

**(Draft) MINUTES OF YQNA MEETING #69, Tuesday, November 14, 2017, Radisson Admiral Hotel, 249 Queens Quay West
Chaired by Laura Cooper**

Residents (who signed in) attending:

39 Queens Quay East -
10 Yonge Street. – Ed Hore
18 Yonge Street -
10 Queens Quay West – Ralph Reda
1 York Quay –
33 Harbour Square – Fred Taylor, Mary-Anne Arthur
55 Harbour Square – Ulla Colgrass, Eric Faucher, M.J. Turmel
65 Harbour Square – Friedel & Klaus Hatje,
77 Harbour Square – Laura Cooper, Nan Cooper
99 Harbour Square – John Mackie, Margaret Hollingsworth
8 York Street –
208 Queens Quay West – Estelle Weynman, Alin Mateescu
211 Queens Quay West – John & Affaf Owen,
218 Queens Quay West – Ann Mayer, Patrick & Diana Walton
228 Queens Quay West – Carolyn Johnson, David & Karin Milne, Ian Campbell,
Gladys & Angelo Bertolas
230 Queens Quay West –
250 Queens Quay West – Claire Sparks, Andrew Sorris
251 Queens Quay West – Angie & Allan Rivers
260 Queens Quay West – Marcia Boyd, Paul Oka, Marka Okrutny, John Okfu, Randy Craig
270 Queens Quay West – Neal Colgrass,
280 Queens Quay West –
350 Queens Quay West –
401 Queens Quay West –
34 Little Norway – Hal Beck

Guests:

Amy Zhao – Office of MP Adam Vaughan
Tom Davidson – Assist. to Ward 28

Co-Chair Laura Cooper opened the meeting and welcomed all those attending.

1. Adoption of the agenda.

On a motion from Wayne Christian, seconded by Ed Hore, the agenda was adopted.

2. Adoption of Minutes from September 13, 2017 meeting.

On a motion from Carolyn Johnson, seconded by Ulla Colgrass, the minutes were adopted.

3. Waterfront Update

Chair Laura Cooper introduced Bryan Bowen of the Waterfront Secretariat.

Bryan noted that there will be a public consultation event at the Waterfront Neighbourhood Centre on Saturday November 25 from 2 to 4 pm. The topic will be Parks and the Public Realm in the Bathurst Quay neighbourhood. This will include a look at uses for the administration building and park ideas at Stadium Road North and South, and Coronation Park. Flyers are available.

As well, Community Air will hold a meeting at the same location on Thursday November 17 at 7 pm concerning the airport Master Plan exercise.

Chair Laura Cooper noted that a newsletter from MP Adam Vaughan is available and that Brent Gilliard from Ward 20 sends regrets.

4. Transformative Ideas for Toronto's Public Realm

Chair Laura Cooper introduced guest speakers Adam Nicklin and Mary Liston Hicks from Public Work, who are working on the City's TOCore Study.

Adam and Mary showed a slide deck to illustrate their work. They noted that Toronto evolved from an industrial city to one of mixed use neighbourhoods. 40 years ago the Central Area Plan was adopted to encourage living downtown. TOCore will plan for the next 40 years to preserve quality of life in the central city.

The public realm is not just the space between buildings. It has three scales: civic, defined by the landscape and the concession grid; district; and local. These work together and form the basis of public consultation. Public Work has used metrics to record how people use public spaces and the results will be available on line in January. They have developed six transformative ideas with 77 projects to be implemented.

Civic Scale: there is a core circle – valleys, ravines, islands and bluffs are inter-connected. The City needs more parks leveraging this landscape: Lake Iroquois shoreline, Davenport Bluff trail, Garrison Creek lost waterway corridor, Don Valley, Leslie Street Spit and the islands. These are unique and much-loved areas that can become parks that celebrate ecology and Indigenous history. The study team has a list of Core Circle Parks Portals that include the ferry terminal. They need universal accessibility.

