



Bay Cloverhill Community Association

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BCCA Minutes
Meeting, January 14, 2019
887 Bay Street, Party Room, floor 2
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Business:

Call To Order: A Quorum was met as eight member buildings were represented.

A1) Approval of Agenda:

Moved by D. Baker; seconded by T. Gardiner; approved.

A2) Approval of BCCA Meeting Minutes October 9, 2018:

Moved by H. MacEwan; seconded by D. Baker; approved.

A3) Approval of BCCA AGM Meeting Minutes November 13, 2018:

Moved by T. Gardiner; seconded by M. Noonan; approved.

B) Reports

B1) Clover Hill Park Update (K.Holden)

The completion date for Clover Hill Park originally was 2017. Delays arose due to disputes between the City and the Developer as to the scope of the work and the costs. A solution was negotiated and passed by City Council in July, 2018.

Trees that are to be part of the finished park have been marked by a protective surround. Work will resume in Spring 2019 with completion anticipated for Summer/Fall of 2019.

B2) 10-16 Wellesley Street West Development –

LPAT Pre-hearing November 20, 2018: The BCCA has registered as a Participant for the Hearing which is scheduled for January 13, 2020. We will be preparing a submission that the BCCA supports the City's Refusal Report and does not support this development.

B3) Queens Park North Walkabout (K.Holden)

On December 28, 2018, three members of 'Friends of Queen's Park North' conducted a Walkabout of the north end of this park where the re-vitalization was completed in November 2018. (This is a committee of residents interested in fostering and monitoring the health and good use of this park.)

The notes of their observations and questions were reviewed by the BCCA members. Nancy Chater, the City Planner in charge of this file, had sent responses to our questions which were reviewed, also.

Note: Report of Friends of Queen's Park North and Responses by Nancy Chater are attached.

The revitalization of the south section of Queen's Park North commenced in January 2019. The decorative fountain situated in the southwest corner of the park will not be included in the upgrades to the park. The BCCA has been informed that the cost of refurbishing/rebuilding this fountain would be quite expensive. It is likely to be as much as \$1 million. We know that such fountains are difficult to maintain because of the impacts of our Canadian winters. Friends of Queen's Park North have been looking at alternatives for the area of this fountain.

A. Rezoski led a discussion regarding the values of the existing fountain and possible alternatives. General consensus was that:

- Decorative fountains are not practical with our harsh winters.
- The City of Toronto has budgetary difficulties with maintenance of public parks.
- Fountains are quite expensive to maintain.
- This park needs to be more practical for the changes created by the growing population in the downtown.

Discussion of the possibility of a playground in this area was aided by pictures of varied playground styles. There was general consensus that:

- A fountain may not be the best choice for this space.
- A family friendly feature in this park is desirable.
- A playground style that complements the natural environment of the park would be preferable.
- An indigenous theme might be considered. A talking circle of stumps was suggested as one detail of such an indigenous plan. A visit to the roof area of the Native Child Centre on College Street was suggested but no plans were set.
- Sand and water for children would be possible as a water line will be retained as part of the Phase 2 re-vitalization. Population intensification in the downtown is bringing more families into our community.
- A playground may be more affordable than a fountain .
- Action: This issue will be put on the agenda of our February 27 2019 meeting with Councillor Layton for discussion and his input.

B4) BCCA Letter Requesting Lighting on Yonge St. (K.Holden)

The section of Yonge Street from Grosvenor to Charles Street has never had the benefits of membership in a BIA. The street lighting in that section of Yonge is very poor or even absent. The BCCA executive had drafted a letter describing the lighting problem on Yonge Street to be sent to the General Manager of Transportation Services for the City of Toronto, Barbara Gray. The members reviewed and discussed this BCCA letter that will be signed by both the BCCA and the CWNA. Suggested edits: The letter should be copied to the Division 51 police contact for the CWNA; addition of another point regarding the impacts of poor lighting on the difficulty of detecting and preventing crime in this underlit section of Yonge Street should be added to the RE section of the letter.

M. Litvak moved that the letter be sent to Ms. Gray from the two community associations. Seconded by J. Sanassian. Approved

Action: Kathryn Holden will make the changes to the letter and e-mail it to Ms. Gray as well as copied to those listed recipients.

B5) Painting Utility Boxes (A. Rezoski)

Michael Cavanaugh takes the lead on this community beautification project. He has been contacted regarding our interest in having the boxes in the area around Queen's Park Circle painted in this year of improvements to Queen's Park North. A box located at the northeast corner of College and Queen's Park Circle is already in the program for 2019.

Action: A. Rezoski will prepare a list of unpainted boxes on the 'circle'. N. Waite will be contacted regarding his list of boxes which he prepared in 2018. (no one was given this task.)

B6) Review of 2018 BCCA AGM (M. Tait)

Several suggestions were put forward.

