



The ANNEX RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Board Meeting

Thursday, May 13, 2010

7:30 PM

Annex Retirement Residence

MINUTES

Present: Andrew Baines (Chair), Ian Ainsworth, Rita Bilerman, Frank Cunningham, Gwen Egan, Louis Florence, Micky Fraterman, Natasha Gromoff-Kramer, Christine Innes, Jim Jacobs, Albert Koehl, Michael Low, John McGrath, Lois Miles, Sarah Scott, Sandra Shaul, Ko Van Klaveren

Regrets: Kent Beattie, David Harrison, Jake Hason, Alex Speigel

Guests: Josh Fullan (UTS Schools), Anne Marie Maduri, Louise Morin

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1. Welcome to new members by Andrew Baines and introductions.
 2. **Agenda:** New business addition of bicycles. *Motion: Sandra Shaul/Natasha Gromoff-Kramer*
CARRIED
 3. **Minutes:** To approve the minutes of the April 2010 meeting.
Motion: Louis Florence/Natasha Gromoff-Kramer
CARRIED
 4. **Appointment of Executive and Committee Chairs:**

Andrew Baines explained the two organizations ARA and ARC and the reasons for founding ARC. He also mentioned that in order to receive the Section 37 funds allocated there was a need for incorporation, and all Section 37 funds are kept in the ARC bank account. He pointed out that the mission of the ARA was contained in the Constitution.

Ian Ainsworth asked a question about charitable status of ARC and if tax receipts for donations could be issued. The answer is no. Sandra Shaul added that Heritage Toronto keeps track of funds and we are their agents who fulfill their mandate. We manage the funds but we are accountable to the City.

It was decided to defer decisions regarding Executive positions and Committee chairs to later in the meeting so new members would have a better idea of committee work.

5. **Committee Reports**

➤ **Finance**

Louis Florence, Treasurer, reported that a total of \$42,000 is held in cash and GICs in the ARA account. \$500 was received from a film production company who did a film shoot in the Annex for the movie Flashpoint.

The ARC account has a balance of \$215,000 designated for Heritage studies. Louis will present regular financial reports for future board meetings.

➤ **Planning and Zoning**

Frank Cunningham informed the meeting that there has been little of note since the last P&Z meeting. The next P&Z meeting will be May 31.

Some activity reported:

- 498 Brunswick retroactively applied for a permit for a 3 car garage that was already built.
- Royal St. George's College presented their previously approved expansion plans to the Committee. A copy of the plans was available at the meeting.

The topic of Harmonization of bylaws since amalgamation is a big issue. The ARA has to make their views known either in writing or orally. A meeting will be held at City Hall on May 27, 4 – 9 p.m. We have to look at the specific changes and how they affect things in the Annex carefully. Albert Koehl, Rita Bilerman and Lois Miles will join other P&Z representatives and attend the meeting.

- Request for crosswalk on Dupont and Kendal: the request was discussed but there was little interest to proceed further.

➤ **Parks and Trees**

Michael Low reported that the application for a grant for Ecology Park from the Toronto Parks & Trees Foundation/Community Grants Program was declined due to the large number of applications and the very limited funds. Furthermore the sub-committee of the Board of Directors prioritized the grant applications and this year awarded them to "remote parks". He mentioned an article in the May issue of the Gleaner rating parks in the Annex and surrounding neighbourhoods, issues were available at the meeting. Backyard Tree program: 13 people expressed interest in planting backyard trees.

Motion: To hold a Tree Tour of the Annex to be organized by LEAF on July 17 at a cost of a \$150 honorarium.

*Louis Florence/Micky Fraterman
CARRIED*

Louis will communicate the tree tour by email to the membership. 30 – 40 people can participate. Members will be offered to participate free of charge. When spaces available non members can join and asked for a donation to the ARA during the tour.

The official opening celebration of the OISE parkette is scheduled for May 25 at 5:30 p.m.

➤ **Heritage**

Sandra Shaul reported that she received an offer from Arcadia Books, a publisher in South Carolina, to have a picture book published on the Annex. Glen mentioned that she still had the material for a book that could be produced. She will report back on it.

A copy of the text for the three commemorative plaques was presented. Members of the ARA Heritage Committee worked with the Councillor's Office and the City's Historic Heritage Services to develop the plaques. They highlight the role of community activism related to the Stop Spadina Expressway. The plaques will be placed at the S/E corner of Bloor and Spadina and at the TTC house on Spadina at Kendal. A date for the unveiling still needs to be confirmed.

Sandra mentioned further that the Heritage Committee needs more qualified members to do the work. Volunteers need to walk around with photos of the houses and identify on labels the critical elements of the houses. It's an arduous job.

➤ **Police Report**

Natasha Gromoff-Kramer had very little to report. She has been coordinating with the people who are forming the BIA on Dupont concerning issues of graffiti and beautification of the Dupont Strip. *Monthly bulletin can be found on the TPS website: www.torontopolice.on.com*

➤ **Membership**

Louis Florence has taken on the role of Membership Chair from Nellie Bannayan and has begun to update the membership database. Jim Jacobs, Gwen Egan, Natasha Gromoff-Kramer and Micky Fraterman will join him to obtain contact information and get in touch with lapsed members. Louis circulated a list with proposed initiatives to revitalize ARA activities.

A discussion ensued and it was decided to devote a portion of a next Board Meeting to Membership and ARA activities.

<p>Motion: to spend \$2,400 to place a series of 10 ads in the Gleaner outlining ARA activities</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Louis Florence/Frank Cunningham <i>DEFEATED</i></p>

Discussion about response followed. John McGrath suggested that it would be better to look at ARA activities in context of an overall strategy, including membership services and offered his expertise.

It was mentioned that the developer of 1 Bedford at the time of the agreement had planned to include free membership for 1 Bedford residents. Follow up needs to be done.

6. Mayoralty Debate

The Mayoralty debate planned for June 15, 7 – 9:30 p.m. at Trinity St. Paul's Centre is being coordinated with neighbouring residents associations. Frank Cunningham is representing the ARA on the organizing committee and will follow up with Robert Brown about status and report back to the Board.

7. Other Business

Bicycle lanes. Albert Koehl will be joining the P&Z committee regarding bicycle lanes. Anne Marie Maduri, Guest, resident at 22 Albany reported to the Board that for a long period of time she has been dealing with the TTC regarding the persistent loud noise caused by TTC trains due to maintenance issue with train tracks. This can be heard as far as mid block north of the subway and other residents (including ARA board members) have complained. TTC management is aware of this but there is no satisfactory simple remedy so the problem is continuing. Ms. Maduri is continuing to pursue this issue and would like support of the ARA.

Andrew Baines asked Board members to indicate their Committee interest to Secretary, Micky Fraterman. It was agreed to defer the decisions regarding Executive positions and Committee Chairs to the next meeting.

6. Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: Thursday, June 10, at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Micky Fraterman, Secretary