Great Streets: Public Work have chosen 12 of the best which comprise 120 ha. of land. The City has developed a complete street manual but these 12 go beyond standards. Queens Quay is one example. University Avenue was improved when the subway was built but it is not much used by pedestrians. How can the median be used? The idea is to anchor it to the east side to connect Queens Park, Osgoode Hall, City Hall and so on. They would keep 6 moving lanes of traffic and the hospital drop-offs. Parliament Street is important with access to the ravine and the waterfront as well as David Crombie Park. Also King Street is a key candidate.

Neighbourhoods: extend park influence by creating Park Districts. One opportunity is Wellington West which links Clarence Square and Victoria Square, and could be reconfigured to meet modern needs such as the suggestions from Friends of Allan Gardens. There could be a Civic District around University Avenue and the U of T; in the Garden District Jarvis could be a great spine linking Allen Gardens to Moss Park; St Jamestown could link to the Don Valley.

The Stitch: reconnect the City to the Waterfront. A super-sized park along the shoreline the full width of the City core was designed as Walks and Gardens in 1853 but superseded by the rail corridor. Current proposals for Rail Deck Park and the Bentway are good but not on the

waterfront. Also there is the Front Street revival at Union Station and Cork Town Common. The City needs more north-south connections across the rail line and the Lakeshore/Gardiner corridor.

Toronto Bay: part of the public realm is 540 ha of water and 230 ha of parkland on the islands. We must preserve the special island experience, with better ferry terminals, and ferries on new routes to Villiers Island for people. It must be a blue park, with more piers for access, and it must be kept clean. But it is a working city with industry in the port area.

Local Scale: these are places for day-to-day use as antidotes to density, like parkettes, school yards, and laneways. Publicly-accessible, privately-owned spaces (POPs) could work harder. More amenities are needed to connect diverse demographics, such as second uses for school yards. Residential and mixed-use laneways can be relief valves for busy streets. They must be safe, shared spaces. We need a new model for parkettes for neighbourhood users.

Chair Laura Cooper opened the floor for questions.

Q. What about the port lands?

A. This is a separate evolution project although it ties into TOCore and the Lower Don Revitalization. The Sidewalk Toronto Quayside testbed was chosen because of our demographics, diversity and human capital. It is an interesting experiment with WT and the City, as a microcosm of a new kind of city using technology. If the ideas work here they can get rolled out to the City and the world. The key is a public realm to serve everyone and build on WT's work to date. Toronto has reached a point beyond the standards and templates.

Q. What about the ugly silos at Bathurst Quay?

A. Next Saturday's event about parks and the neighbourhood will address incremental improvements that don't affect the silos so we are going to leave them aside for now.

Bryan Bowen added that the City is looking for new life in dead space and it will re-evaluate the silos. Rehabilitation will be very costly, but new public space would be desirable there. The City is not looking for private funds.

Q. What about the Victory Soya eastern silos?

A. These are privately owned but under a heritage easement. Their future will be addressed if a redevelopment proposal is submitted.

Q. What is your involvement with POPs? There are some forbidding building edges.

A. They are included in local spaces. New POPs need to be better integrated. Some older ones seem to be guarded spaces and may need to be retrofitted.

Q. These are some brilliant ideas, like stitching the north-south routes. Streets like Rees need help.

A. WT has them on a list. There is a Waterfront Design Review Panel meeting tomorrow to discuss this. The topic will be elevated because we do need better connections.

Q. Do you have any involvement with the design for the new park at 318 Queens Quay W? We are looking for year-round activities, not just another green space.

A. No we do not. It needs its own special exercise.

Chair Laura Cooper passed the chair to Allan Rivers.

5. Annual General Meeting

Chair Allan Rivers explained that Ed Hore and Laura Cooper, co-chairs for the past three years, are stepping down, and invited them to outline their roles and responsibilities. They noted that YQNA is run by the chair or chairs, the secretary, the treasurer and various committees, as well as special helpers dealing with issues such as airport liaison and the website. The chairs meet about 6 weeks ahead of the next meeting to choose and invite speakers. They get together about three times to finalise the agenda. They book the hotel room and arrange for a flyer to be designed and for an email to go out to the list. It is all documented.

Chair Allan Rivers opened the floor for nominations.

Chair: Angelo Bertolas, nominated by Carolyn Johnson; Acclaimed.

Angelo outlined his financial background and stated that he had founded a residents' association in Woodbridge, his former home.

