

MINUTES OF MEETING #58, Wednesday, Sept. 16, 2015
Radisson Admiral Hotel, 249 Queens Quay West
Chaired by Ed Hore

Residents (who signed in) attending:

10 Yonge St. – Ed Hore
 1 York Quay – Rod Tennyson
 33 Harbour Square –Geordie Graham, Diana Alli, Wallace Cheong
 55 Harbour Square –Leah Lambert, Ulla Colgrass
 65 Harbour Square – Indira Misir, John Smith, Penrose Smith, Klaus Hatje, Friedel Hatje,
 77 Harbour Square – Laura Cooper, Nan Cooper, Les and Jane Harris, Ron Fletcher, Al Black,
 99 Harbour Square – Shuki Borgee, Calvin White, D. Proctor, Linda Swartz, Harold Swartz
 208 Queens Quay West – Gloria Cornell, Estelle Weynman, Eva Sarenland
 218 Queens Quay West – Ann Mayer, Diana and Patrick Walton, Dipete Papi,
 228 Queens Quay West 230 Queens Quay West – Sarah Hsieh, Marie Blanchard
 250 Queens Quay West – Claire Sparks
 251 Queens Quay West – Allan Rivers, Angie Rivers, Fran Pileggi
 260 Queens Quay West – Kamala Jean Gore, Carol McCanse, Anne Asba, Wayne Christian
 270 Queens Quay West –
 350 Queens Quay West – Chas Burke
 Pier 27 – Cyndy De Los Santos
 34 Little Norway Crescent – Hal Beck
 123 Scadding Ave – Vicki Trueman
 91 Stadium Road – Jim Panou
 57 Cavindish Cr. – Louise T. Gomez

Guests:

Olivia Chow - NDP Candidate
Sharon Danley - Green Party Candidate
Sabrina Suneka - Conservative Party Candidate
Adam Vaughan - MP and Liberal Candidate
Tom Davidson, representing City Councillor Pam McConnell
 Jen Chan
 Jill Pieblak – guest of Harbour Square resident
 Shirley Bush, 412 Eglinton West

1. Adoption of Minutes from May, 2015 meeting

On a motion from Nan Cooper, seconded by Claire Sparks, the minutes were adopted.

2. Adoption of the agenda. On a motion by Chair Ed Hore the agenda was adopted.

3. Chair Ed Hore introduced the 4 candidates for MP for the riding of Spadina - Fort York and explained that each would have 5 minutes to speak, and a Question and Answer period would follow.

- **Sharon Danley of the Green Party** - Ms. Danley emphasized her interest in social housing and justice, indicating her belief that the various levels of government must work together to do what's best for the citizenry. She urged people to check out the Green party's platform at Greenparty.ca. Other focal points include: 1% GST for infrastructure and improvements for transportation and transit. The Green Party believes it will bring balance to parliament and make it better.
- **Sabrina Suneka of the Conservative Party** - Ms. Suneka reviewed her background and interests in science, research and innovation. She has a Ph.D., has been a teacher, and has worked as a volunteer. Her focus has been to encourage people to do something special in their careers. She is familiar with the waterfront and has lived in the area for many years. She emphasized the Conservative position that lower taxes will aid the economy and that the party has strong leadership.
- **Olivia Chow of the NDP Party** - Olivia emphasized the history she has had working together with waterfront residents on many projects including trying to get the Port Authority to be more responsive. Her focus is on child care, reducing gridlock via a national transit strategy, and stopping airport expansion. Other focal points include: \$15 minimum wage; \$15 per day child care program; better home care for seniors; building an LRT on the east waterfront; and no to jets and airport expansion. She said that the country is ready for change in Ottawa.
- **Adam Vaughan of the Liberal Party** - Adam indicated the Liberal priority to provide resources for an urban agenda that will focus on transit, housing and the social infrastructure. He stressed that this will be good for the economy. He indicated that more family units are needed in new developments. Other specifics include: development of the eastern harbour; improved transit and the need for an LRT; making the Toronto Islands a protected bird sanctuary; reforming the Port Authority to include Waterfront stakeholders; and stopping airport expansion.

Ed Hore thanked the speakers for staying within the time limit and opened the floor to questions. He explained that each speaker would be given 1 minute to respond to each question.

1. **Senior Care** - Existing nursing home space is inadequate. How many new spaces will each party build?

