

MINUTES OF MEETING #57, Wednesday, May 7, 2015
Radisson Admiral Hotel, 249 Queens Quay West
Chaired by Laura Cooper

Residents (who signed in) attending:

10 Yonge St. – Ed Hore
33 Harbour Square – Fred Taylor, Rejeanne Dorion, Dorothy Knight
55 Harbour Square – Laurie Brooks, Braz Menezes, Norma Starkie, Ulla Colgrass
65 Harbour Square – Susan LeMay, John LeMay, Klaus Hatje, Friedel Hatje,
Lorna Rosenstein
77 Harbour Square – Laura Cooper, Nan Cooper
99 Harbour Square –
208 Queens Quay West – Estelle Weynman, Rita Spence
218 Queens Quay West – Pat and Diane Walton
228 Queens Quay West – Carolyn Johnson, Marie Blanchard
230 Queens Quay West – Sarah Hsieh
250 Queens Quay West – Claire Sparks
251 Queens Quay West – Allan Rivers, Angie Rivers, Fran Pileggi
260 Queens Quay West – Marcia Boyd, S. Alexander, Carol McCanse, Anne Asba
Jeston
270 Queens Quay West – Neal Colgrass, Norman Di Pasquale
34 Little Norway Crescent – Hal Beck

Guests:

Han Dong, MPP, guest speaker
Peter Maragos, Han's Executive Assistant
Ausma Malik, Toronto School Board Trustee in Trinity-Spadina
Tom Davidson, representing City Councillor Pam McConnell
Shirley Bush, 412 Eglinton West

1. Adoption of Minutes from March 11, 2015 meeting

On a motion from Braz, seconded by Estelle, the minutes were adopted.

2. Adoption of the agenda. On a motion from Angie, seconded by Allan the agenda was adopted.

[The order of the agenda was changed because Han Dong arrived late]

3. Ed Hore reported on the progress of the **Greater Waterfront Coalition (GWA)**, which is pursuing an independent EA of the proposed jet expansion of the island

airport. They are working on two documents: an economic analysis of the expanding airport based on the framework that'll be applied. Also, a safety study that includes jet blasts and other safety issues. Various agencies, Waterfront Toronto and the City plan a peer review of the EA that is coming from Ports Toronto (PT). The GWA is part of this process and will hire its own experts. The jury is out on how effective it'll be, but it is backed by other agencies. Ports Toronto will fund this process, with Waterfront Toronto taking the lead. A Memo of Understanding is still underway.

Carol McCanse: (Robert) Deluce says runways will be lengthened.

Norm Di Pasquale: The Globe called him and he said it's not true.

Hal Beck: The Memo of Understanding also reviews the scope of the EA.

Allan Rivers: There's such a lack of information for the public. How can we get it out?

Ed Hore: The media silence is due to the Porter ads. Perhaps we should create a blog with the latest news on the airport.

Lorna Rosenstein: if Ports Toronto is funding the peer review, are they not in control of it?

Ed: You have two agencies that don't trust each other, so it has to be arms-length. Angela Homewood of PT will oversee the process.

Carol: We need to contact the councillors about this – I have done so twice.

4. Guest speaker Han Dong arrived and focused on the Waterfront, as it pertains to the Province. He had meetings with the WBIA and Waterfront Toronto. He understood what we had endured during redesign of Queens Quay.

Carolyn Johnson asked about privatizing Hydro.

Han said increased rates matter to everybody, his family too. Now no private company can own more than 10%, the government owns 40%. At first 15% ownership will be offered for sale to test it, and further privatization can be stopped if it doesn't work. The plan is to put 60% on the market, worth \$5.7 billion, of which \$4 billion would go into transit.

John LeMay asked about Han's position on island airport expansion.

Han: there is no need to expand the airport. We just invested in a train to Pearson airport. When I talk to the [transport] minister, I'll give him my views, and I'll be the first to speak against expansion, along with other MPPs.

Norman said that Transportation Minister Glen Murray has not stated his position on airport expansion. We need a Provincial EA applied to the island airport, if Trans Canada asks for an EA.

John: The safety part of this airport is completely missing.

Claire Sparks: Fuel is transported in tankers on the public ferry and stored in surface tanks next to runways – very dangerous.

Braz Menezes: The Province needs to play a role here. We don't want Queens Quay and Waterfront developments to go down the hole in industrial development. Glen Murray has supported Porter Airlines publicly, and Mayor Tory has declared a conflict of interest on this airport. We are the custodians of the Waterfront and elected you as our agent to speak for us on this issue.

Han: The Province has no say in the Tripartite Agreement.

Hal: We must drill home that the Province has legal obligation to protect public assets. "Do nothing" is excluded from the EA.

Han: I appreciate what you are doing.

