



MINUTES OF MEETING #45
TUESDAY, January 8, 2013
Radisson Admiral Hotel, 249 Queens Quay West
Chaired by James Russell

Residents attending:

33 Harbour Square – James Russell
55 Harbour Square – Ulla Colgrass, Braz Menezes
65 Harbour Square – Friedel & Klaus Hatje, Keith & Noreen Jacka
99 Harbour Square – Ginette Fournier, Margaret Hollingsworth, Marcello La Rosa
8 York Street – Cyndy De Los Santos, Greg Gibb
208 Queens Quay West – Estelle Weynman
228 Queens Quay West – Sandra Taylor, David Sharma
230 Queens Quay West – Sara Hsieh
250 Queens Quay West – Claire Sparks
251 Queens Quay West – Angie & Allan Rivers
260 Queens Quay West – Marcia Boyd, Carol McCanse, Denise Howe, Kelly Gorman
34 Little Norway - Hal Beck

Guests

Jen Chan (rep. councillor Vaughan)

1. Adoption of the minutes from November 13, 2012 meeting

The name of Gregg Gibb should be added to the attendees list. A modification has been requested to change the email address of Sergeant Randle to 52traffic@torontopolice.on.ca. With these modifications, on a motion from Allan R. seconded by Estelle W., the minutes were approved.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The date of the next meeting should be changed to March 12, 2013. With that modification approved, on a motion from Marcia B., seconded by Margaret H., the minutes were approved.

3. Our successes, failures, and goals

OUR SUCCESSES

- Bathurst Quay crosswalk activism
- Working effectively with WT re: QQ Revitalization
- We restricted the Eleven patio size
- We helped to get Menkes and Tridel scale back height
- We raised the profile of YQNA
- We saved the York Off-Ramp Park
- We successfully diverted Section 37 money from Menkes to the removal of the off-ramp
- We participated in getting Tridel to improve the design of their development
- We strongly encouraged the City/Menkes/Oxford to incorporate the Path
- We insisted that Menkes pay towards public art at Harbour Plaza
- We supported Tridel to include affordable housing in their development

OUR FAILURES

- Airport still growing and TPA not responding to community concerns
- Traffic still a problem
- York Street's uncontrolled development
- Failed to gain media support for our issues
- YQNA website
- Failed to increase our membership
- Toronto Marathons not responsive to our concerns
- Failed to get TTC/WT to create a York St. streetcar stop in the new QQ

OUR GOALS FOR 2013

- Fundraise via social events
- Get involved with the Clean Train issue
- Focus on QQ traffic concerns (especially re: PanAm Games)
- Focus on opposing the casino
- Restart our website
- Hold a Police Appreciation Dinner
- Hold a Community Appreciation Event/Block party (possibly at the new Amsterdam Brewery)
- Organize an event to celebrate the return of the QQ streetcar in spring
- Work with the WBIA on events
- More outreach as an organization (hand out flyers, info tables etc)

FUNDRAISING IDEAS FOR 2013

- Garage Sale
- Other Social events
- Lottery
- Donations (from condo corporations etc)
- Mix and Mingle
- Auction

NEW COMMITTEES FORMED (but need members)

Airport Interest Group

- Air Quality subject-matter expert – Margaret Hollingsworth
- Sound/Noise subject-matter expert – James Russell
- Traffic subject-matter expert - ?
- Regulatory subject-matter expert - ?

4. Updates from Hal Beck

Overview of TPA Initiatives

Newer items needing community input over next two months:

- Lake Fill EA report –project started May 2012 (YQNA submission July 23, 2012)
- Eireann Quay Transportation Study –project started in Aug 2012
- Economic Impact Statement on Island Airport – document issued Oct 2012

Older Action Items desperately in need of community followup:

- Jacobs report Feb 2010 – 16 recommendations still not acted upon to my knowledge; report findings contained several discrepancies noted in public meeting but never documented by TPA; there is no connection between the body of the report and the “Jacobs recommendations” which are supposed to flow from it.
- Tunnel EA report Feb 2011 –TPA response table to community concerns to be reviewed and followed up on; TPA replies are often factual comments not related to the matter at hand and do not lead to an actual TPA response action to the noted concern

- Noise Barrier EA report Nov 2011 – TPA quietly finalized the project without responding to any community concerns on the existing and proposed noise planning
- Noise Management Office and the TPA complaints process –many complaints about boiler plate responses; what has the TPA learned from complaints ?

There were numerous stakeholders meetings attended by Hal regarding issues pertaining to the airport. YQNA made 2 submissions: May 14, 2012 to Council meeting re taxi staging (17 pages), Sept 19, 2012 to Waterfront Secretariat regarding the Eireann TOR (14 pages loaded with goodness). Many more meetings to come in 2013.

Volunteering

If you have not been active in the community to date, Hal encourages everyone to commit a couple hours and attend at least one airport-related meeting this year.

Profile of Typical Volunteer

- According to Hal: teenagers, 20 somethings, and retirees have the most time available for community leadership roles.
- People in their 30s-40s are normally too busy with family and career.
- This community values all contributions big and small from retirees and university students.

What can we do?