Co-Chair: Wayne Christian, nominated by Ulla Colgrass; Acclaimed.

Secretary: Carolyn Johnson agreed to continue to serve.

Treasurer: Angie Rivers agreed to continue to serve. She noted that the meeting room is given free by The Radisson but YQNA gives a donation to the person who sets up the room. We also made a \$300 donation to Waterfront For All. The other main expense is the website.

Planning Committee: Ulla Colgrass noted that the Committee includes a co-chair and meets every six weeks or so to deal with local events and issues.

Police Liaison Committee: Claire Sparks explained that the meetings are held every two months on the second Wednesday, which has conflicted with YQNA meetings. Currently she and Wayne attend the meetings at 52 Division where they listen to the Police and bring up our local concerns. The group includes many other neighbourhood groups, BIA's and the AGO.

Web Site: Neal Colgrass agreed to continue to serve as web-master. He noted that the tasks include posting blogs and information, and using MailChimp for email notifications.

Airport Liaison: Hal Beck agreed to continue to serve.

Chair Allan Rivers thanked all the officers of YQNA, and invited anyone interested to join a committee. He then passed the chair to Ed and Laura.

6. Traffic Issues around Harbour Street and New Ramp

Carolyn Johnson explained that she represents YQNA on the Construction Liaison Committee (CLC), which includes representatives from affected buildings along the route of the former York-Bay-Yonge ramps along with City staff. She noted that the previous day she had attended a meeting and outlined the main points of discussion.

The project does include restoration of the cycling trail between Rees and Simcoe Streets. Also the wrought iron fence from the rear of the Riviera condos has been stored and will be reinstated.

Because of weather constraints expected for the rest of the year, work will focus on getting the ramp open and vehicular traffic taken care of. Some cycling, pedestrian and landscaping work may

have to wait. Certainly no trees will be planted yet, although their soil cells are being installed along Harbour Street.

Work continues on the ancient sewer along Harbour. Once this is done, probably in two weeks' time, the traffic will be moved to the south side and the north side will be reconstructed. The sidewalk on the east side of York north of QQW will be built before the traffic is moved over. Temporary access to the public parking east of York will be provided. The rep. for Oxford Properties' parking asked for more visible signage for the lot.

In response to concerns raised by the rep. for Waterclub condos, staff confirmed that there is no intention to encourage public traffic through their driveway system. The rep. asked if special signage could be installed on Harbour indicating that this is a private driveway. Transportation Services staff will be asked about this.

There will be some partial intersection closures as asphalt is laid to complete the road system. Timing will depend on weather conditions.

Marc Kramer from Parks attended. He stated that Pam McConnell had wanted WT to manage the design and construction of the Ramp Park. City staff are still working with WT on the agreement, but understand that the community wants the park open as soon as possible. Once Grascan is out of the way he hopes to open the centre section of the park for public access, via the path that went diagonally across it, which will be replaced.

A public meeting is planned for January 22, 2018 jointly with planning for 318 QQW. Later in 2018 consultants will be retained for the design, with construction to follow. The lease on 318 expires in 2020 so that construction will take longer.

WT contacts are Pina Malozzi and Netami Stuart. Staff will invite them to the December CLC meeting. They may be in touch with stakeholders ahead of the January meeting.

Soil testing for the park is not complete so this work will be done once Grascan is gone. The results have to be approved by MOE prior to a transfer of jurisdiction from Transportation to Parks, as park uses must have land that is up to the residential standard.

The next CLC meeting is scheduled for December 13, 2017. A further meeting may be held in January 2018 to wrap up the project.

Carolyn noted that in fact the remaining section of the ramp concrete slab was poured yesterday, so once it is cured the asphalt surface can be laid and tied in to the rest of the intersection at Lower Simcoe.

Chair Laura Cooper opened the floor for questions and comments.

Q. What about the pillars?

A. These will be addressed as part of the park design and consultation.

7. News from the Ward 28 office

Chair Laura Cooper introduced Tom Davidson, Assistant to Lucy Troisi.

Tom explained that in accordance with City protocol Lucy Troisi has been appointed to fill the vacancy on Council. The staff team will remain and ensure that the projects under way will continue, such as the ramp park.

