

Church Wellesley Neighbourhood Association

Minutes

Monthly Meeting November 13, 2021

Zoom Video -- 10am – 12pm.

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

Board Regrets: Neil Gibb

Attendees: Peter Small, Julia Fice

1.0. Administration

1.2 Land Acknowledgment

1.3 Agenda – approved.

1.4 Declaration of Conflict of Interest – none.

1.5 Minutes of Last Meeting, October 16, 2021 -- approved.

1.6 Review of Action items from October 16, 2021

ACTIONS from October

- Paul: schedule joint CWNA/BCCA development meeting. Report moved to item 2.6.

1.7 Financial Status

- \$3,641.98 + \$129.27 (PayPal) = \$3,771.25

1.8 Julia - recording minutes

2.0 Activities Report Out

2.1 AGM – Monday, November 29, 2021 – 7:00 p.m. - All

- Slides: There was some discussion about slides needed and status of production.
- Board positions: after some discussion it was determined that there are 4 positions up to be filled. Robert will continue on the Board, but in more of a supporting role.
- Run-through date: Thursday, November 25, 2021 – 5:00 p.m.
Action: Please have slides prepared for AGM run-through.
- Status of AGM: CWNA members have been notified. Tara will amend the documents for nominations this weekend. Trevor mentioned that he has already posted something on the website about needed expertise, and will work with Tara on this, specifically to make sure that they match.
- New skills needed on Board: There was much discussion around skill-sets to recruit for, such as: urban development, planning, and growth of the area; legal expertise (in a volunteer capacity not professional); community engagement/volunteer management. Also discussed was volunteerism, and the desirability of increasing our volunteer led initiatives, to expand our community outreach beyond organizations. Potential volunteers should be interviewed regarding their interests and skills, to place people into the appropriate role. The committee structure should be recruited for, as a way to engage volunteers; it would be good to have someone on the Board to assist with this process. Paul suggested inviting all members to committee meetings to showcase them as a potential volunteer activity they might like to consider, and that general volunteer recruitment be a key item on the AGM Agenda. Trevor suggested a slide at the AGM detailing the organization's objectives and committee mandates. Tara suggested putting neighbourhood walks on the agenda for the new year.
- Publicity: Notices have gone out on Facebook, eblast, website, etc. Monday customized notices will be sent to the contacts at each of the 4 building's which are members of CWNA, for distribution. Notification on how to vote in absentia, on routine matters, will also be sent to all paid members.
- Counselor Kristyn Wong-Tam's video message: The 519 has a board meeting at the same time as our AGM, but there will be a video provided as per last year.

2.2 FoSTRA - Robert

- Robert submitted a list of members. As per previous discussion, we will become a member and Paul will prepare the form, with Connie designated as our honorary rep., and Paul as alternate rep. Membership is \$25.
Action: Paul to facilitate our FoSTRA membership.
- They are an organization comprised of homeowners assoc. and rate payers assoc., with a less inclusive mindset than CWNA.

2.3 Governance - Donald

- **Committee Governance Mandates:** Committee Chairs' please send him final drafts of your mandates, so that he can review them, and make sure they all have the same format. Donald has received mandates from Place Making, Development, and Communications, and Governance is done, with Safety pending.

2.4 Communications & Membership - Trevor

- **E-blast:** sent last week on the Courtyard Marriott development, Wellesley Green P parking lot Park, Church Street redesign, action on Barbara Hall Park, the Here to Help Service, and the Church Street fence unveiling.
- **Membership report:** Facebook Group – 2,300; Facebook Page – 1,500; Mailing List – 614; Memberships – 69; Associate Members – 6; Building Memberships – 6 (22 Wellesley East, 55 Wellesley East, 86 Gloucester, Church Isabella Residents Co-op (only 30 individuals in these buildings are involved with CWNA).
Action: Paul will give Trevor the contact for his building re membership. Connie requests that all Board members keep their membership up to date.
- **Mandate:** In future when an E-blast is sent recipients will be politely encouraged to pass it on to their building management/board/condo board for possible involvement, if they like the work we are doing. There are potentially hundreds of possible individual members in member and non-member buildings, but that individuals need to know that they should register with us as well.

