

## Church Wellesley Neighbourhood Association

Minutes September 9th., 2023

Zoom - 10-12pm

Present – Connie Langille, Robert Packham, Luben Blagoev, Don Altman, Tara Schorr, Matti Charlton  
Associate Member - Peter Small, Guest – Adam Wynne  
Absent – Neil Gibb

### 1. Administration

#### 1.2 Land Acknowledgment

#### 1.3 Agenda - moved ---- second ----- passed

#### 1.5 Declaration of Conflict of Interest - none

#### 1.6 Minutes of Aug 12 Meeting 2023 – moved Matti, second Tara June 10, 2023 – moved Luben, second Tara

#### 1.7 Review of ACTIONS from August

- Paul to call Development Committee - TBD
- Tara to call connect with BIA – meeting held
- Matti to organize Google Drive – Tara and Paul to meet w Matti to facilitate.

#### 1.8 Financial Status - \$7,089.46

### 2 Committee Reports

#### 2.1 Councillor's Office – Report out Lucas

#### Lucas's reply to CWNA questions sent earlier – Lucas will not attend

“Here is a preliminary list of answers for you, I was hoping I would have more fulsome answers by this morning (hence the email delay), but I will be in a car for the next half-day and away from my laptop after that.”

- Items pertinent to CWNA, safety, development, placemaking

- As always, I am working on the development files actively across the ward with the Councillor. We have a number of meetings scheduled in the next few weeks pertinent to the CWNA area – I can update you as those plans solidify

- Councillor's position on Acorn – Rent Safe to include inside apt inspections, colour coded system for buildings, escrow account to cover repairs?

I am roughly aware of this file, however at this time I believe it is still under consideration from the Councillor/team. I will follow up with you when I am back after this weekend.

- Next steps for community safety – recommendations from July 21st meeting – minutes?

I will be working with Sgt Dyck to come up with a set of “minutes” and next steps – however I was not the constituency advisor at the meeting at the time it took place. My understanding is that it was not supposed to have minutes initially. You can find what the Councillor took from the meeting here: [https://www.chrismoise.ca/statement\\_vandalism](https://www.chrismoise.ca/statement_vandalism)

- September Safety Meeting? Area included, format?

The September Town Hall happening in the Village will take place on September 13th and include the CWNA neighbourhood as well as a few surrounding areas. There will be 6 town halls total across the ward. My rough schedule that I have received is essentially: 30 mins. check-in/registration, 30 mins. Presentation time, 1 hour open Q&A (or, to the end of allocated time). I should be clear – this is not just specifically about safety, as residents have concerns other than safety in the ward – however, we are expecting that many residents will want to ask about this, and they are welcomed to do so.

- Dapper Lane sale – update?

Fully transparent – I am still waiting on answers from Staff. My apologies.

- Update from Parks re Charles St E property where Bike Share is locate. Improvements?

I have been working with Toronto Parking Authority – however this is a site not owned/operated by PF&R. Looking into the issue and how it can be improved – if you have suggestions, I am happy to hear them as well

- **Participatory Budgeting – list of submissions. Next steps?**

PB is going to begin the voting process from October 1st to 31st, we are still waiting on Transportation staff to look at a number of projects. We will be releasing the projects under consideration as soon as we have the finalized list.

- **Plaque from Church St School Illuminated fence. Has Richard Christie contacted Councillor?**

We have been having a number of technical issues with our city-issued main Councillor inbox on my laptop, as such I have not received an email that I am aware of – however this could be due to my IT issues. I am happy to receive an email at any time via my personal work email [lucas.granger3@toronto.ca](mailto:lucas.granger3@toronto.ca)

The exec discussed strategies for gleaning more precise information from Councillor in the future.

## **2.5 Safety - Tara**

### **Church Wellesley Safety Network meeting Aug 30th**

- An overview was given of the Church Wellesley Safety Network. The network is comprised of several service providers and stakeholders. The network has run 5 years and is being revised for an extension of 20 months.

Co chairs are the BIA and the 519, this may change in the future.

