

GWNA Open Board Meeting
September 11, 7:00pm
11th floor Community Room, 39 Parliament St

Board Attendees

Diana Belshaw (Chair)
Neil Betteridge
Ute Lischke
Catherine Schryer
Mark Wagner
Greg Papp

Regrets

Alison Burns
Christopher Needles
Anastasia Moskvitina

1. Welcome and Land Acknowledgement: Ute Lischke

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by: Ute Lischke
Seconded by: Neil Betteridge
Motion carried

3. Approval of minutes of June 12, 2023

Moved by Neil Betteridge

Seconded by Ute Lischke; Carried

4. Membership Report

There are currently 131 paid memberships; 3 Boards have also joined. Mark and Ute are working towards a more integrated system. The organization will move towards electronic membership cards. Greg Papp will follow up with Boards that have not joined yet. A volunteer will be sought to ask distillery retailers if they will provide discounts to members.

5. Financial report

Greg Papp reported that the organization currently has a balance of \$11,585. This includes a new corporate membership from Soul Pepper Theatre.

6. Meetings and Events

Fifteen Distillery Merchants and Soul Pepper theatre have agreed to host a Halloween event for neighbourhood children in conjunction with the GWNA.

The next Board and Community Meeting will be held at the College Boreal on October 10, 2023

A Neighbours' Night Out event will be held on November 13th. It will include drink tickets and a recruitment drive.

7. Communications update

It was agreed that the organization needed one spread sheet to track members. Mark Wagner will assist Ute to simplify the current system and liaise with Dena and Gregg. Chris Needles will connect with Lester Brown to gain access to all the administrative tools for the GWNA Facebook page.

8. Winter Village

The Roundtable will be seeing a revised traffic plan. We will inquire as to whether city traffic agents can be deployed in the area during the Winter Village.

9. Development Committee (full report on GWNA website)

There were few complaints over the summer. We are still waiting for information regarding the open call for community space.

10. Living Long In the Distillery (full report on GWNA website)

The subcommittee is organizing a consultation meeting with local service providers and organizations that work with seniors to discuss a strategy to build a support network to assist seniors to live at home longer.

The committee is also encouraging each building in the Distillery to develop social strategies within their buildings to develop a sense of community.

11. Greening Committee (see report below)

The organization has received permission to rework the garden space between Trinity St and Parliament St. The design will include drought resistant native plantings. The clean up will start this Fall with the planting to occur next Spring. We will ask for volunteers at the next community event. Lester Brown located the documents related to the original garden and turned them over

12. Nominating Committee

Catherine Schryer and Neil Betteridge agreed to join the Nominating Committee. Alison Burns will also be asked to join. A discussion ensued as to reducing quorum to 20 Members present for the AGM. The by-law would have to be revised and voted on to accomplish this change.

13. FOSTRA (see report below)

City has made improvements into its task flow systems.

14. Adjournment and next Board meeting October 10, 2023

Appendix

1. Greening Report

Over the summer, I have met with two of the women who originally planted the beds along Mill St. as well as the guerilla gardeners. This gave me a good idea of the trees and very few plants still hanging on from the original plantings. I was also put in touch with David Lowe, Portfolio Real Estate Manager at Infrastructure Ontario, since the Province owns the land along Mill. We have been given formal permission finally to garden the area.

I will be calling on volunteers in October (after an organising meeting at the end of September) to help with preparing the plots for cultivation in the spring. With the Board's permission, we will need to use some of the Greening Fund to rent weedwhackers and buy compost to lay along the bedding areas.

Diana Belshaw

September 9, 2023

2. Fostra Report

GMM held June 15 included presentation from Michelle Drylie, City Planning's transformation lead, on how Toronto's application reviews and consultations have changed / are changing in response to the province's Bill 109 dictates to dramatically "speed up" approvals. In general, stage and overall timelines are mandated to come down from years to months. Since there won't be time for multiple rounds of public consultation after staff review, a new consultation is now required before application submission (and starting the time clock for the city to issue a decision). Also, City Planning has released initial round of improvements to AIC = Application Information Centre. Staff will be getting a new review workflow system to streamline review and approval process.

- Mayoral Candidates debate held June 22 at OCADU
- Policy Response Team formed to prepare submissions and deputations on matters of interest at municipal and provincial government levels.
- AAC reconvening this Thursday after summer break.
- Motion to endorse Affordable Living Ontario coalition letter to Auditor General and Integrity Commissioner to expand scope of their investigations to review processes followed for other ill-considered policy MMAH changes, e.g. overuse of MZOs, reduction in conservation authority powers and gutting Wetland Evaluation System, elimination of growth plan for Greater Golden Horseshoe, eliminating density targets for new development, forcing municipalities to expand urban boundaries
 - Homes for All working group educational webinar Weds, Sept 20 4:30 featuring Rebekah Young, Vice President and Head of Inclusion and Resilience Economics, Scotiabank presenting on "Canadian Housing Affordability Hurts". Register and submit questions at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScjWzgM4evVkchJ7WxyP6L4lC535pcHh5kSD0tX7B1E0fNqTg/viewform?pli=1>
 - Next GMM Oct 5

- GWNA still has 1 vacant Delegate seat to replace Phylis. Mick & Neil current 2 delegates.