenda of the first meeting

## **4 Recap of Actions & Upcoming Events**

### **4.1. Meeting / Events**

- Placemaking Walk Sunday 13 June 4:30 pm
- Placemaking Committee June 16th - 5:30 pm
- KWT June 17th – 10 am
- Development Round-table Sat. June 19 (Peter and Don to attend) Downtown North
- AIDS Vigil 22nd June - virtual
- CWNA July 10th – 10 am

### **4.2 Actions**

- Paul: Heritage Committee to strategize further on batch vs single listings
- Paul / Robert: meeting with BCCA re OPA 183 and other issues

## **APPENDIX**

June 12, 2021

### **Potential Recommendations for CWNA Framework – Re: the Alexander Wood Legacy and Statue (Draft):**

Drafted by Adam Wynne with input from Peter Small

1) Acknowledge, respect, communicate, and commemorate the area's Indigenous histories, narratives, peoples, and perspectives when and where possible

a. This includes both historical and present-day contexts.

2) Acknowledge and communicate facets of the neighbourhood and its history, including those facets which may be considered controversial and harmful.

a. This could include educational strategies, such as publishing an article about the situation; sharing

educational materials on the CWNA social media and website; etc.

b. If the decision is ultimately made to keep the Alexander Wood statue, then the CWNA could advocate that an additional plaque be erected to inform the public about Wood's connection to the Sex Scandal (circa. 1810s) and the Society for Converting and Civilizing the Indians and Propagating the Gospel Among Destitute Settlers in Upper Canada (circa. 1830s).

3) Consult and examine the City of Toronto's "Recognition Review" framework (to be released 6 July 2021) and encourage additional and specific review of the Alexander Wood legacy and statue.

a. There is also the potential consult and examine the "Chicago's Monuments Project" framework for similar strategies that could be utilized in the Church-Wellesley and City of Toronto contexts.

4) Encourage and participate in communications and dialogues between various parties and stakeholders to discern a strategy moving forward regarding the Alexander Wood legacy and statue.

a. These communications and dialogues should include Indigenous representatives and stakeholders.

i. The CWNA could also advocate that the Shingwauk Residential Schools Centre (SRSC); the Children of Shingwauk Alumni Association (CSAA); and the Reclaiming Shingwauk Hall Project be respectfully approached for their advice and opinion, given the connection of the Society for Converting and Civilizing the Indians and Propagating the Gospel Among Destitute Settlers in Upper Canada to the Shingwauk Residential School.

5) The CWNA could support a survey and/or vote being conducted as to discern broader community perspectives on the Alexander Wood legacy and statue.

6) The CWNA could facilitate a formal vote of its executive and/or general members to discern what organizational action(s) to formally take moving forward regarding this situation and the Alexander Wood legacy and statue.