



**GOODERHAM & WORTS
NEIGHBOURHOOD ASSOCIATION (GWNA) INC.**
Website: www.gwna.ca Twitter: @ GWNAtoronto
Facebook: Gooderham & Worts Neighbourhood Association

MINUTES OF MEETING held
Monday, March 27th, 2017
YMCA, 2nd Floor at 7:00 p.m.

Directors present:

Michael Brewer (President & Development Committee Chair)
Claudia Pardo (Secretary & Social Committee Co-Chair)
Phylis Coles (Past President Ex-Oficio)
Alan Coles (33 Mill Street Representative)
Corinne Bryers (70 Mill Street Representative)
Jane Robinson (Representative for 80 Mill Street)
John Tran (Constitutional Review Committee)
Jose Castillo (Membership Secretary & Representative for 390 Cherry St)
Sheila Iseman (Treasurer)
George Hume (Representative for 39 Parliament)
Keith Veira (Director at Large)

Regrets:

Samantha Anderson (President and Constitutional Review Committee)
Salim Jamal (Director at Large)
Parrish Offer (Communications Committee Chair)
Hamida Jamal (Director at Large)
Ilda Caldwell (Representative for 70 Distillery Ln)

1. WELCOME AND APPOINTMENT OF MINUTE TAKER

Michael Brewer, President, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. assumed the Chair and thanked those who provided the facilities and equipment for the meeting. He then proceeded to introduce the members of the Board to the attendees. With the consent of the meeting, Claudia Pardo, was appointed Recording Secretary for the meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A **MOTION** was made by the to approve the Agenda. **MOTION CARRIED**

3. MINUTES OF MARCH 29, 2016 ANNUAL MEETING

A **MOTION** was made by Phylis Coles and seconded by Corinne Breyers to approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on March 29th, 2016. **MOTION CARRIED.**

4. REPORTS:

4.1 Treasurer's Report – Sheila Iseman

Motion to adapt Treasurer's Report made by Sheila Iseman, all in favour. **MOTION CARRIED.**

A **MOTION** was made by Michael Brewer to keep membership fees as they are. **MOTION CARRIED.** Fees will stay at \$15 until next AGM.

4.2 Membership Chair's Report – Jose Castillo

65 members to date.

4.3 Social Committee - Claudia Pardo

- May 27th is the annual garage sale. We'll confirm about how tables will be provided and payment.
- June 13th. Annual neighbour's night out. The Distillery Group Management is allowing us to use the courtyard again (Pure Spirits Patio).
- City's initiative for Community Cleanups in April 22 and 23. Residents and community groups are getting together to help keep our city clean and green. The Corktown Neighbourhood Association is organizing a group to participate helping to clean Corktown Common on April 23rd. They've approached GWNA to see if we can participate either as a group or by encouraging individual members. It will be on Saturday, April 23 from 10AM to 1PM. Just arrive and meet at the pavillion and bring gloves. Garbage bags will be provided.

4.4 Development Committee – Michael Brewer – VP External

- There's a proposal for a 3rd tower and we'll go through the same process we went through with the previous ones.
- 33 and 37 Parliament have been bought by a new residential development
- Our neighbourhood was approved to be considered as a Heritage Conservation District and that's a great achievement this year.
- New transit: 514 streetcar and 121 bus. There are going to be more coming. There will be the relief line and Metrolinx electrification projects, although long-term, there will be funding coming and big steps on that direction.
- Gardiner East: GWNA lobbied hard for it to be lowered down and make it more accessible to pedestrians. We didn't get it but the new hybrid, somehow will improve safety conditions for pedestrians.
- Don Mouth Naturalization Process: We'll have to stay tuned about this. Many of these are long-term projects but we'll have to take a step at a time. Michael encourages people to be engaged with the Development Committee.

4.5 Communications Committee

Michael Brewer recognizes Keith's great work with keeping outreach with the businesses and the online Distillery District News. Distillery District News, we're continuing to grow. The idea is to communicate to our community but also to nearby communities.

Keith encourages the attendees to contribute with stories and comments. He's also working with businesses inside and outside the Distillery in order to obtain discounts for our members.

4.6 CPLC Report:

2 officers from the 51 Division were awarded the Policemen of the Month Award. This is from all the GTA, so it's remarkable to have.

5. Ratification of GWNA Constitution & By-law Amendments

ANCA provided a new by-laws template and as our Constitution and By-Laws were being reviewed, we took this opportunity to make use of the new template. A review of what was proposed was explained to the attendees. Some of the changes included:

- Now that we're provided this off-set 5 year terms, we removed the Past President position as it presented some challenges with numbers.
- We removed the VP external title.

- We added the Development Committee as a standing committee as it is core to what GWNA does.
- The Chair doesn't get a second vote. If there's a tie a motion doesn't pass.
- Notice of AGM, we shortened it to 30 days, instead of 40.
- Minor changes to quorum to make it be the Board and a certain number of members to put a bit more emphasis on members.

A MOTION was made by Michael Brewer to make constitutional changes as presented. MOTION passed, no one opposed.

6. President's Report:

We've had great accomplishments this year on different fronts:

- Communications: Michael thanked all those involved in communications, as the group has been able to improve in this aspect. There's still work to do in this front though.
- Social Committee: we've done Neighbour's Night Out, Garage Sales, Story Time, these events help make the communities stronger. How to engage better younger demographics. There was a big work this year, but there's still room for improvement.
- Constitution Committee: we'll vote on the new Constitution. There was a lot of work dedicated to see how the Constitution should be moving forward. As an organization we've done an incredible amount to fine tune how we work. Michael acknowledges all the hard work of all those who have been working and whose terms are ended. He encourages them to keep involved.

