

**YQNA MINUTES OF MEETING #77, Wednesday, October 16, 2019  
Radisson Admiral Hotel, 249 Queens Quay West**

**Chaired by Angelo Bertolas**

**1. Adoption of the agenda.**

On a motion from Carolyn Johnson, seconded by Allen Rivers, the agenda was adopted.

**2. Adoption of Minutes** from May 14, 2019 meeting

On a motion from Neal Colgrass, seconded by Bob Rasmussen, the Minutes were adopted without amendment.

**3. Treasurer's Report – Angie Rivers**

**Treasurer Angie Rivers** reported that YQNA donated \$25 to the Radisson staff who sets up our room; and covered a bank service charge of \$1.95, leaving a balance of \$620.27 as of September 30. She noted that there is an outstanding cheque for \$150, and that the donations box could be found at the back of the room.

**4. Harbourfront Centre (HC) Update – Martin Kenneally, COO**

Martin noted that he has been working for HC for about 6 weeks and he has a focus on making it a safer workplace. To that end he has hired Katie Browning as the Health and Safety Manager.

The main upcoming event is the International Festival of Authors running from October 24<sup>th</sup>; details are on the website.

Regarding operations, the marinas are in transition to winter conditions. There are some live-aboards with limited shore power available – 15 at Marina 4 and 45 at Quay West. The commercial fleets will move to other piers and slips. The power and sail haul-out is under way, but with no access to Villiers due to the Don River work HC is having to use Unwin. Recently reps from the French Ministry of Culture visited, with an eye to participating in HC programming. The Nordic Council is here this week to plan a festival early next year. The Fleck Theatre is hosting Talk Dance; it is rented from Northam Realty, the new owners of Queens Quay Terminal.

HC is a 45 year old site in need of renovations. With funding from the Federal Government, new roofs will be installed along with improvements to the Power Plant and accessibility. The high water levels in Lake Ontario have damaged the Rees dock wall which may cost \$5 million to repair. The job needs engineering surveys and funding.

**Q & A**

Q: What is happening with the former Pawsway building? Are there no sponsors?

A: Potential sponsors are being approached. There was nearly a deal which fell through. In Toronto there is a 0.2% vacancy rate for this kind of space 24,000 sq ft, but there is competition for theatre space and HC wants the right kind of tenant.

Q: Can the space be subdivided?

A: This has been suggested by real estate brokers. However, there would be expenses involved in doing the work and ideally a tenant would take it on.

## 5. Provincial Government Update – Chris Glover, MPP

Chris noted that a key issue is the report going to the City's Executive Committee on the subway upload issue. He is most concerned with the Ontario Line which would have impacts on riding residents along the north side of the rail corridor. Also the government has issued an RFP for a public/private partnership (P3) concerning GO Transit. Chris noted that he wants to see one fare, public ownership of transit, and public consultation. On October 28 the legislature will reconvene; Jessica Bell and Peter Tabuns will be involved in the transit matter. If YQNA members have concerns they can send him an email. Regarding Sidewalk Labs, there have been many meetings. The consensus is that the process is flawed, as a 1500 page proposal is hard to digest; it needs a 10 page summary. The suggested expansion to a larger area is problematic. We need to talk about data and matters such as facial recognition technology. We need regulations on data privacy. Villiers Island should be separate while Quayside is looked at alone. The idea of a private transit link is just about speeding up the process. There is already a Queens Quay East LRT plan and enough development for 9,000 passengers per day. Chris noted that he is working on an elevator bill and better condo owner protection.

## Q & A

Q: Is there any alternative to Bombardier for the transit lines?

A: There are other firms.

Q: We are lucky to have Google here in Toronto, and Sidewalk has many good ideas. Do we really have any privacy with smart phones?

Q: One of the public meeting sessions was about privacy, which is a very complex and deep issue. We need to protect privacy at the outset.

Q: The problem is that there is no national policy.

Q: New European data regulations allow for suing anywhere in the world. Eyes on a website are sold. Personality profiles are what Cambridge Analytica did. Once anything is on-line it is not private. Canada can suffer from trans-border data transfers if servers are located in the US. Will Google do to Toronto what they did to London?

A: It is an issue. Please email your concerns. We need to know more about the Public Trust to manage data.