2.5 Safety - Tara

- Safety Network Meeting (whose members include service agencies/community agencies in Ward 13):
 - **Community Crisis Response Project:** The Barbara Hall Park Security Project pilot has been active for one week (security being sub-contracted by the city). The pilot is finding that problematic individuals are simply moving from the park to another part of the neighbourhood overnight, i.e., the front steps of the 519. It appears that Security is not enforcing the bylaw. The Pilot will be winding up soon. The CCRP is stepping back around some prevention work due to staff limitations, and focusing on incident response.
 - The 519 has noticed a spike in overdoses again. The Church/Wellesley BIA is speaking with the Downtown Yonge BIA regarding their use of activity logs to track issues and incidents with a view to perhaps doing something similar. Toronto Police Service is hosting a flag raising for the Trans Day of Remembrance at 51 Division on November 20th at 10 a.m. All are welcome.
 - **519 Re-opening:** The 519 has extended their hours again, 9-9 weekdays, 9-5 weekends. They have secured funding to move their garbage.
 - **Safety Network Meeting:** Tara spoke with Curran from the 519 and Robert Chevalier, TPS liaison with CWNA, regarding the timing and consistency of notification and agenda dispersal of the Safety Network meetings; they are not held at a convenient time for many community members and minutes are not always available. As we support high community engagement this discussion is ongoing.
 - **Safety Network contacts:** Stephanie Mazzairelli, Crisis Response Program Coordinator; Curran Stikuts, Senior Consultant, Special Projects; Emily Martin, Director of the Downtown East Action Plan; Stephanie McCracken, Executive Director Church/Wellesley Village BIA.
 - **Action:** at the next Safety Committee meeting ask CCRP for a copy of the final report on the Pilot.

- Downtown East Resident Grants: Coming up on November 15, 2021. We are hoping to have NetTrack do safety assessments for community and public spaces in our area, specifically for some of the problematic darker alleys (anti-social behavior/incidents). Grant application is in the works.
- Meeting with Mayor's office: the mayor's office LGBTQ2 liaison reached out to CWNA regarding the LGBTQ2 community not feeling safe, questioning lack of news coverage of violent incidents. Tara reiterated to him community concerns and contributing factors in this neighbourhood, which makes it a hot spot historically visited by LGBTQ2 members who no longer live in the area, and who now are increasingly hesitant to visit. This is affecting queer businesses, etc. The mayor is interested in supporting CWNA and requests ongoing input on subjects of mutual interest.

2.6 Development & Heritage - Paul

- CWNA/BCCA development meeting: November 16, 2021, 1:00 p.m. Discussed will be: strategies and goals around the recent 475 Yonge Street re-submission of an application for a taller development, of 78 and 75 story buildings, which will also affect 510 Yonge Street; contributing to the naming of the Green Loop (at this point there was some brainstorming around possible names, with the understanding that the name is to create place in city geography). We would also like to ensure that the park size at 15 Wellesley is updated in the Green Loop document. CWNA is enthusiastic about building a working relationship with BCCA, information sharing, coordinating efforts on street-scaping, making pedestrian friendly spaces, and continuing collaboration on the Heritage Conservation District.

2.8 Placemaking - Connie

- CWNA letter re Church Street redesign – sent to Church Wellesley BIA, the City, and Kristyn Wong-Tam. Connie received notification that the plan is not finalized, it will be revised in light of community suggestions.
- Donations this winter – there was some discussion here regarding what organizations to donate to, in addition to those already donated to this year.
Motion: Donald moved that \$500 be spent on donations to groups doing positive work in our community. Trevor seconded.
Action: board members send Connie suggestions for donations by month's end.
- Linear Parks – There was a consultation process for the redesign of the linear park system, comprised of Norman Jewison, George Hislop, and Alexander parks. The park system is awaiting the final report back from the architects, which is due this month.
Action: Connie will find out the status of the consultation from city staff, and the date of the next meeting, when the final draft will be released.
- Preliminary Pride Plan meeting with Residents and BIA – board members can sign-up for one of two options:
 - Option 1 - Wednesday November 17th, 2021, 5:00 p.m.
 - Option 2 - Friday November 19th, 2021, 4:00 p.m.

2.9 Affordable Housing – Donald / Connie

- IZ Zoning (Internal Inclusionary Zoning) and the new definitions for affordable passed council this week.
- The city has identified four city-owned properties, suitable for new builds or renovations, for affordable/supportive housing. They are looking for partners.

2.10 Church Street Fence – Trevor

- The fence will be blue green waves until the artist completes the contract with the city. At that point the city will have the right to change the patterning and colours.

2.11 519 exterior lighting – Connie

- Curran Stikuts will work with Tyler Johnson on this issue; the lights are always on. The Parks Department says it is an extremely complicated program.

3.0 Recap of Actions & Upcoming Events

Actions

- Have slides prepared for AGM run-through.
- Paul to facilitate CWNA FoSTRA membership.
- Committee chairs' please send Donald final drafts of your mandates.
- At the next Safety Committee meeting Tara to ask CCRP for a copy of the final report on Pilot.
- Board members send Connie suggestions for donations by month's end.
- Connie will find out the status of the linear park system consultation from city staff, and the date of the next meeting, when the final draft will be released.

Events

- CWNA/BCCA development meeting: November 16, 2021, 1:00 p.m.
- AGM Run-through: November 25, 2021 – 5:00 p.m.
- CWNA AGM November 29, 2021, 7:00 p.m.
- Next exec meeting will also be held on Zoom. Date: December 11, 2021, 10:00 a.m.