



## **MINUTES OF MEETING #42**

**Chaired by James Russell**

TUESDAY, May 8, 2012

Rainbow Room, 4<sup>th</sup> floor  
Radisson Admiral Hotel, 249 Queens Quay West

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### **Residents attending:**

10 Yonge – Steve Fry  
33 Harbour Square – Fred Taylor, James Russell, Rose Savage  
55 Harbour Square – Ulla Colgrass  
65 Harbour Square – Celia & Bob Rasmussen, Cheryl Preston, Braz Menezes, Norma Starkie  
77 Harbour Square – Laura Cooper, Nan Cooper  
99 Harbour Square – Ginette Fournier, Becky Perry, Irene Phillips, Dawn Watson  
208 Queens Quay West – Gloria Cornell, Estelle Weynman  
218 Queens Quay West – Patricia Diana Walton  
228 Queens Quay West – Sandra Taylor, David Sharma, Vesna Saltagic  
230 Queens Quay West – Marie Blanchard, Sara Hsieh  
250 Queens Quay West – Claire Sparks  
251 Queens Quay West – Angela & Allan Rivers, Fran Pileggi-Costantino, Ken Rutherford  
260 Queens Quay West – Marcia Boyd, Carol McCanse, Kelly Gorman  
34 Little Norway – Hal Beck

### **Guests:**

Carol Jolly (Waterfront BIA)  
Heather Waddell (Harbourfront Centre)  
Tom Davidson (rep. councillor McConnell)

### **1. Adoption of Minutes from May 20, 2012 meeting**

Bob noted that the last name of Lorna, from 55 Harbour Square, is unknown. On a motion from Fran Pileggi-Costantino, seconded by Ulla Colgrass, the minutes were adopted.

### **2. Adoption of Agenda**

On a motion from Bob Rasmussen, seconded by Estelle Weynman, the agenda was adopted.

### **3. Guest speakers**

#### **3.1. Carol Jolly, guest from Waterfront BIA**

Many Summer events are planned by the BIA.

During Toronto's Doors Open, about 15 ships will be opened for tours on the weekend of May 26-27.

Starting May 26, Queen's Quay Terminal will have a historical photo exhibit for most of the summer with a Gala opening on May 24. More than 600 people already responded to the invitation to the official launch of this event.

The BIA is also sponsoring a new program this summer: an ambassador program where 10 students of musical theaters, working in small groups, will be signing a capella/harmony in a flash mob fashion. This program will start in June and end on Labor Day.

There will be a Redpath Waterfront festival this year. There will be a cultural village at Harbour Square Park (June 21-24).

The photo contest is back and will run from the month of July. Fifty (50) finalists will be picked for the exhibition at the end of September. There will be a people's choice award.

Questions and suggestions from YQNA members:

- Suggestion to have ambassadors at the York off-ramp parkette.
- Could we have a water shuttle? Perhaps next year, but there will be one for the Redpath Waterfront festival.
- Can the new restaurant at QQ have a free parking?
- Since big investment was made to get the pictures for the Toronto of the water historical photo exhibit, could that lead to a Waterfront museum?

### **3.2. Heather Waddell, from Harbourfront, Director, Planning Harbourfront Centre**

1. This year, there's a HarbourKids festival at both ends of the season. There will be several festivals in between, starting on the Victoria Day weekend. The busiest weekend will be over Canada Day, with a citizenship ceremony, concerts, dance competitions, and the Johnny Clegg Band in one of main concerts.
2. Thursday nights is dancing on the pier, from 7 to 9 pm. The flicks return on Wednesday nights.
3. In partnership with the City of Toronto, there will be concerts at the Music Garden on Thursdays and Sundays all summer long. The Toronto Botanical Garden will offer tours of the Music Garden.
4. A new photo exhibit outdoor will focus on Toronto Harbour. Starting on June 21, the theme this year is "uncharted waters".
5. In 2012, The PowerPlant celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and will be free this year.
6. On June 7, there will be a Stakeholders' open house for Canada Square (lots of concrete right now).