- Olivia Chow - More home care and an Alzheimer's Policy are priorities of the NDP.
 - Adam Vaughan - Important for federal government to work closely with the provinces to ensure better housing for seniors, to lift them out of poverty.
 - Sharon Danley - Aging in Place important but needs supports. Need National PharmaCare Plan, focus on mental health.
 - Sabrina Suneka - Extra support needed for single and widowed seniors.
2. **TFSA** - Why are Liberals and NDP Parties advocating reducing the amount of the announced annual increase in contributions by individuals to their tax free savings accounts?
- Adam Vaughan - Increase helps the most affluent. Liberals want to provide tax relief to those who need it most.
 - Sabrina Suneka - Announced increase because it is a good tool for people who are saving for houses and businesses. Large % of those using these accounts are not in highest income levels.
 - Sharon Danley - Do not need tax breaks for the rich while poor people suffer. Need livable income for all.
3. Olivia Chow - Focus is on equality of opportunity. She is for cancelling increases in TFSA contributions and increasing corporate taxes.
4. **Refugees** - How will we return to our former reputation in the world?
- Sabrina Suneka - Federal government is proud of its record. We have brought in large numbers of refugees. We are streamlining our screening process.
 - Sharon Danley - It is a difficult issue but we are a big country with a lot of space. We need to make it fast and smart, not dump refugees in large cities. We need the will.
 - Adam Vaughan - Current immigration system is broken. We need to do more than just partner with private sponsors. Parties must work together and show the world we can do better.
 - Olivia Chow - We need to provide humanitarian aid in refugee camps. We can work together in the House of Commons.

Ed Hore thanked the speakers for taking the time to meet with YQNA and called a five-minute break in the meeting.

At 8:00 p.m. the meeting reconvened.

On a motion by Nan Cooper and seconded by Claire Sparks, the minutes of the last meeting were adopted.

Treasurer, Angie Rivers, reported that we have a balance of \$11,217.30. She noted that at the last meeting \$70 was collected in the box and urged people to donate.

1. Hal Beck was asked to speak for the Community Liaison Committee that meets with the Port Authority.

Hal reported that minutes of the 2015 meetings are posted on the Ports Toronto (Port Authority still the legal name) website. The agendas have been straightforward and focused on the Environmental Assessment and Master Plan, including the runway design. There has also been a review of noise complaints. He noted a number of discrepancies in terms of inaccuracies and evasive language.

The CLC's objectives for the future will be to ensure that the city is copied on everything and does not fail to act re noise studies. The city has to agree to noise standards. Re the airport, some of the critical issues include the taxi staging area and the volume of taxis. He noted the need for discussions between the City and Ports Toronto and Transport Canada, particularly with regard to what regulations are being followed.

A question was raised on how to get the media involved.

Another issue involves the need for a technical think tank.

The Chair thanked Hal for his dedication and the time he has devoted to being a part of this essential committee.

2. 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.

He noted the need for independent experts to assess safety, noise, and economic issues. A peer review process has been ongoing with consultants paid for by Ports Toronto, but working under the aegis of Waterfront Toronto. Analysis is needed on the effect of airport expansion on the waterfront revitalization, noise and safety.

Brief studies, not comprehensive, have been done on the economics of the expansion and the claims being made are based on these studies. The need to ask a different question...is expansion a good use of money? With this focus, it will be difficult to be making grandiose claims. Time frames for the EA are unknown. If the Conservatives lose the election, this will all be unnecessary since both other parties indicate they will not re-open the Tripartite Agreement.

On-going Questions Raised by Those in Attendance:

- What Is the role of Transport Canada? Are they looking to get regulations interpreted to allow the jets by extending rather than rebuilding the runways?
- Have the locations of the buoys marking the exclusion zone been moved?
- Is anyone scrutinizing the safety issues related to landing during fog. (Ed expects the peer review will do this.)

3. Ulla Colgrass reported on the party for John Campbell, outgoing CEO of Waterfront Toronto. Six neighbourhood associations hosted it along with the WBIA. It was a successful event with 150 people in attendance, many tributes including original music composed in Mr. Campbell's honour and performed by WBIA's Singing Ambassadors.

4. Tom Davidson, representing Pam McConnell, spoke about York Off Ramp removal and park, reporting that the it is now in the design stage. Construction will begin after May 2016 and continue until spring of 2017.

5. Laura Cooper reported

- the next YQNA meeting will take place on the 3rd Wednesday of November. It will also be the AGM.
- Nuit Blanche will take place on October 3, and that there will be a one-night art Installation from York to Parliament Streets.
- The City will be changing the by-laws with regard to businesses using sidewalks.

6. Ed Hore will be on a Toronto Island Advisory Committee that will be looking into the operations and programming of the Islands, including issues about water taxis.

7. Claire Sparks asked if YQNA would considering adopting a Syrian family. The cost for a 1-year commitment would be \$27,000. This will be considered at a later meeting.

8. Tom Davidson agreed to provide more information about the status of the Ferry Terminal master plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

The Next meeting will be Wednesday, Nov. 18.