Individually (Simple things you can do that matter)

1. Monitor airport-related news and emails. Read TPA CLC Minutes at www.torontoport.com
2. Submit a legitimate concern to the TPA and follow through on the boiler plate response you get. Click on Contact Us in upper right corner.
Mark the TPA complaint form as a favourite on your web browser.
3. Mandatory reading for residents interested in airport operations is City Airbiz report dated Feb 2011
4. Share your knowledge in an email or speak up at a meeting. Make a point of clarification or ask an informed question.
5. Read airport related report and followup on TPA replies to your concerns e.g. Tunnel EA response table.
6. Satisfy yourself whether the TPA is fulfilling its legal role as “Responsible Authority”.

Collectively (What we can do together)

1. Review the monthly noise complaint summaries and the complaints process in general. Is it working? Why not?
2. Pick an airport topic that interests you and learn the lingo. Become knowledgeable in one of:
 - Air quality
 - Birds and the environmental protection areas surrounding the airport
 - Airport navigation issues (what does Nav Can do, flight path boundaries)
 - Airport governance issues (eg. economic impacts, TPA actions and inaction, satisfy yourself if the TPA is actually able to fulfill its role as a Responsibility Authority with its current mandate and competing jurisdictional overlap)
3. Request information from the TPA. The better we understand the truth the better for all parties.
4. Prepare a draft YQNA airport Fact Sheet of talking points for media and outsiders.
5. Post a Want Ad on YQNA website requesting input on airport matters from residents with planning and engineering backgrounds.

6. Meet with various City stakeholders to educate them of airport concerns.
7. Setup a YQNA airport interest group to learn about airport related issues and better consolidate and streamline our concerns. The group to include those whose interests range from casual to extreme.

YQNA resident concerns

What are concerns of YQNA members regarding the airport that you want Hal as our representative to follow up with the TPA at CLC meetings? In addition to area-wide concerns, there are concerns unique only to the area encompassed by YQNA, including:

- Airport through traffic along Queens Quay
- Engine run-up noise impacts
- Air quality (chemicals, dust, odour, fumes)
- Others? Forward concerns to hal.beck@hotmail.com

Top 3 Issues flagged that need to be addressed by YQNA over the next two months:

- i. Lake Fill EA Study
- ii. Eireann Quay Transportation Study
- iii. Media Coverage of Waterfront Community

Item 1: Lake Fill Study

- Formally request a response from TPA from July 2012 submission
- Request a public meeting for Lake Fill EA revised draft report
- Study info on TPA website www.torontoport.com

Item 2: Eireann Quay Transportation Study

- Should YQNA submit collective comments on Public Meeting No. 2 presentation materials or leave to individual members?
- What should YQNA members do?
 - Read the Study TOR dated Aug 17, 2012 and hold the study team to the objectives (especially to D.6 and Appendix A)
 - Insist on traffic performance criteria for Queens Quay corridor. Read 'Waterfront Toronto, Queens Quay Revitalization, EA Traffic and Transit Operations Report, Dec 2009' for max traffic levels to ensure QQ operates as a local road.
 - Request documentation of May 2012 safety problems in first instance, so that intersection solutions can speak to the existing problems. TOR says to "benchmark current operational performance". (3 adults to hospital in May 2012)
 - Members should: respond in writing, get informed, forward their concerns/thanks to City copying Hal, attend public meetings and express their concerns to study team
 - Request public meeting to present and discuss all the long-term solutions proposed by Stolport on Dec 12, 2012 so that public can comment intelligently.
 - YQNA should request a revised study timeline be issued beyond Feb 2013 so that matters can be properly discussed with the public and subsequently followed up on by the study team.
 - Study info on City website www.toronto.ca/planning/tp_strategic_plan.htm

Item 3: Media Coverage of Waterfront Community

- Review specific webpages of TPA website, which are being viewed by outsiders and media, to confirm community friendly content
- Review CAIR website to identify any improvements to make it more media and Councillor friendly. Are there any outlandish assertions or positions that will distance the non-local reader?
- TPA media attacks on Councillor regarding the airport are available on TPA website:

<http://www.torontoport.com/getattachment/dd18102e-dc76-44ec-9bc7-6466bd92778b/Letter-to-Councillor-Adam-Vaughan-%287%29.aspx>

Taxi Trip Calcs

Several residents have expressed concern about airport taxi generation and how this impacts Queens Quay Revitalization.

202 Slot Generated Traffic

A slot is a window of time during which a takeoff or arrival can occur. 202 slots per day have been allocated but may not be operating every day. Each slot ultimately represents 70 travellers to and from the airport.