### **3.3. Toronto Port Authority (TPA) update from Hal Beck**

1. Suzanna Birchwood, the person hired to deal with public relations, was let go.
2. Activities at Bathurst Quay. A meeting held on March 28 was attended by many of our members. Safety is a big issue. Geoffrey Wilson, who chaired the meeting, was a bit surprised by the questions and the meeting abruptly ended.
3. The tunnel project is under way. A construction committee was to be set up. To get more information, our members could email [Hal.beck@hotmail.com](mailto:Hal.beck@hotmail.com)
4. On a question regarding an extension of the runway, Hal responded that nothing on Transport Canada agenda is showing such a project at the moment.
5. On a question regarding taking a slice off the park for TPA purposes, the permits seem to be missing.
6. On May 15 at 3pm, there will be a meeting at City Council regarding issues with TPA (signage, parking permission, etc.)
7. Other issues to take into consideration: Concrete batching is an issue at Bathurst Quay and an EA should have been done. It has an impact on traffic on Queen's Quay. Also, making concrete on-site raises more dust, and generates a lot of noise. Taxi staging had several revisions. The school area is not fenced off totally.

## **4. Treasurer's Report**

Angie Rivers reported that we have a total \$1,857.55. We had monthly fees of \$3.75 and bought a screen for \$175.04.

## **5. Committee reports**

### **5.1. Planning**

1. Neighbourhood Boundaries:

Dean Maher, Chair of City Place Residents Association, has proposed some changes in the boundaries of our association – in particular, the north boundary. The question is whether the boundary should be the rail lines (as we have thought about the boundary in the past) or Lake Shore Boulevard. Note that Harbour Street is, in fact, the same road as Lake Shore. An important issue is how best to represent the residents in the new towers such as Maple Leaf Square and Ice. Also, we are very interested in the proposed towers – 90 and 120 Harbour Street – that will affect the traffic congestion in our area. We continue discussions with Dean and, be assured, we will work together on issues of common interest.

## 2. HTO Park improvements:

There have been a number of comments made recently about the lack of facilities in the HTO Park – benches, toilets, more chairs, etc. We are looking for volunteers to help prepare a position paper on improvements and to help us work with City Parks and politicians.

## 3. Toronto Port Authority PILTs:

The TPA has owed PILTs (payments in lieu of taxes) to the City for a number of years. It is our understanding that the amount at the end of 2010 is \$49 million. We were approached by Harbord Residents Association to join with other neighbourhood associations in a written campaign to Mayor Ford to press for much more serious attention to getting these arrears finalized and collected. Our letter was sent to Ford on April 25. There has been no response.

## 4. Rees Street Parking Lot:

You will recall that the topic of the Rees Street parking lot was brought up at the last YQNA meeting by a local resident. Using the comments at the meeting as a catalyst to document the current situation, we documented in a couple pages the situation as seen by YQNA. The Situation Statement was sent to the resident. If anyone would like a copy of the letter, please send a note to Bob.

## 5. New riding and ward boundaries:

South of Front, from Strachan Ave. to Yonge St., will become a new provincial ward/riding. Our concern with the proposed boundaries is that our area faces three new politicians (municipal, provincial and federal) without background in our issues at the next elections.

## 6. Tridel and Menkes proposed buildings at York Street and Harbour Street:

This topic is or will be discussed by others at our meeting. This is a very important issue for our neighbourhood. We have concerns with the density. Traffic congestion worries us as it will affect the viability of the neighbourhood. It will have a negative effect in getting people to the harbourfront, which will also affect the BIA. We should work together with the BIA. We have written a number of letters to politicians (including Adam Vaughan and Pam McConnell), and have had meetings with them. The most recent letter was sent today asking for a comprehensive traffic study. We see this to be the most important issue requiring our attention over the next couple months.

## 7. Airport traffic at Eireann Quay and Queens Quay intersection:

Many think the traffic chaos at this intersection is of no importance to YQNA, as the intersection is outside of our neighbourhood. But there are reasons to be concerned. You are probably aware of what has been happening there. A Toronto Star article and on-line video showed the chaos. A CBC newscast also showed the situation. Without getting into the specific intersection issues, our interest is to protect Queens Quay. We have asked the City to prohibit airport traffic from turning onto Queens Quay. Should YQNA take an official position on Eireann Quay intersection traffic? Our request to Adam and TEYCC (19/03) did not get the results we requested for traffic onto Queens Quay. As this affects traffic congestion along Queens Quay, it adds to our concerns with Tridel, etc.

As you know, the tunnel has been approved and we can expect a couple years of heavy truck traffic along our street unless we prohibit it successfully. This will again be discussed at council on May 15th.

## **5.2. Parking and Traffic**

On April 2, the YQNA Planning Committee met with Pam and Adam to discuss the 70+ storey towers at 90 Harbour and 10 York. Adam suggested that if the city did a comprehensive traffic study of the downtown core, this might be the only way to ensure that the height and density of the proposed towers would be modified.