- The main problem was that the audience was unable to hear presenters as well as they should.
- Use of the microphone – perhaps using a hand held microphone. People in the audience should be encouraged to raise their hands when the speaker is not heard.
- Eliminate the Social Hour after the meeting as most people leave when the meeting is complete. Refreshments are available prior to and during the meeting and therefore attendees do not need to stay.
- The guest speaker SHOULD have some questions. If there are none forthcoming, we might place people in the audience to ask questions to encourage others to do so.

C) New Business + Announcements

C1) Recommended BCCA Member Roles (J. Candido and All)

To our knowledge, there is no required plan of action for how a building representative should interact with the Board of Directors/building residents who are being represented.

Various members indicated what they did. Many do not give reports of any kind. No one reported that they meet with the Board of their building on this matter nor do they carry requests forward from their Board of Directors to the BCCA meeting.

In general, the position of building representative has been quite void of specific responsibility.

Suggestions for a starting point for Building Reps:

1. Ask for 5 minutes at the Building AGM to give an overview of the ongoing actions of the BCCA.
2. In the week prior to each of our BCCA general meetings, the building rep should/might approach his/her Board of Directors to see if there are any issues the Board wishes to have brought up at the BCCA meeting.
3. The BCCA is able to push for more certainty.
4. The BCCA represents a collective voice to raise the bar.

Action: The BCCA should prepare a document which outlines the Building Reps responsibilities. This action/work was not assigned to any person nor was a committee struck.

C2) Ideas for 2019 AGM Guest Speakers (M. Tait and All)

Suggestions were:

- Native Child History;
- Director Planning, S.I.P.A.;
- Al Rezoski

C3) BCCA Potluck (Feb or March) (All)

A pot luck meal will be held on March 18th @ 6:00 pm at 889 Bay Street. There will be a short business meeting.

D) Any Other Business/Open Discussion (All)

The meeting had already run about 15 minutes overtime. There were no further discussions. Motion to close the meeting: Moved by M. Noonan; seconded by D. Baker; approved

Next Meeting:

Date: March 18, 2019

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: 889 Bay Street, Pot luck with a brief business meeting.

Wednesday, January 23, 2019:kah/mt/jc

Attachment 1

Friends of Queen's Park North Walkabout

Friday, December 28, 2018, 2:00 to 3:00 pm

Input re Upgrades and Improvements to North Section of the park

Lighting

1. At St. Joseph Crosswalk: Needs to have a pedestrian level light a short distance into the park on this pedestrian pathway. We believe that there was one here previously.
2. Lighting seems to be incomplete/insufficient in some of the areas. We can make suggestions if you believe that the lighting has not been completely installed.
3. For Phase 2 of the project, we propose that the fences around the construction areas have lighting as was done along the west face of the north park. That was a wonderful feature in the very black darkness of the north park while it was under construction

Walkways

1. During Phase 2 of the construction, could the garbage bins be accessible to those using the walkways. It will be easier to keep the garbage picked up if there are accessible bins.
2. St. Joseph to Hart House: The widened asphalt pad at the Hart House end of this path is a good inclusion.
3. Pedestrian paths in General: Good job on the locations and the finishes. Width of paths seems right.

Special Features

1. Central Horse Statue: Good job on the concrete finishing of the front of the statue area with the steps at the back. The brickwork and bench area around the horse is nicely finished and a good activity area if needed for same.
2. Hoskins Entrance Feature: We assume that the benches will be similar to the ones already in place and that they will follow the curved lines of the stone wall. The two groupings of tree/shrub plantings behind the wall look great.
3. The Promenade from the Horse Statue to the North End War Memorial: Lovely job. The numerous benches are appropriate along this promenade. Its width is not too great even though that was an earlier concern. Thank you for making a little bump-in in the west side of the promenade to accommodate the tree that might have been removed but was not.
4. The North War Memorial: Will the area around the bottom of this memorial be a flower bed? It seems to have been left unfinished.
5. The Water Fountain: Excellent! The only missing element is a lower water source for dogs to get their drink of water.
6. The Fenced-in Area in the Northwest Section of the Park: What is the purpose of this area? Please advise.
7. The Running Track: Nice job on leveling and also in getting the tree roots better covered/protected (especially in the northwest quadrant).

Furniture

1. Handicapped Access Picnic Tables: Great design and a beautiful warm wood colour for the tables/benches.
2. All picnic tables in this north end are on concrete pads/bricked pads. Could there be a few moveable tables that could be moved into different locations (even though it might be a bit inconvenient for the park staff!)?

Trees

1. Clusters of trees: a nice feature.
2. Lots of new young trees: good planning going forward.
3. Are the lines cut into the ground and running outward from the trunks of the older trees to assist with water absorption?
4. The Old Tree that may be removed (east side): Are there any possibilities that this wood could be harvested and used by a young company with a wood kiln and seeking to use this sort of wood harvesting in downtown Toronto?

Highway/Road Signage on the Park:

On the east edge of the park, there are a number of signs but especially 2 large signs that instruct motorists. We request that these signs be:

- Removed completely. Arrows and markings on the road should suffice.
- If that cannot be done, we ask that the size of the signs be reduced significantly.

Friday, December 28, 2018:Friends of Queen's Park North/kah