7. Elections

(a) Report of Nominations Committee– Keith Veira, Jose Castillo, Lester Brown

Names nominated are:

- Don Carvahal: Moved into 70 Mill St February 2013 and became a Board Member of the building short after. 4 years with Corinne at the building. Retired for the last 9 years, he's been in business planning, taxes, budgeting and does charity work.
- Andrew Cashin

- Beryl Haines: Retired for 27 years and has background and she's able to help in community work. She's worked with United Nations and Teacher's Federation. She's approachable and likes to work with people.
- Phylis Coles: Phylis was president prior. She comes with a lot of knowledge of GWNA. She believes in it and would like to continue helping to grow it.

(b) Nominations from the floor

Kristine Scythes: new to the neighbourhood. She's an owner at 70 Distillery Ln and if elected, this will be her first time on a Board. She's been involved with some of the issues that have been affecting the neighbourhood.

A **MOTION** was made to by Alan Coles to close nominations, George Hume seconded. **MOTION CARRIED.**

There will be a Board meeting on April 3rd just for Board Members at 7PM at 33 Mill St.

9. Guest Speaker:

The Hon. Adam Vaughan, MP Spadina-Fort York

Adam Vaughan thanks the Association and attendees.

Working on 2 components:

1. Housing: Working on housing needs being addressed and getting housing programs running and within budget
2. Transit: 20 million dollars in funding transit provision. The funding format has been changed depending on the province and how much has been invested in transit. It's a 20 year framework.

On the indigenous front there's been some progress and they're making solid efforts, as there's a horrible history that we've inherited.

Working on local issues:

1. Airport: Making sure jets are not supported
2. Portlands and Waterfront.

Q&A:

How many homeless people are there?

R/34,000 people in Canada are homeless and 144,000 experience homelessness throughout a year. There's a shelter system and we currently fund initiatives to avoid homelessness before it hits the streets. Funding has been doubled for shelters, "Housing First" is one of the initiatives.

The money that's available for mental health and similar issues is being used for people that are diagnosed, but what does really happen once people are diagnosed?

R/ We need to create a new generation of people who provide care (caregivers). Strategy in this field is focused on where to treat, how to treat and how to train a new generation of caregivers to help people with mental health issues.

How do you monitor how that money is being spent and what the benefit was?

R/There's a platform to follow up on those who are being provided with care.

What concrete practical benefits can we expect to see within the next year or two?

R/There's a large budget being spent on housing and on the other side there's also about 181 Million Dollars to repair buses and streetcars. An average 232 million dollars on housing will be arriving within the next 2 years. The government is delivering on what they promised.

There's a worry of prices going up, the lack of inventory and lack of transportation in certain areas. Are there any concrete plans for boosting housing and transportation?

R/Programs are for every segment of the society. We're looking at that. Tax on foreign ownership, Adam is not a fan of that. We have a system in which we have 3 years to build the housing that an immigrant will use. We need to figure out a way to tax speculators, not foreign investors. We need to take a look at regional dynamics and figure out a way in which there's a balance. There's no a lack of supply as they think there is.

Last year we were looking at initiatives for homeless and youths and there's a limitation on what's happening to young people. There's not a central database and I think we'll need something broader than funding.

R/ Going out to interview people creates a client base to deal with. Using housing as a tool to give them the conditions they need to move forward as individuals and getting to know them is very important. In regards to marijuana, leaving it in the hands of criminals is what creates the problem

11. Guest Speaker:

Claudia Calabro, Constituency Assistant to Deputy Mayor Pam McConnell

- Any movement about access to 70 Distillery Ln for vehicles like wheeltrans and taxis? R/It's something to be worked out with the Distillery. So there's no progress in this regard. We'll need to have a conversation with WheelTrans or potentially to taxis, but the Distillery also needs to provide an answer.
- The City has the rights to the parking lots underneath and if we were to use that area (at least underground access), that needs approval from the City to give up some of the parking spots to provide a turn. Maybe re-designating some of those as taxi or something of the sort. Some work to do in this regard.
- Mill St will NOT remain as one way street. This will only be during construction jobs.
- If there's not an acceptable solution about access to 70 Distillery Ln, then there shouldn't be any acceptable one to what's going to be built around.
- An 1830's infrastructure was found below where the market was on the north side of Front St E (north of the St Lawrence Market).
- People are concerned about the dog dirt at the trees that are on the west sidewalk on Cherry St (right in front of 390 Cherry St). We're asking for Claudia to please confirm whose responsibility it is.
- About the noise on the tracks of the streetcar, we're hoping that once the full fleet of new streetcars are able to constantly run it will help with applying the lubricant as it should be, in order to reduce the noise.

16. Other Business: George Hume talked about the group they've created at 39 Parliament St called "Aging in Place". They have meetings and the last one was related to high-rise fire. He mentioned that most of the time people don't die because of the flames but because of the smoke inhalation, so make sure that your smoke detector does work.

Toronto Local Arts Festival will bring a capella singers on May 13th and 14th to the Distillery District. Michael will send the link.

17. Next Meeting:

The board will meet to appoint officers on April 3rd at 33 Mill St.

Next open meeting will be May 8th. Guest speakers from the St Lawrence Community Center and Making Peace.

18. Meeting Closed

Michael moved thanked the audience for attending and Michael Brewer seconded, all in favour. Meeting closed at 9:00 p.m.