Tom noted that Waterfront Toronto will take care of park procurement and a design competition. A meeting will be held on January 22, 2018 to discuss the design. Funding has been approved by Council for 2018 for a full design process. Parkland levies fund park building but are not always enough. The City budget to be presented in late November includes a draw from reserve funds, following the precedent set at Berczy Park.

Work is starting on the new walkway to the Jack Layton ferry terminal. There is also work on the actual ferry design. The goal is for a year-round destination on the islands.

With regard to the Waterfront Transit Re-set, a staff report is planned for the November 29 Executive Committee meeting. Two options are being carried forward for the link to Union Station – the original plan for a second tunnel to Queens Quay East, and the funicular system.

Chair Laura Cooper opened the floor for questions and comments.

Q. The Waterfront Transit Re-set poses a huge threat to the quality of life here. Development pressure to the east is driving the push to re-purpose the tunnel for a walkway, people-mover or funicular, which is a Victorian relic. The tunnel can't be expanded according to Toronto Star reports. A walkway will be a hardship for the elderly and inform. Any new LRT should include a transfer to the existing 509/510 routes.

A. Let's see what the report says.

8. New Master Plan for Island Airport.

Chair Laura Cooper invited Hal Beck to make a presentation. Hal explained that he represents YQNA at the Toronto Port Authority (TPA) meetings; the next one will be on November 22. In September TPA provided an update on the Master Plan process, which will be public. There will be a press release on November 23 with a link to the website for the Plan. The study is expected to take 16 months, and early in 2018 there will be a public meeting. Gene Cabral of TPA will present to the BQNA tomorrow (November 15). TPA have met with MP Adam Vaughan and Councillors Cressy, Fletcher and Layton. They will meet with First Nations, other agencies and the public. They are willing to meet with YQNA, and even individual building representatives.

The Master Plan inventories existing facilities and uses. It will work to a 20 year horizon, even though this will extend past the 2033 end of the Tripartite Agreement. The Plan will also work for 15 years ahead. There are capacity and functional challenges as well as new and coming regulations such as RESA's which will affect us all next year.

The Plan will develop market, ridership and noise forecasts, along with the ultimate airport concept and cost estimates.

9. Report on Street Trees and Police Liaison Committee

Chair Laura Cooper invited Wayne Christian to speak on these topics.

Tree Inventory: Wayne has inspected all the sidewalk trees along Queens Quay from Yonge to Bathurst. Trees are important for air quality and beauty in the public realm. To his amateur eye, 82% are healthy, 13% are dead and 5% are questionable.

Police: Wayne noted that the main purpose of the Liaison Committee is to build trust and bridges with the community and offer crime reduction tips. The key matter reported at the last meeting was human trafficking in Toronto, principally for the sex trade. Police advise parents to keep a

close watch on their children and monitor their internet use. Police are working with Municipal Licensing and Standards to search for victims.

Police also noted that with Christmas approaching there will be more theft of cash and credit cards. They are taking a new approach to mental health. For personal safety, when out and about know your route and tell someone where you are going. Also minimize your personal profile on social media.

10. Waterfront Summit hosted by Waterfront for All

Co-Chair Ed Hore explained that Waterfront for All is a fairly new umbrella group. The Summit attracted an audience of 400 politicians, planners and thinkers. An important theme was to create excitement on the waterfront. Is revitalization running out of steam? The public needs to stay involved as the WT task will last for 20 years or more. Waterfront for All hopes to affect local policies. The port lands need a framework. Is it an industrial park or just for movie studios? No, it should be more vibrant to reward the public money spent on flood protection.

11. New Ferries

Co-Chair Ed Hore has attended meetings on this issue. Parks, Forestry and Recreation have hired KPMG to talk about ferry designs. YQNA's position is that we need a ferry terminal at the Eastern Gap for vehicles, bus unloading etc. The report will go to the City, who may release it publicly.

There is no information on the ex-Dartmouth ferry which has appeared in the harbour.

Also, on November 20 the Rebel Nightclub hearing resumes.

12. Adjournment

On a motion by Neil Colgrass, seconded by Randy Craig, the meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.

The next meeting will tentatively be on Wednesday January 10, 2018