Q: Google are disruptors like Uber, they will suck all the oxygen out of the competition.

A: Chris did a tour of our tech sector to understand the market. There is a concern with a Google Head Office. We need a made-in-Canada tech sector.

Q: For the Amazon HQ2 Canada offered only some Canadian dollars and a talent pool.

Q: To be allowed to buy a tablet you have to sign 16 pages of conditions – it's about control.

Q: Is there concern about the governance of Quayside?

A: This is part of the discussion. WT has to decide by October 31<sup>st</sup>. Ownership is a key issue.

Q: Where will the data servers be? If in the US they will fall under US law.

A: While doing a study at U of T Chris was not allowed to use Survey Monkey because the data would be stored in the US.

Q: What about the 5G network that is required? The cell responders have to be about 300 feet apart, so there are questions about the impact on human health. Brussels has banned it until we know more about the radiation.

**Co-chair Carolyn Johnson** noted some key points from the transit report, including the prospect of delays to TTC projects like the East Bayfront LRT until there is progress on state of good repair.

#### **6. City Council Update for Ward 10 – Tom Davidson for Councillor Joe Cressy**

Tom advised that a report is going to the Infrastructure and Environment Committee concerning TRCA recommendations for mitigation of flooding on the Toronto Islands. It is important to keep the park open and accessible.

Regarding Sidewalk Labs, there is a gap in government policy. Next year the City will develop a policy on data and privacy.

The City has been working with the Waterfront BIA on improvements to Rees Street. The Lakeshore Boulevard crossing will be beautified soon with painting of the Gardiner bents.

#### **Q & A**

Q: Art is spoiled by homeless people camping in the Simcoe Underpass.

A: The issue of homelessness is a struggle for the City.

Q: There is a safety problem with the bushes on the north end of Olympic Park, especially at night. The Convention Centre should clean up this area.

#### **7. Billy Bishop Airport Matters – Hal Beck**

Regarding the **2018 Master Plan Update**, Hal noted that there was a public meeting in late June followed by a 60 day commenting period, and that YQNA had sent in a letter raising some issues. In his submissions, Hal focussed on noise. Noise information relates to impacts plus the number of flights. He has delved into the original research that led to the Noise Exposure Forecast (NEF) contours. He is also familiar with the Provincial noise standards. The airport generates two kinds of noise – fly by and continuous. There is also ground noise that needs study. Training for technical staff is needed. The public process was ineffectual and designed to evade expected concerns. Ports Toronto has summarized who sent in comments. The comments will be taken into account in the production of a final Master Plan in early November.

Hal reviewed the letter from the City dated August 14, 2019. It says that the Tripartite Agreement of 1983 no longer works to govern airport operations. The City should be in charge of land use approvals as well as the number of flights. Transport Canada noise consultants' reports ignore the existence of Lake Ontario! Hal plans to follow up with the City.

With respect to **Bathurst Quay**, a one year study of air quality is under way with a group called TRAC based at U of T. The study will need to know plane movements. The Golder Report for Toronto Public Health was done in 2 months, based on modelling only, due to the short time-frame. (The report was done to inform the City about the proposal for jet plane operations at the time). There are micro-environments in the area from the lake to Queens Quay around Stadium Road. The study team should ask Angela Homewood and Bryan Bowen what data formats are needed for air quality monitoring.

The **Western Channel dock wall** is to be rehabilitated. This will entail driving sheet piles to bedrock, which will be noisy. There will be no dewatering, however, with the associated pumping noise. The taxi corral is to be reduced in size, to serve 55 to 60 vehicles. The

Admin Building is to be renovated, with some public space. A new public plaza is coming next summer. There is no new use for the silos, which will just be stabilized.

A new noise subcommittee has been convened which has met 7 times. Wayne Christian recently spoke on the weather effects on noise. A Ministry of the Environment expert on noise has attended. He said the City needs to develop its own standards, as the Provincial regulations for stationary sources do not cover airports. There will be a site walk to review the noise monitoring locations with Burnside, the consultants hired. So far there is one at Kings Landing and one at the Windward Co-op. There need to be locations for fly by noise. Harbour Square could be a good location.

Coming issues include the question of RESA's in 2 to 5 years, and a review of the Tripartite Agreement which expires in 2033.

