

Pocket Community Association, Executive Meeting Minutes Susan Fraser's home 3 September 2015

Present: Diane Smith, Don Smith, Jeff Otto, Paul Woodman, Supriya Syal, Susan Fraser and Susan McMurray (Chair).

Visitor: Sandra Miller for Eastern Commerce community hub.

Regrets: Geoffrey Mosher, Jaki Freeman and Trish O'Reilly-Brennan.

Approval of Minutes of 23 June 2015: Jeff moved acceptance. Agreed.

Announcements:

- Diane reported that a concern was received that there was a chemical smell coming from the TTC Oakvale Yard. She wrote to our contact person at TTC who said it was coming from the painting facility. TTC will undertake an engineering study and upgrade the fans and filters to prevent smells in future.

Treasurer's Report: Bank information has been forwarded to the Executive.

Regular Business (20 minutes)

- **Events:** Jeff made a net contribution to PCA of \$471 as a result of financial surpluses for the Santa event, Shakespeare in the Park, the Raiders of the Lost Arc movie, the Fairies evening. He expressed particular thanks to the anonymous donor who paid \$254 for the movie licence and to Daryl's Urban Fairies for their ideas and leadership. Jeff is currently planning another movie and the Halloween pumpkin parade.
- **Neighbourhood Party:** Jeff and Susan M. reported that the party is confirmed for Saturday 19 September in Phin Park from 2.00 p.m. until 11 o'clock. David Langille is arranging insurance through the Sierra Club. Volunteers are needed to lead activities – see Susan M. or Jeff. Diane is making posters. There will be some goods for sale. Rain date is 20 September.
- **Membership and Outreach:** Paul and Ellen Titus are planning this. Paul moved, Diane seconded and it was agreed that Pocket residents who wish to purchase PCA memberships at the Neighbourhood Party can get membership for 2015 and 2016 for \$15. This was very popular last year. There are now approx 300 paid-up PCA Members.
- **Artist in the Park:** Paul reported that Jerry Silverberg, our resident artist continues to have an excellent way with children, enabling them to have a rewarding experience. Given that the grant from Toronto Arts Council was half what it was for the previous year, the number of days for art activity in Phin Park was fewer, and as a consequence the total participation numbers were down.

- **Spring Town Hall Meeting:** Susan M. reported that the committee continues to meet, firming up plans for Neighbourhood Support and Emergency Management.
- **\$2,000 Donation and Crowd Funding:** Jeff reported that the survey results favoured a decorative raised herb garden, to be located just south of the skating rink on the west side of Phin Park. He and Diane are setting up a separate bank account for PayPal so residents and members can contribute to this garden. Once this account and PayPal are in place, the fundraising campaign will be launched.
- **Nomination and Election Committee:** Susan M. reported that the committee will consist of Lori O'Neill, Darlene Haywood, Kaye Leslie, David Langille and herself. They have had their first meeting and plan on canvassing door-to-door as well as organizing an evening event for potential executive candidates. Susan moved and Don seconded (all agreed) that we budget \$125 for flyers and snacks for this evening event. Susan will write to current PCA executives asking about their wishes to continue on the executive, if elected at the AGM. Date for the AGM has been tentatively set for Thursday 28 January 2016.
- **Eastern Commerce:** Sandra Miller joined the meeting as an advisor for upcoming changes at Eastern Commerce community hub. A hub is defined as the use of a physical structure for the benefit of the community for such purposes as library, health or social services, meeting rooms etc. Current plans are to start up a Kindergarten-to-Grade 12 school for the Aboriginal Curriculum and the Archives and Museum for TDSB. The Creative Play School and Subway Academy One (alternative school) will remain in Eastern Commerce. Sandra offered to help PCA with planning for this hub and for writing to Toronto, TDSB and Ontario authorities to promote planning we believe would benefit the Pocket.
- **Handling invitations to City of Toronto consultations:** A steady stream of requests and invitations keep arriving, asking for PCA input, support and involvement. This is evidence that PCA is being regarded as a responsible organization, which can make contributions to planning for issues outside the Pocket. This item to be discussed further.

Next Meeting:

- Next meetings have been scheduled for 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 14 October at Jeff's home and Wednesday 2 December at Diane & Don's home.

Minutes prepared 8 September 2015 by PCA Secretary, Don Smith.