



## Minutes – CRBA Public Meeting

**2 October 2012**

The Dominion on Queen, 500 Queen St. E., back room

**Meeting Start Time:** 7:00 PM

**Adjourned At:** 9:00 PM

### Attendees

#### CRBA Board Present:

Larry Webb (LW), Adam Holmes (AH), Alex Bartlett (AB), Arthur Sinclair (AS), Donna Keravica (DK), Jon Goode (JG), Kara Isert (KI), Laurence Lui (LL), Mike Kapil (MK), Sandra Iskandar (SI), Philip Stoop (PS) - Past President, ex-officio

#### Guest Speaker(s):

Presentations from Corktown Businesses detailed below

#### Public Attendance:

Approximately 35 people (excluding Board)

## Minutes

### Introduction

- **Opening Remarks.**

LW welcomed everyone and went over the meeting “code of conduct”.

*Mission Statement*

The Corktown Residents and Business Association exists to enhance the quality of Corktown's residential and business life, to promote and market Corktown, and to act as a voice for the Community.

*Meeting Code of Conduct*

Very simply, to avoid negative attitudes but not to avoid difficult topics, we ask all those who bring a problem to the CRBA, whether monthly meetings or through e-mails, to also suggest a possible solution and to be respectful of others, whether present or not, and to leave anger at the door. This will benefit everyone and actually lead to a much broader discourse and likely a better range of possible solutions to problems we face in the community.

### Guest Speakers - Business Night introduced by Danica Keravica

- **The Dominion on Queen**

From the *Dominion on Queen* (500 Queen Street East), owner Sean Duranovitch gave attendees a little history of this unique restaurant/bar. Originally opened in the early 1900's, the DoQ today is a great venue that offers live music and poetry readings on a regular basis. Along with great food, the menu here also provides an extensive list of tasty craft beers. The CRBA is grateful to Sean for providing us with the back room for Corktown meetings every month.

- **Alumnae Theatre**

Founded in 1919 by women graduates of the U of T, Tina McCulloch told us that the *Alumnae*

*Theatre* is located at 70 Berkeley St. This year it is celebrating 40 years at that location. One of Toronto's most highly regarded theatre companies in the city, the Alumnae will be offering several exciting and must-see productions this season.

- **Adornments on Queen**

Barbara Stewart from *Adornments on Queen* introduced us to her store, located at 338 Queen St. E. and provided loads of information on the wide variety of affordable accessories and gifts she sells. There's also a tea shoppe inside the store – the perfect accompaniment to shopping for the lovely items offered here.

- **Magic Oven**

Nathan Fekadu, owner of Corktown's *Magic Oven* at 360 Queen St. East near Parliament, explained that his menu has plenty of gluten-free crusts, vegetarian choices and other unique options, including its famous \$100 pizza topped with real gold. If ever there was a healthy and extremely tasty pizza, Magic Oven has it.

- **Enoch Turner Schoolhouse**

Allison Little, Site Co-coordinator of the *Enoch Turner Schoolhouse* gave us some history of this revered little building on Trinity St. Now owned by Ontario Heritage Trust and designated a heritage site in 2000, the Enoch Turner Schoolhouse is the city's oldest surviving school building. Allison explained that a not-for-profit charitable foundation operates and runs several adult and children's programs here. Other offerings include lectures, walking tours, and special events. A heritage resource and a living history museum, this unique building is also available for event rentals.

- **Socrates Apallas - [www.corktownliving.com](http://www.corktownliving.com) and [www.explorewestdonlands.com](http://www.explorewestdonlands.com)**

Socrates Apallas is an agent with *REMAX* and definitely has the pulse of the neighbourhood. He has seen the meteoric rise of density and construction to the neighbourhood and the influx of curious and interested buyers (and renters). A big supporter of Corktown, Socrates knows all too well that Corktown is one of Toronto's best-kept secrets! Socrates runs two websites about our neighbourhood: [www.explorewestdonlands.com](http://www.explorewestdonlands.com) (don't miss the video) and [www.corktownliving.com](http://www.corktownliving.com).

- **GO T.O. Physio & Rehab - Dr. Somji**

Dr. Shaleen Somji is a Corktown-area based chiropractor who operates out of the *GO T.O. Physio & Rehab Clinic* at 272 Richmond Street E. and treats a range of sports, WSIB and automobile injuries.

- **Tidy's Flowers**

Not only did Jim Lye from *Tidy's Flowers* on Richmond Street near Parliament give us a great perspective of his family's very successful floral business, he brought us beautiful roses as well! Tidy's Flowers was started by Steven Tidy in 1837 and has been owned by the Lye family since 1948.

- **Cahoots Theatre Company**

Kawa Ada, Nina Lee Aquino and Justine Yim from *Cahoots Theatre Company* explained that the mandate of the company is a dedication to the creation, development and production of new works that focus on the complexities of Canada's cultural diversity, and examine the intersections of these cultures. Diversity is more than race, nation of origin and ethnicity. It also encompasses gender, sexuality, ability, language and class. Very noteworthy is Nina's recognition as a Dora award winning stage director.

- **Gallery 402 / Danish Connection**

Lunch and catering by day and art gallery at night, Joanne Nelson told us that *Gallery 402/ Danish Connection*, at 402 King St. East provides residents and businesses with a venue to highlight up-and-coming artists. A big supporter of the artistic community, Joanne regularly holds art openings. Where else could you find fine homemade gourmet sandwiches and a distinctive art piece all in one space?

- **Fusilli**  
If you're looking for a deliciously authentic meal, *Fusilli* has a great menu at affordable prices. Owner Giuseppe Pelligra is a passionate and long-time community member, and has had his Italian restaurant on Queen for almost 20 years. You'll find Giuseppe at 531 Queen Street East. Delicious food... you won't be disappointed!

## Miscellaneous items

- **Streetcar diversion on King St. between River and Parliament**

(Joanne N) Noted that the TTC gave poor notification about the streetcar diversion that is negatively impacting businesses along this stretch of King. The CRBA will work with the TTC to provide better signage especially around Parliament.

- **Power and Richmond**

(James C requested an update, responded to by Tom D, Councillor MacConnell's rep)The city is aware that the speed of traffic is an issue here and will continue to work on a solution.

- **Please write for the Corktown!**

(KI) Articles and advertisers are needed for the Corktown, the CRBA's seasonal newspaper. Please send any articles or ideas to [editor@corktown.ca](mailto:editor@corktown.ca) and send any feedback on tonight's business event to [info@corktown.ca](mailto:info@corktown.ca)

## Coming Events

Date	Event
Oct. 29, 2012	West Don Lands Committee meeting at 7PM - 39 Parliament St. (open)
Nov. 6, 2012	CRBA public meeting at 7PM - Dominion on Queen. Guest: Councillor Pam McConnell
Dec. 4, 2012	CRBA public meeting at 7PM - Dominion on Queen. Guest: Division 51 Police Services (not confirmed)
Jan. 8, 2013	CRBA public meeting at 7PM - Dominion on Queen. Guest: Arts & Culture evening (not confirmed)
Feb. 5, 2013	CRBA public meeting at 7PM - Dominion on Queen. Annual General Meeting & Board elections

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