

Church Wellesley Neighbourhood Association

Meeting Minutes August 12, 2023

Zoom - 10-12pm

Present – Connie Langille, Robert Packham, Neil Gibb, Luben Blagoev, Don Altman, Tara Schorr, Matti Charlton
Associate Member - Peter Small, Guest - Simon Huang,
Absent – Cori Death – Exec.

1. Administration

1.2 Land Acknowledgment

1.3 Introductions

- A round of introductions followed by exec, participants and guests
- Lucas Granger, familiar with councillor's offices, previous Ana Bialao, Robin Buxton Potts. New to office but don't hesitate to contact Lucas to ask questions. Email – Lucas.Granger3@toronto.ca
- Simon Huang – Long time association with Paul Farrelly, owned stores on Yonge St but now uses digital marketing. Lives at Yonge and Wellesley.

1.4 Agenda - moved Don, second Luben, passed

1.5 Declaration of Conflict of Interest - none

1.6 Minutes of Last Meeting June 2023 – moved Luben, second no one has read them – deferred

1.7 Review of ACTIONS from April

- Paul to call Development Committee
- Tara to call connect with BIA. Cori to attend
- Request involvement in Site Plans for developments – Connie – Done, site plans are no longer open to participate

1.8 Financial Status - \$4,591.41

2 Committee Reports

2.1 Councillor's Office – Report out Lucas

- Items pertinent to CWNA, safety, development, placemaking
- Linear Parks – completed June 2024, Alexander Parkette spring 2024
- Next steps for community safety – recommendations from July 21st meeting. Tara requested parks be completed for PRIDE 2024
- Community Safety Meeting – 24-7 security around the 519 by the 519. Lucas is looking to find solutions working with the community. Exec asked for minutes from the meeting but have not received anything, Lucas has not seen followup info on meeting. Exec pointed out the safety issue is wider than the 519 and would like to see councillor address the whole problem. Lucas will share info.
- Tara asked for update on Community Safety meeting councillor promised. Lucas said there will be a Community Forum. There was a concern that the focus may be too broad and challenges in our community will not be addressed. Lucas will get back with more details. Tara asked that education around how the process works be provided so people know how the system works
- Dapper Lane sale – no update
- Update from Parks re Charles St E property where Bike Share is locate. Improvements? Has not heard fro TPA
- Participatory Budgeting – list of submissions. Next steps? Staff has them for review will be assessed for feasibility. The question was asked as to how the submissions were gathered. No info was gotten from Sherwin as to how the system works. Lucas will have Sherwin respond.
- Confirmed financial allocation for dog park BHP? Is this part of the revitalization or separate? Lucas will get back to us when more info is available. There is no answer as to if the dog park is part of the revitalization or not. To be confirmed by Lucas.
- Plaque from Church St School Illuminated fence. Has Richard Christie contacted Councillor? No information. Lucas will be included in next email to Richard Christie.
- Simon asked about general safety in the neighbourhood as it feels like safety is declining. Lucas agreed that there is an issue and the focus is on finding solutions.
- Upper Jarvis Study – Peter identified that there were current development pressures and the understanding was it was to go forward. Lucas agreed that with development rules changing it is difficult to say where the process is. He will update when he has more information.
- Lucas excused himself from the meeting.

2.2 Guest Simon Huang

- Simon has been running a family business on Yonge St., nutrition, then as an acupuncturist. The success of his business was linked to an internet presence. Paul and Simon talked about supporting businesses with a store front to help them understand and get set up with an online presence and grow their business. It was suggested a committee be formed to investigate further avenues to encourage businesses to develop digitally and grow future CWNA membership. Matti will for the committee of interested members. Don is interested as well as Neil.
- Simon chose to stay at the meeting.