- 202 slots per day x 70 seats = 14,140 travellers max
- $14,140 \div 1.6 \text{ pax/taxi} = 8,838$ taxis making a one way trip into Eireann
- Ultimate Max Taxi ADT = $8,838 \times 2 = 17,676$ taxi trips through intersection for airport users
- $1,700$ airport employees x 2 = 3400 trips
- Shift work unknown over 18 hour day say 2300 employee trips per day

Therefore, Total Ultimate Average Daily Traffic (ADT) from 202 Slots = $17,676 + 2,300 =$ **20,000 vehicle movements per day in and out of Eireann Quay to and from airport**

Observations

- May 2012 ADT = 7,100 vehicles (ie. approx 3500 taxis into Eireann, then 3500 out of Eireann)
- Oct 2012 and Dec 2012 have noticeably fewer taxis observed by community on Eireann Quay
- Ultimate ADT of 202 slots = 3 times the May 2012 vehicle number
- There are no traffic studies completed to date showing if continuous peak, grid lock, idling conditions will exist in harbourfront in 3 years time spanning the majority of the day (7am to 7pm).

Factors affecting Eireann Quay taxi projections

- i. Number of slots actually being used (operating) versus reserved (allocated) to an airline
- ii. Concentration of these slots by 15 minute interval over the 24 hour day; need slot schedule to review proposals. Planes are observed landing at exact 30 second intervals. Airport Master Plan to optimize terminal not yet completed.
- iii. % loading on flights (eg. 50% loading means half the planes are currently flying half empty as a average daily condition during a given month; note the planes could be full during peak hours and empty during off peak hours; total passenger loading will improve with economy)
- iv. % modal split of airport users and employees (ie. people not arriving or departing the airport by car or taxi; discount flyers and students are more likely to switch from car/taxi than targeted business travelers)

5. Treasurer's Report

We have \$1772.67.

6. Neighbourhood Representatives' Reports

6.1. Jen's report:

- 6.1.1. **The rerouting of the streetcar on Spadina**, due to construction, will continue until March 30, with work completion in May.
- 6.1.2. **Traffic study**: the team is going back to propose solutions to reduce the amount of taxis and private cars. There will probably be a stakeholder meeting and a public meeting in the Spring. Report will go to city council for short, medium, and long term proposals. The current number of vehicles per day is 20,000.
- 6.1.3. **Reese Street parking lot** (north side of QQ): updates in a few months. Internal city discussions between Waterfront Toronto or Build Toronto.
- 6.1.4. **Gardiner**: according to today's budget committee, they will restart EA. Looking at the options: tolls, etc.
- 6.1.5. **Casino**: public consultations start on January 9, with one meeting at city hall, and then other locations. Will get to Executive Committee in March.

6.2. Tom's report.

Tom was unable to attend the meeting, but emailed his report:

- 6.2.1. **The 1 Yonge application process**: Alison Meistrich is the planner on the file. There have been preliminary discussions with planning and Pam's office, but we had not seen the concepts that were posted last week nor did the applicant intend for them to come forward at this point.

As you know, the City and Waterfront Toronto are conducting a Lower Yonge Precinct planning process. Planning has stated that the application should wait for this study to be completed later this year before any submission is made.

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2012/te/bgrd/backgroundfile-51247.pdf>

This plan will inform how we will address the sites that are becoming active from Yonge to Jarvis.

- 6.2.2. **90 Harbour development follow up**: A working group of YQNA members will be reviewing the detailed site plan for Harbour Plaza. Waterfront Toronto's design review panel is examining the office tower architecture in greater detail. The public art contribution will be reviewed further by City staff. Staff are also working to set the schedule for detailed design of the ramp reconfiguration, so that it aligns with the Pan Am Games, development construction, and other capital projects in the area.

6.2.3. **East Bayfront LRT:** Pam is continuing to press for a better resolution to the transit question for East Bayfront. She is meeting again with the heads of Waterfront Toronto, the TTC, the City staff and the TTC Chair's office to ensure that the planning for this extension advances. We need to be ready with a solution so that we can leverage the funding necessary to complete the work. Waterfront Toronto is presenting options for an interim solution that Pam is looking at very carefully, and will be reviewed at a stakeholder meeting later this month.

7. Committee Reports

Traffic:

Ulla and Kelly have been to several meetings at City Hall to discuss traffic congestion. They have specifically pointed out the impact of new high rises in and around our community on the already clogged streets.

Kelly asked Jacqueline White, the Acting Director of Transportation Services, to meet with YQNA to discuss traffic congestion. She has asked to discuss the new visioning study that was requested by the Toronto and East York Community Council. Jacqueline's response was that a meeting at this point would be premature and the City has not determined who would be leading the study or what the objectives are.

Kelly also asked Waterfront Toronto, Diego Sinagoga, a representative of the TTC, and Jacqueline White about the possibility of increasing the number of bus stops on Lakeshore during QQW construction. They are meeting with each other to review the feasibility to increase the number of stops, due to high traffic volumes, speed of traffic and visibility restrictions at certain locations.

Communications:

We now have 199 members. From November 13, 2012 to January 8, 2013, 16 messages were sent to members.

8. Other business

Of interest to our members, there is a meeting on tall buildings on January 15, 2013 at the Northern District library.

WBIA has concerns regarding the Waterfront Marathon to be held while construction is still under way on Queen's Quay. Go to WBIA's website for more info.

Our thanks to Margaret H. who bought flower bulbs for the Sundial park.

9. Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 12, 2013 (to be chaired by Allan Rivers)

10. Adjournment

On a motion from Ulla L., seconded by Greg G., the meeting was adjourned.