Kelly Gorman has kept in touch regularly with Sarah Henstock, city planner, about this matter. She has informed us on a number of occasions that the study is being considered and that Transportation Services and Ryerson University will be involved in the study but that nothing else has really been decided. Kelly wrote a letter to Pam and Adam, on behalf of YQNA, and asked that they do whatever they can to move this study forward. We need the study to be completed in time to prevent the towers from going through as they are currently planned.

At a public meeting at Pawsyway, there were several objections from residents, particularly regarding the strain on city resources including hydro, water and sewage. In addition is the concern about traffic gridlock, which adds to the pollution of our neighbourhood, and creates strain on our residents during rush hours and times of sports events as we walk, drive and take transit to and from our homes. Kelly asked that the following factors be taken into account:

1. existing traffic patterns
2. future traffic once all of the lands in the downtown core are developed based on both current zoning standards density and developer proposed density
3. lane closures that will occur during the construction phase of the proposed Menkes and Tridel towers
4. traffic congestion that will occur simply by vehicles entering and exiting the proposed tower at 10 York Street
5. lane closures on the Central Waterfront during reconstruction of Queens Quay West
6. the additional stress that will be added to Lakeshore Boulevard, Harbour Street, and north/south routes in the Central Waterfront area once Queens Quay West has been converted permanently from a four-lane road to a two-lane road

### 5.3. Parks

See comments regarding the HTO park in the Planning Committee report. With Farah no longer involved, we have no one to advocate for a playground. We also have concerns regarding maintenance of Harbour Square Park East and Harbour Square Park West.'

### 5.4. Police Liaison

1. Due to the construction at 52 Division, Police Week event will not be held this year.
2. A detective sergeant from Financial Crimes (formerly known as Fraud Squad) discussed the different scams and shared tips to avoid being a victim of crime. It is easy to rig a pin machine. ATM machines inside banks are harder to "rig" as opposed to stand alone ATM's as they are not as watched/protected. Try to use the same machine, so you're familiar with it and will notice if there's anything different. Scams involving mass marketing by mail, email or telephone, lotteries, loans, phishing scams. They offer you money, but you have to give them money first. Grandparent scam – a relative is asking for help, to get out of jail or hospital and asking for money to be wired. Job offers or free products being offered so they can ask for personal information. Organized crime: skimming, credit card offences, identity theft, Inheritance & overpayment scam; recovery pitch/promising to get money back...they send you a cheque then ask for half of the amount back but the original cheque is worthless. Online dating – an example was shown of someone that dated "online" for two years, and was scammed out of several thousand dollars. Challenges the police face: seniors (or anyone really) are too embarrassed to admit they have been tricked. In the case of online dating, they think they know the person, and want to believe them.
3. The Staff Sergeant mentioned that the new sergeant wants to meet with Harbourfront/Waterfront residents and community members. Please contact Cyndy if you want to meet Sergeant Theriault.

### 5.5. Communications

#### MEMBERSHIP

Residents	147
Member non-residents	28
Government Officials	16
Business	<u>3</u>
TOTAL	194

INFORMATION CIRCULATED TO MEMBERSHIP: March 20 – May 08, 2012:

05/07/2012: To: info@yqna.ca YQNA meeting May 8, 2012 - Committees reports – corr. agenda  
 05/07/2012: YQNA meeting May 8, 2012 - Minutes & Agenda  
 05/05/2012: To: info@yqna.ca Draft Construction Staging Plan Matrix  
 05/04/2012: YQNA meeting May 8, 2012 - Invitation  
 04/18/2012: Queens Quay Construction Liaison Committee - Minutes  
 04/18/2012: Condo Life Meeting - April 18, 2012 - 7 pm

## 6. Other businesses

1. Letter to Toronto Star editor re: we are holding up culture - whiners - inhibiting culture was never published

2. Meeting with Oxford - April 26

One of the more cooperative meeting with developers. We had questions on how to animate the ground floor, where the building meets the street. They have a very big glass lobby. Major entrance to PATH on Queen's Quay. We hope Oxford will integrate with the park. After business hours, it becomes dead space (e.g. Telus, Maple Leaf). We showed them slides, etc. Pedestrian boulevard on York street. From QQ to past Bremner, there's not a single storefront, no café. Windows at Maple Leaf Square are covered. The path will be constructed at upper level, will connect with upperfloor at Air Canada Center, connect with Menkes building and join with RBC.