2.3 Development & Heritage - Paul

- 88 Isabella St development – Don voiced his concern that there was no representation from CWNA at the meeting. He was also appalled in councilor's response as little was put forward on his part. The focus of the 90 days rule is what is driving the decision making. The residents of 88 Isabella were concerned that the offer they were given did not consider real rent to stay in the community and felt the offer fell short. Don said all developments were approved. Don pointed out developers use purpose built buildings rent to generate compensation offers not the rent in condos that are what a tenant would face to move and stay in the community. The compensation policy from the city will be gutted by new provincial policies.
- Paul stated the development committee needs to meet to refocus and assign a new chair.
- 90-94 Isabella revisions were submitted w some improvements along
- 135 Isabella – Kingsett rental replacement 80 units, 770 units to be built where a perfectly good building is
- 15 Charles St. Anndore Hotel – final report
- 619 Yonge – Rabba – at the OLT
- 645-646 Kingsett are within the 90 days no presentation yet.
- 33-37 Maitland south side -
- 34 Maitland – 60 stories
- 64 Wellesley E has gone through
- Application Information
- 2-12 Cawthra – Met with BV Realty. Money + philanthropic. They have not finalized application, seeking community input at this point. The building design was a place holder and not fitting to the community. There is a notice to designate 3 of the building at Heritage Preservation which would mean keeping much of the current buildings
- Gord Perks has been assigned to housing at the city, a good move.
- CWNA has a refund from money advanced as a retainer for a consultant, the consultant will not be needed so money refunded.
- Development – Robert is also wrapping up his involvement on the development committee. A mailing will be sent to membership to ask for development recruitment. Paul and Robert to draft what is needed for development recruitment

2.4 Placemaking

- Mural being completed on Gloucester Lane. The mural will be extended to Norman Jewison's.
- Tara asked if CWNA could have a ribbon cutting celebration when the mural is completed. Don made a motion to dedicate \$100 for the unveiling event, Matti seconded, all agreed. Paul suggested to have the party when the lane is newly bricked and that Rabba may donate treats for the event. Matti volunteered sound equipment if needed.
- Project updates – no word on Glass wall plaque.
- Derelict property on Maitland, Tara to email.
- Grant Drygas has left Parks. Don wished Parks staff would stay longer.
- Tara – Guerrilla gardening to be held over until 2024
- Trans Memorial – meetings are happening, Tara will keep us posted on progress.

2.5 Safety - Tara

- Tara gave a recap of the FB post about the 519 being the cause of harm in the neighbourhood and the meeting that was called by Chris Moise. Moise committed to a Safety meeting. TPS and 519 will work on trespass issues.
- Connie updated group that Corporate Security has always had power to trespass. At the recent 519 board meeting it was decided to have 24-7 security that the 519 pays for to ask people to not loiter on the steps and TPS and corporate security will not be involved.
- Tara commented on protesters were mainly white, male, queer, over 60 folks. This does not represents the community. CWNA believes safety includes everyone in the neighbourhood.
- It was pointed out at the emergency meeting that drug use in the community is not exclusive to the un-housed. Drug use is common in the community businesses etc.

- Don commented about safety issues at Paul Kane House and looking to have a safety audit by TPS. Tara acknowledged that slow response by TPS can be frustrating and was flagged and buildings are individually responsible for safety.
- Conversations were had around general issues with violence and the following protest.
- Tara to call Safety Meeting

2.6 Membership - Luben

- Luben is working on his plan to go around the community and go to each building. Luben to put out call via email for members to join the effort.
- Don pointed out that individuals in condos might want to join even if the entire building does not.
- Tara to check that Google Drive is accessible to organize.

2.7 Communication

- Cori was absent

Meeting ended 12pm

3 Recap of Actions & Upcoming Events

- Paul to call Development Committee for outstanding development issues and guidelines for new chair/members
- Tara to call connect with BIA, Cori to attend
- Tara to call Safety Meeting
- Matti to look at Google Drive – potentially organize
- Luben to put call out for assistance enlisting buildings for membership
- Next CWNA meeting September 9th 2023.