Anne Asba Jeston: It seems the Province is involved in all transportation issues, and should be in this airport too.

Anonymous Man: This airport is in the Province, so it's not logical you can't get involved. The media is blocking information from getting out. How can you help?

Han: NoJets is doing a fantastic job. I would like to tackle this on your behalf in the legislature, but I can't influence the media.

Ann: The condo act is about to pass.

Han: It's pretty comprehensive and is based on 2-3 years of public consultation.

Ed: Can we have a conversation with you on the jet expansion? We can help each other.

Ulla: Send information on airport to Peter Maragos. He agrees to collect information on the airport to be used by MPPs at Queens Park.

Angie Rivers: The price to use the direct airport train is too high.

Han: With a Presto card it is \$18, and a family of 4 costs \$52.

Braz: if the Province offers a special deal for the Pan Am Games of \$15 to attract people, they can fill the train and change habits. You'll make it up in profit.

Han: I appreciate your input. We need to invest in transit and connect the region with electrified trains.

5. Guest speaker **Ausma Malik**, School Trustee in Trinity-Spadina was next. She said the Ward has 33 schools and more alternative schools than any other ward. "Our schools are amazing and local, children can walk to school. ... Schools are the heart of the community, and I want to ensure they remain so... New schools and daycares are coming soon." The Bathurst Quay neighbourhood is very important. We must make sure traffic and the environment is safe. She has met with the Island and Waterfront schools and holds Ward School Council meetings every month... works very hard, though she has no staff and does everything by herself.

Allan: Very few people know that the Harbourfront School is next to the airport. Can we let everybody know that?

Ausma: It has a strong influence on the kids there.

Marie Blanchard: It is a dangerous crossing for the kids with a flood of taxis.

Ulla: There has been talk about closing this school and tearing down the Community Centre to make more room for the airport.

Ausma: There will be no closings of schools in our Ward now. The grades 1 to 5 are well attended at the Harbourfront School. There are no French immersion schools in the Ward, but kids can get a spot, though not in their own neighbourhood.

Hal: It's ideal to create a full community life cycle in the same neighbourhood.

Ausma: We have to build communities as neighbourhoods. Underutilized schools should be NO reason to close them. They are public assets for other activities and for all age groups – community hubs! We all contribute to public education.

Norm: Can you help prevent the Harbourfront School from taking money from Porter and Ports Toronto?

Ausma: I think they stopped that.

Shirley Bush: I am against the airport in general. The land and buildings should be made into a museum, ready for Canada's 150th birthday. It would be a great tourist attraction.

6. Claire Sparks gave a written report as YQNA's rep on the CLC of the 52 Police Division: Discussions are underway about giving police body cameras on a daily basis – could result in privacy issues, and Toronto wants to do it right. Toronto Police will do a pilot project of one year, preceded by 3 months of training under the auspices of the Attorney General. When the data is secure and a method is established to handle the meta data, the Toronto model may be used elsewhere. How long to keep the information? Up to 2 years for civil litigation, and 11 years for criminal cases. Cost is \$500 to \$1200 per camera, could add up to \$30 million with storage and server costs. Reports will speak to the cost benefit analysis of 92 cameras later on.

Joe Cressy attended this CLC police meeting. Police declared our area safe, though with high theft from cars. A fundraiser was held for the Police's Scholarship Fund.

7. Tom Davidson reported from Councillor Pam McConnell's office: Waterfront Toronto's competition for the new Ferry Terminal brought a successful outcome for West 8, the firm that also gave us Queens Quay. Their masterplan is coming, and the first phase – a playground in Harbour Square Park – starts next year. A staff report is expected on the Gardiner East. WT and city staff both recommended it be removed and replaced by an 8-lane boulevard. The subject was deferred last year. The developer First Gulf submitted a hybrid version to unlock their land, but it is impossible to move the expressway so far north and costs twice as much as the boulevard. This cannot be rushed – more time is needed!

Laura: How about closing Lake Shore Blv. for filming?

Tom: Filming is a high priority and good for the city. Transportation signed off on it, though pyrotechnics could affect the neighbourhood.

Hal: Taxi management is a serious issue on the Waterfront. Are studies being done? Taxis line up on residential side lanes, also bus management is needed. The taxi staging area by the airport is extended to Jan. 2016.

Marcia Boyd: When QQ opens, what are the plans for traffic enforcement?

Claire: WT asked what each building on QQ needed. #250 on QQ has no loading zone and asked for a lay-by. That is now given to tourist buses, so no moving vans can use it.

The last 3 questions went unanswered because time was up.

8. Angie: The current balance in YQNA's budget is \$1,255.10

9. Adjournment

On a motion from Klaus and seconded by Allan, the meeting was adjourned.

10. Next Meeting Date: Wednesday, September 16, 2015.