At the most recent meeting Shawn Major was present. Tara attended a review meeting of the Safety Network. There was discussion about redesigning the network, perhaps add a justice piece to service those who are in need of supports and resources due to involvement in the legal system. More information to follow.

Paul asked if the network would be renewed, Tara said it was being discussed but strong support would be needed from Councillor.

Tara will circulate the deck that was used at the consultation to the group for comment. Tara noted there has been a lack of coordination with services. Each has a separate phone number, can this be serviced with one number.

The group agreed that reporting is not streamlined and the services need to be coordinated better.

- Downtown East Action Plan - there is one more public consultation as well as an online survey. Tara will circulate to the group.

MPP Kristyn Wong Tam was present at the Safety Network meeting and asked for focus be given to meth use in the Village and the dynamic impact.

Casey House was discussed, it is a safe consumption site, they provide and inhalation space. TPS has been informing users in BHP of the Casey House service.

MPP KWT is pushing to have the Health Minister work with Toronto.

- Henry Dyck, TPS, reported out on a preacher that is presently targeting the Village. People are asked not to engage but call 911, this will help TPS gather information on the group. Henry added security at the 519 has been helpful.
- The BIA is working with other BIA's to compile a list of Calls to Actions to present to the city. Tara would like FoStra also ask their members to work on a list as well to amplify the power of community. Paul will bring the idea to FoStra. The BIA also produced a visual poster of all service providers and how to contact them. Peter asked if this information could be circulated again to refresh and inform the community. Tara said she would do this.
- The 519 has engaged **Scott** from SafeTO to look at activation through a community lens, the community is not unified and work needs to be done.

### **Night Economy Review**

- Current bylaws are outdated. Updating for licensing and enforcement. Multi use licensing is being considered by the city ie Mon to Fri an establishment is a restaurant but on the weekends it is used as a dance space. Current licenses will be grandfathered in

### **Councillor's Community Town-Hall Sept 13 at the 519, 6pm**

- It was pointed out that an individual Safety Town-hall was to have been arranged and CWNA will try to move this forward.
- Adam Wynne has been asked to do a walk for city and asked for the groups input around safety.

### **BIA meeting update**

- Tara feels there has been a building of trust and better communication. Cori attended the meeting as well.
- The BIA ran a clean street startup during the summer, has a tobacco planting with the Indigenous community at Paul Kane House ongoing and gateway electrical boxes are being painted by a community artist.

Connie reflected that it is difficult to understand why there is little follow up on outstanding issues ie the gateway markers no longer work, the mural is repeatedly defaced that are important in the community and the lengthy time it takes to have it restored. The example of the Alexander Wood statue was also brought up. At the time it was being taken down the BIA talked about an Indigenous piece of art replacing the statue and that they were in consultation with the Indigenous

community etc. yet there has been no word for any progress made.

Tara reflected that as challenging as it is the BIA is in charge. Her focus is on building a stronger partnership.

Adam W. pointed out that threats of harm were focused at the BIA after the statue was removed and TPS were involved.

This the group was not aware of. Adam gave a brief history of Alexander Wood and his place in history. Wood's ownership of land in the area. Adam has a copy of Alexander Woods diary and he is trying to digitize it.

- Luben asked about CWNA's stance on the removal of the statue. He was informed that the community needed to be consulted is our position. Luben wondered if there was a replacement plan? A review was given of the BIA's plans at the time but there has been no communication with the community if movement is going forward on these plan or not.
- Paul stated that the statue being destroyed and there was no push back is a great regret as confirmed in the FOI obtained.

