



Grange Community Association

www.grangecommunity.ca

Monthly Board Meeting

June 12, 2019, 7:00 - 9:00 PM

Grangetown Meeting Room (78 St. Patrick / 71 McCaul)

1. Welcome:

2. In attendance:

- Ralph
- Ceta
- Christine
- Nadia
- Max
- Don Y
- Willie
- Liz
- Daphne
- Don
- Brian
- Caryn
- Geoff

- Agenda additions?
- Boundaries Issue – Caryn

2. In Depth: the City Governance Crisis:

- Current situation
- John Sewell is leading “City charter” push
- We used to have “neighbourhood councils” in Toronto, similar to what New York has, and is now being proposed by CORRA
- Legal implications of having neighbourhood councils are unclear, but potential for lots of conflict
- Office of neighbourhoods seems to be “low-hanging fruit”, easy to do, and less legal implications to worry about than neighbourhood council idea
 - HVRA perspective

- They are more focused on the process of governance than other neighbourhood associations
 - Office of Neighbourhoods
 - Participation Saturday 15th June
- Max – we should send letter to governance committee, will send to executive to review again
- Max and Daphne will go to special committee on governance on Saturday at Metro Hall, Room 308
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3. Institutional:

- CORRA
- Update from Don Y – 19 people attended
- Attendees seemed determined to revive the organization after 3 years of inactivity
- Report emailed to executive
- Max was a part of the organization briefly 3 years ago
- CORRA was asked by the city for their opinion on building buildings in the city’s “neighbourhoods” – CORRA said no
- There was quite a bit of conflict between 2 executives, and the organization fell apart
- Don Y had observed that CORRA needs more downtown representation, of which they have currently have none
- Ralph asks if CORRA should try to integrate all neighbourhood associations into one supra-organization
- Max thinks that an overarching organization is not practical due to the many differences we have in a large city
- Geoff is concerned that an organization like that might not be representative of non-NIMBY interests, but perhaps GCA could bring a bit of a counterweight to this tendency
- Consensus is that we should join just to keep tabs on them
- Don Y will attend meetings along with others who wish to join
 - AGM Postmortem
- It was a terrific success
- 59 attended, 27 members signed up, everyone added to mailing list
- “Speed-updates” was a good idea, as well as heritage info
 - GCA Website
- Max – what material from AGM should we put on the website?
- Ceta – we should put all of the presentations on the website, save for the St. Patrick Market one
- Maybe presentations could be added to AGM minutes

- Boundary Issue

- Going south might be easier than going east, but need agreement of neighbourhood association there (Entertainment District Residents' Association)
- Going east to Yonge – mostly institutional, less residential
- Benefits? –Max - None, more work, but we have a civic duty
- Daphne – could go east without representing the institutions there
- Going south – Entertainment District Residents' Association are self-described “failure” - lack of interest from residents
- Condo management company in EDRA area has a hard enough time getting enough people to show up to condo meetings
- Ceta – we can be involved in development issues south of Queen without expanding our boundaries
- Caryn – we could reach out to EDRA and offer to help them out
- We can invite EDRA to next GCA meeting
- Consensus so far – leave boundaries as they are and focus on expanding our membership in the Grange

- Budget

- \$485 collected from memberships
- Refreshments, newsletters, and OCAD AV help was \$800 odd dollars
- \$1,300 left in bank account, so need to have less expensive AGM's

3. **Green Plan and Grange Park:**

- Relic Park status

- Official proposal is done, and it includes a special message from Joe Cressy!
- Includes, vision, proposal and appendix
- Includes sketches by Brian Jones
- Joe Cressy said that next step is to deal with Transportation Services, as opposed to Parks and Forestry
- 292 Dundas West has agreed that they love the idea of having relic park terminate at their property

- Community Green Plan meeting

- Max spoke with Anthony, Grange Green Plan public meeting to come likely in September or October

- Park Maintenance

- Water leak near playground making the area muddy
- Maintenance has been abysmal, PFR has been equivocating
- Max – let's get the monthly cost of park maintenance, to see what it would cost to get private sector to do it
- AGO is withholding enhanced maintenance money because city has done such a terrible job of it

- Ceta- we need to get senior Parks person and hold them to account
- This is the only example of a collaboration between the city and private donors, so we need to make sure it doesn't get messed up
- Ceta will reach out to Richard Evans and set up a meeting with him and Joe Cressy
- Liz – we should be careful about threatening community maintenance, PFR might be too happy to allow it

4. **Community Standards:**

- St. Patrick's Market
 - Geoff formed subcommittee on this issue
 - At least 18 months to "expropriate" building back to city from city according to Cressy
 - Another subcommittee meeting will be held in July
 - Perhaps GCA can join Queen West BIA as an auxiliary member
 - Rat infestation?
 - No city program on rat eradication
 - Should be a public health issue, can come under Joe Cressy's purview
 - Can't just leave it to private residents to deal with, because the problem is way too big – almost like expecting residents deal with raccoons on their own
 - "Rat congress" to be held on how to deal with the problem – GCA should go

5. **Planning & Development: update**

- 292 Dundas
 - Need to figure out where the truck are going to go
 - Suggestions: police plaza, or church parking lot
 - Create Toronto owns 52 division, should get in touch with head of Create Toronto
 - Hearing in July 9 will be a settlement conference – Don will go
 - Building on Northeast corner confirmed to be torn down
 - Father Santo has been promoted to another area
 - 250 Dundas
 - Don - discussion group held – talked about shadowing
 - City doesn't count buildings or rooftop gardens as shadowing – only the ground
 - Yonge Street Mission Opening
- Don – event was nice
 - 217 Adelaide