

**Minutes of PCA Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Wednesday, June 2, 2021**  
**Via Zoom (Hosted by Lori)**

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**Present:** Coline Morrison, Daryl Boshart, Eadit Rokach, Gail James, Linda Blake, Lori Zucchiatti O'Neill (Chair), Michelle Kushnir, Susan McMurray

**Regrets:** Gemma Parker, Zhiizhii Prince

**Regular Business:**

1. **Welcome; appreciation:** This was the last meeting of the 2020-21 Board before the AGM. Lori thanked the Executive for their support and participation.
2. **Review and approval of agenda:** Susan added one item to the agenda. Motion to approve as amended by Susan, seconded by Gail and passed.
3. **Approval of minutes from April 28, 2021 meeting:** Motion to approve by Eadit, seconded by Susan and passed.
4. **Treasurer's report:**
  - Coline reported 2021 membership income to date is \$1,250. There is a balance of \$15,000, \$2,000 of which is committed to Pocket Change. This does not include \$406.20 held in trust on behalf of the Kapapamahchakwew Pow Wow.
  - The Annual Financial Report (January-December 2020, to be submitted to members at the AGM) will be circulated to the Executive for review. Comments/questions are to be sent to Coline prior to the AGM.

**Committee Reports – What's New?**

1. **Events:**
  - **Pocket Street Sale:** The Pocket Street Sale will take place June 27.
  - **Pocket Pride:** The planning committee will have its first meeting on June 3.
2. **Membership:**
  - The response to the May membership drive was excellent. To date, over 130 households/individuals have joined/renewed for 2021.
  - A "Renew Your PCA Membership Here" button was added to all e-blasts.
  - Street Captains are communicating a "have you renewed your membership?" message to their neighbours via email and casual conversation.
3. **Communications:**
  - Daryl anticipates that the learning curve attached to the new website will increase the amount of time required to complete his duties. Lori asked him to keep the Executive informed; support will be provided if needed.
  - Susan listed the remaining tasks to be completed before going live with the new website.
4. **Neighbourhood Support; COVID-19:**
  - Sip and Chat is still on hold. Motorama Restaurant has new owners and a new name, Riverside Kitchen; after it opens, it will be explored as a candidate for future Sip and Chats.
  - Lori updated the status of two ill members of the community and two more residents who requested support due to the pandemic.
  - A Pop-Up Vaccine Clinic at Madinah Masjid on June 5 will be publicized. We thank East Toronto Health Partners, Councillor Fletcher and Madinah Masjid for collaborating to make this happen.
5. **Phin Park & Greening:**
  - **Pocket Clean-up:** Lori expressed thanks to Toronto Parks Forestry & Recreation for picking up the bags of yard waste and garbage collected by volunteers in Phin Park/Oakvale Green/the leash-free dog park.
  - **Herb Garden:** The flagstone wall is broken in places. Lori obtained two verbal estimates, one to repair (\$2,000) and one to rebuild with more durable stone (\$5,000). Lori will investigate neighbourhood tradespeople and follow up with Jeff Otto on his research. A suggestion was made to promote the herb garden via the Welcome Bags as new residents may not be aware of its existence and purpose. Michelle will investigate the possibility of SNAP considering this a suitable project to support financially.

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- **LEAF:** The September 2019 report from LEAF (Local Enhancement & Appreciation of Forests) Young Urban Forest Leaders on the Pocket's tree canopy will be released before the AGM.
- 6. Nomination & Election:**
- Nominations closed May 17. There is one nominee for each position except Vice-Chair, which is vacant
  - Next year's Nomination and Election Committee will be comprised of returning members, Robyn Switzer and Linda, and a third person TBA. The Executive was asked to provide Linda with the names of suggested candidates by June 9.
- 7. Pocket Change:**
- The SNAP community workshop on May 17 had close to 70 attendees, and the organizers are working on the report.
  - The Federal Government has announced the Greener Homes Program, which includes grants up to \$5,000 to help homeowners make energy efficient retrofits.
  - Ten "Trailblazers" have submitted requests for energy audits by Greensaver.
- 8. Secretary/review of motions managed by email:** On April 30, 2021, Linda made a motion *to allow the PCA e-blast to be used to inform members about Local Street Marketplace as a potential means to link buyers and vendors in The Pocket, with the understanding that it be limited to a single (one time only) e-blast.* Eadit seconded the motion on April 30. On May 2 the motion was defeated with two in favour, seven opposed.

**Business Arising:**

1. **Virtual AGM planning:** The date is Tuesday, June 22, 7:30-8:45 pm, and it will be via Zoom. For future reference, the Percy Ellis development at 975 Danforth Avenue will have a meeting space for rental by the community, potentially capable of holding 60 to 80 people, so likely suitable for AGM's.
2. **Follow-up on proposal for a new committee (environmental science theme):** Discussion will continue in the next term of the Executive.

**New Business:**

1. **Impact of COVID-19 on racialized communities:** Susan and Michelle will draft an anti-racism statement and action plan expressing the PCA's acknowledgement and support of the BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Colour) community.
2. **Community Police Liaison Committee invitation:** A volunteer on the 55 Division Community Police Liaison Committee has invited the PCA to nominate a Pocket representative to serve on this committee. Lori will share more details with the new Executive.
3. **Project Swallowtail:** One component is identifying and eradicating invasive plants. Lori will contact the Phin Park & Greening Chair Jeff Otto to explore opportunities for the PCA to proactively educate residents and obtain funding to plant native/non-invasive species.

Minutes prepared on June 16, 2021 by Linda Blake.