### **8. Review of All Candidates' Debate – Angelo Bertolas**

**Co-chair Angelo Bertolas** briefly reviewed the event held on September 26 at which most of the riding candidates in the Federal election appeared and answered questions about their platforms. The debate was organised by a team from seven of the Ward 10 community associations, and was a success.

### **9. Sidewalk Labs – Angelo Bertolas**

**Co-chair Angelo Bertolas** noted that the Quayside Master Plan was presented to the Waterfront Toronto Board and the public during the summer. Waterfront Toronto (WT) has 4 major issues with the Plan: WT cannot provide the LRT recommended by Sidewalk; Sidewalk is proposing a Google headquarters in the Portlands; the Plan now covers a wider area than just Quayside; and Data collection, security and use is a significant issue which requires a broader solution with public consultation.

### **10. Sale of 200 Queens Quay West – Angelo Bertolas**

**Co-chair Angelo Bertolas** stated that the Federal Government through its real estate arm Canada Lands is marketing the parking garage for residential towers. This will leave a further shortfall in local parking for events. He advised that Council on a motion from Councillor Cressy has asked the Government of Canada to pause the sale until a requirement is applied for affordable housing. This has been agreed to. Any development of the site would go through the normal City process.

Discussion among the audience ensued; noting that Harbour Point has an agreement with HC for parking. There is no visitor parking at the building because it is provided at the garage.

### **11. Love Park – Ulla Colgrass**

Ulla stated that she, Carolyn and Angelo are members of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee. The budget was \$7 million, which has been increased thanks to Joe Cressy, by \$2 million. The extra funding will allow for upgrades or more retention of the original design. The pavilion, for example, has been altered to a metal trellis. The Design Review Panel has produced a report. Ulla has just learned that the timeline for construction may be extended by up to 2 years for a Record of Site Condition (RSC) process.

Carolyn added that the RSC is required for park uses on sites that may have been contaminated under their previous use. The blue posts in the park are monitoring for gases.

## **12. Party Boat Noise Issues – Carolyn Johnson**

**Co-chair Carolyn Johnson** advised that YQNA was notified through Joe Cressy's office that the operator of the Aurora Borealis harbour tour boat had applied for a liquor licence. This boat had a bad reputation around the harbour for noise late at night. YQNA lodged an objection in March to the granting of the licence. In August Carolyn received an angry phone call from boat operator Ron Hui complaining about this objection, as he had only just received information from the AGCO about it. Councillor Cressy and the Toronto Island Noise Committee (TINC) had also objected.

Subsequently there was a meeting between Hui, Lynn Robinson from TINC, Bushra Mir from Joe Cressy's office and Carolyn to discuss how the boat could operate more quietly. Hui agreed to conditions such as keeping speakers pointing inside the boat and having crew monitor the sound levels, but he refused to sign any document. YQNA has now withdrawn its objection while relying on conditions set out by the City.

## **13. Homeless Shelters – Angelo Bertolas**

**Co-Chair Angelo Bertolas** observed that the shelters seem to be attracting more homeless people to our area. The Police serve them with notice and move them along, but they tend to establish new camps. Women and couples are now housed at 545 Lakeshore Boulevard and the respite centre is in a tent-like structure at 701 Fleet Street. 545 is leased by the City for a year before it is redeveloped for condos. The social workers are working on information on de-escalating problems with people suffering from mental health issues, and there will be training for building concierges who may become involved.

## **14. Quick Updates– Angelo Bertolas**

**a) Residents Based Community Boards:** Angelo advised that an idea has been floated to create Community Boards to help reduce the workload of Councillors and their staff. Meetings are being held to consider how these might work.

**b) Queens Quay Tree Situation:** Angelo stated that Wayne Christian has completed his annual survey and his report went to WT. The audience commented that the stretch from Rees to Simcoe is particularly poor.

**c) Waterfront Flood Remediation Study:** Angelo remarked that the City has initiated some studies of flooding issues in the downtown area. The lake levels have not helped and drains are backing up. His condo garage was flooded, for example, and there were problems at the Delta Hotel and the Convention Centre. The study will last into 2023.

## **15. Other Business**

An audience member asked about notification for street lights that are out. He was advised to contact 311 and Joe Cressy's office.

## **16. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

**The next meeting will tentatively be on November 19, 2019**