### **2.3 Development & Heritage - Paul**

- The Ontario governments interference in development is continual and ongoing. The window for municipalities to do something narrows by the hour. The only positive is development if the reconstitution of the Planning and Housing committee with Councillor Gord Perks, Councillor ward 4 Parkdale – High Parkas the chair, also infrastructure. The committees have changed under Mayor Chow. Many councilors want affordable housing but there is nothing the city can do. The city decided it would build housing. The city will look at all land available and come back with a list to present to the committee. They will look at new approaches to Affordable Housing. There are new targets for affordable and supportive housing to be included. Paul said there are a lot of changes going on at city Hall.
- Nothing heard from Kingsett
- 88 Isabella St. capital development has moved
- 90-94 Isabella St. - coming up
- 15 Charles is coming up Hotel at the OLT
- 619 Yong at OLT
- 645-46 nothing
- 34 Maitland – conversations are ongoing, tenants will not find replacements in the Village
- 33-37 going to the OLT with the city objecting to the demolition of the small houses
- Courtyard Hotel – nothing
- 2-12 Cawthra – have not heard back from BV realty
- 2-8 Gloucester is doing the bricking of the lane, will get the sidewalk back soon
- 561 Jarvis - 120 Earl, at the next community council
- Adam flagged 90-94 Isabella St, townhouses are empty, people are moving into the vacant space. There is a concern for safety from fire and overdose etc. There needs to be a plan to secure the space.
- Paul has met with Peter and will meet with Robert and split the work for various buildings and also on updating the website
- Don asked about the Upper Jarvis Study – Paul said he thinks the project has been killed. It was agreed that the study is important and we should push for it to go forward. There are a wide variety of rules and housing in the area and we need to pay attention.
- Luben asked if all the properties in Upper Jarvis were slated for condos. Adam stated that there are apartment buildings in the area and they would need to be replaced unless the tenants rescinded their right to return.
- The change of rules have taken away section 37 and the ability to negotiation with developers around types of housing. Don pointed out compensation for renters to leave does not consider rental rates of condos rentals and there for falls short of current rental rates to stay within the area.
- Paul commented that the province has not unveiled all the new rules including Inclusionary Zoning. A meeting with a Planner is advised.
- Matti asked about 100 Maitland being vacant for so long – Adam said Minto purchased the build but has not filed an application. Minto has sent letters to the province saying the city is not flexible enough and therefore Minto has not filed an application.
- Discussion about designating buildings – the Heritage department does not have the staff to deal with all the applications that have been filed.

### **2.4 Placemaking**

- Mural being completed on Gloucester Lane. Unveiling to be arranged, Tara to take the lead.
- FB post Village Gardeners – took pics of local plantings

### **2.7 Communication**

- Cori needed to leave early

## **2.6 Membership - Luben**

- Luben – reached out to acquaintances in the area, now has 5 contacts for buildings in the area. In the process of drafting a letter to connect with CWNA and become members. Luben asked if exec could send contact info for their building to help build the list. Matti and Paul volunteered to help, Paul with the Google drive.
- Renewals are being resumed for members and will be sent out.

## **3 Other**

- Acorn – Connie attended their meeting at the 519. With the changes at city hall she is hopeful Acorn's recommendations will be implemented. 1. That Rent Safe inspect the inside of apartment units not just common spaces would be a huge improvement for tenants. 2. Colour coding buildings as restaurants. 3. Hold tenant rent in escrow to ensure repairs are made. CWNA can support publicizing their meetings, include them in e-blasts etc.
- Include Acorn in one of our emails. Paul suggested a rep come to one of our exec meetings. Paul asked if there was an organization membership? Paul was asked to mention Acorn at FoStra. He agreed to bring it up.
- Logo redesign – Matti – All agreed to further pursue in a separate meeting. Matti to call an in-person coffee shop meeting.
- Don gave a reminder of Noise Bylaw Meetings being held.

The meeting adjourned.

## **Actions from Sept meeting**

**Paul** to connect with Robert, Peter, Adam for development  
to attend Google Drive meeting  
to advocate for Acorn at FoStra  
to advocate that FoStra work on list of "Calls to Action" as per Tara's report on BIA

**Tara** – send out Safety Network deck for comments from exec, then send recommendations in  
follow up with BIA re gateway markers  
follow up with BIA replacement for Alexander Wood statue  
to attend Google Drive meeting

**Cori** to send out e-blast, include refresher info on helping agencies in the Village

**Connie** to send Zoom invite for Google Drive meeting  
invite Acorn to CWNA meeting 15 min presentation, Q&A

**Matti** to send our in-person invite for Logo meeting