3. Waterfront Toronto CLC meeting report :

Good news, Queens Quay redesign is going ahead. WT's Community Liaison will have office on QQ. The streetcar will stop running on July 29, until next year. Actual construction will start in July. Between now and July, lots of infrastructure work will be done. Bell, Consumer Gas, Rogers will start preparing to move their cables. Bell will install all fiber optic. There will be some noisy work. They will have pumps running 24 hours a day. We asked for soundproof enclosures that they can move from one hole to another. While the TTC is down, there will be bus service. Waterfront Toronto will have a meeting in June (open house). The matrix of Queens Quay's work schedule was distributed by Sara via email.

4. Clean Train issue

We are trying to get the new rail to the airport to be converted to electric. Not to waste time on diesel.

5. Donating to the Music Garden

We received an appeal from president and founder of the Music Garden to donate. People are encouraged to donate via the following website <http://www.harbourfrontcentre.com/summermusic/>

6. Website

Steve's plan to try website and mail list software: James has done a lot of work revamping the website. He took a first shot at the design. Hopefully before next meeting, we will have a subscription service.

7. Asking people to give us ideas on how to get more involved. Are we getting our share of funds from section 37?

## 7. New business:

### How to make the off-ramp park our own:

1. weekly/monthly picnic, decorate, bicycle carousel, summer carnival, permanent playground. One of the problems is that we need a licence for these activities. We are encouraging the BIA to have their ambassadors greeting the Waterfront visitors at the off-ramp park.

## 8. Reports from our elected representatives

1. Report from Tom (Pam's office)

Bus management plan. Waterpark Place plan to refigure the traffic to Queen's Quay. It is changing now. We will be able to have a thru-lane on Bay St.

Parks and playground: if we get an organized plan regarding the place, we can apply to the city to get it done.

2. Report from Jen (Adam's office)

Jen sent her regrets, but emailed the following report.

### **120-130 Harbour Street / 10 York Street**

- City Planning continue to process the application.
- Waterfront Toronto's Design Review Panel considered this proposal for a second time on April 11. They voted to not support the project again. I understand that Tridel has met with a group of the Design Review Panel members and is trying to respond to their concerns.
- We have requested information from City Planning on how we can ensure that a traffic study is conducted that takes into account all of the traffic generated from the developments in the area.
- City Council was considering an item today regarding transfer of other sites in the City to Build Toronto and Adam spoke at Council noting his concerns about this project and Build's role in the process.

### **Queens Quay - Waterfront Toronto**

- We have been working with Waterfront Toronto on the communications strategy to ensure residents are aware of the upcoming construction work.
- The media briefing, big public meeting, and open house are tentatively scheduled for the first week of June.
- We have been in touch with the office of the president at Toronto Hydro in the past few months to try and ensure that they work to facilitate the Queens Quay project moving forward.
- Waterfront Toronto will also be starting work in the next few weeks on installing the granite walkways and tree plantings on the new dockwall next to the Malting Silos. This work should be complete by the end of the year.

### **Eireann Quay**

- The TPA's site plan for the Malting Silos site comes back to Community Council on Tuesday May 15. We have asked the TPA to resolve a few outstanding issues by that time:
  - (1) protocol on community access to parking and student pick-up/drop off area at the Malting Silos site,
  - (2) landscaping to create buffer between construction site and school/daycare building.
- At the May 15 meeting, City staff will also be providing reports on the zoning and Environmental Assessment requirements of the proposed concrete batching plant.
- Transportation staff are conducting a safety audit of the Bathurst/Queens Quay and Bathurst/Lakeshore intersection to try and make them as safe as possible for pedestrians.
- Community Council approved turn restrictions at the corner of Bathurst and Queens Quay to try and increase pedestrian safety. Transportation supported prohibiting eastbound right turns from Eireann Quay to Queens Quay on red, but not at all times. They raised concerns that requiring all northbound traffic to go straight (which is what we proposed) would create traffic backups, particularly because the block of Bathurst between Lakeshore and Queens Quay is so short.
- The TPA and Forum (construction partners) have requested an extension of construction hours to operate until 3am on weekdays. Adam has advised them that the community is strongly opposed to this.

9. **Next meeting:** September, 2012 (exact date to be confirmed). Will be chaired by Steve Fry.

### **10. Adjournment**

On a motion from Angela Rivers, seconded by Nan Cooper, the meeting was adjourned.