

# The West Bend Community Association

## Minutes from Sept 19, 2012

Indian Road Crescent Public School

Chair: Tim Noronha Minutes: Des McComish

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

In Attendance: Tim, Des, Ike, Joel, John Suline, Johanne, Maurice, Heather.

### 1. Approval of June Minutes

John moved to approve, seconded by Johanne.

### 2. Discussion of Agenda items.

- AGM or Annual General Meeting is to be held at our October 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. At a minimum we will elect for the positions of Chair and Secretary but will consider electing a Treasurer (as this role is currently also performed by the Chair) and we would like a dedicated Membership Director to drive awareness of TWBCA and increase membership.
- Tim & Des provided an update on the status of recent development proposals.
- 2376 Dundas St West – This development, just north of the Crossways, seems headed for an OMB hearing (per Councillor Gord Perks). The application, submitted by Urban Strategies, proposes to redevelop the site for a new mixed-use development containing a 9-storey mid-rise building on Dundas Street West and a 23-storey tower (down from 26-storey) on the eastern portion of the site adjacent the rail corridor. The City Planning report states that the "application in its current form is not supportable. Of considerable concern to staff is the appropriateness of the proposed tall building". The City held a follow-up community meeting on June 4<sup>th</sup> with the developer to raise concerns and the Councillor and residents concluded that the revised application was still unacceptable. City staff reports are expected in November for both the 2376 Dundas St development and the proposal for the McBride site at 2803 Dundas St West.
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### 3. Metrolinx Sound Mitigation measures - Follow-up Discussion

- We discussed the Metrolinx May 16<sup>th</sup> presentation to us regarding the proposed sound barrier/wall and what we need to do to follow up.
- Ike led a discussion around the Metrolinx offer to defer building a sound barrier wall in our area until they reach the "Full Build" point.
- Its felt that Metrolinx are disingenuous with residents, that it's hard to reach someone who can speak for the entire GO expansion project.
- Within the members attending the meeting there is resistance to the erection of a sound barrier wall; John Suline read out his memo to Metrolinx that lists his objections to the wall.
- Heather felt that the (e)mailing of concerns to Metrolinx by each individual was much superior to the group/TWBCA alone emailing its concerns.
- Joel made the valid point that the sound wall and its aesthetic features, if any, matter less to the Heintzman condo owners than increased toxic emissions and pollution. The World Health Organization stated recently that diesel exhaust is carcinogenic.
- The Clean Train Coalition has applied for a judicial review of the decision not to electrify the line from the outset; the hearing may be as early as November. It may well be that a sound mitigating wall would be unnecessary if the line were electrified as electric trains are quieter overall than diesel trains.
- We decided that TWBCA would remain neutral on the proposed sound barrier and try to make a list of its advantages and disadvantages. Most people don't want a wall but may prefer it to more noise i.e. the lesser of two evils.
- We will set up a working group to make this list, liaise with Metrolinx and gather more information.

#### **4. Membership**

- Our goal is to increase membership. Joel undertook to create a Facebook site to help raise awareness of TWBCA and create a forum to discuss local issues such as electrification, the sound wall etc;
- Heather suggested we link to the Indian Rd Crescent Public School website and vice versa; we have now placed a link to the school on our TWBCA website and requested that the school do likewise.
- The membership year follows the academic year, September to August and \$10 membership renewals are now due for the 2012/2013 period.

#### **Gardens Update**

- **The** Dorval group held a very successful cleanup of the Dorval and Edna gardens followed by a potluck lunch on Sept 16 and raised over \$200 to buy plants.
- The Railside Gardens group has also been diligent in keeping that area clean and tidy and thanks those selfless core individuals who gave of their time and effort.

#### **5. Treasurer's Report**

Tim reviewed the bank position and noted the amount of new membership funds received.

**The meeting was adjourned at 9.00 pm: Moved: Des Seconded: Tim**