



Minutes – CRBA Public Meeting

March 5, 2013

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

Meeting Start Time: 7:00 PM

Adjourned At: 9:02 PM

Attendees

CRBA Board Present:

Adam Holmes (AH), Alex Bartlett (AB), Arthur Sinclair (AS), John MacEwen (JM), Kara Isert (KI), Matt Elliott (ME), Mike Kapil (MK), Sandra Iskandar (SI), Larry Webb (LW) - Past President, ex-officio

CRBA Board Regrets:

Laurence Lui (LL), Peter Coish (PC)

Guest Speaker(s):

Willie Macrae & Angela Stea, City of Toronto Planners

Public Attendance:

Approximately 30 (excluding Board)

Minutes

Introduction

- **Opening Remarks.**
New President KI welcomed everyone.
- The new members of the CRBA Board of Directors in attendance introduced themselves to meeting attendees.
- KI introduced some notable attendees, including local MPP Glen Murray and committee volunteers.
- Glen Murray pointed out that the federal government will finalize new riding boundaries soon that will impact current Toronto Centre boundaries at a federal level and likely at a provincial level as well. He's looking for people concerned about the proposed changes to contact him and MP Bob Rae.

Guest Speakers

- **Speakers**
Willie Macrae (WM), who is moving on from his position as planner for the Corktown area, introduced Angela Stea (AS) as his replacement and gave a background presentation (attached) on recent and future developments in the King-Parliament area.
 - **OMB:** WM talked about issues with the Ontario Municipal Board. Glen Murray (GM) then discussed the OMB, said there is a strong feeling that OMB needs to be reviewed, suggesting that resident associations should take advantage of a window of opportunity with the new premier to support reform at OMB.

- **First Parliament Site:** WM provided an update on plans for the site after the Pan Am Games. GM suggested accelerating the planning process for the First Parliament Site as he is Infrastructure Minister.
- **Distillery District:** WM said a larger master plan review of the Distillery will likely be happening over the next year. Urged residents to get involved in planning process.
- **Planning Review Process:** WM talked about planning review process with Chief Planner Jennifer Keesmaat. People can get involved in **Feeling Congested?** consultation process and chief planning roundtables, currently ongoing. Learn more at toronto.ca/planning
- **Regent Park:** Angela gave an overview of Regent Park development, highlighting phase three.

Other Updates

- **Upcoming CRBA meetings**

The next CRBA meeting on April 2 would be about parks and public spaces led by board members Arthur Sinclair and Alex Bartlett, with a focus on idea gathering for public parks money that may be available to Corktown.

The public meeting on May 7 will be an Arts & Culture night with cultural representatives presenting.

- **Meeting Minutes**

Minutes from AGM on February 5, 2013 are posted at corktown.ca/meetings. The minutes include the president's report and details on the bylaw change that were passed.

- **Ryerson Heritage Study**

Sandra Iskandar introduced professor Tom Osler from Ryerson University, who attended the meeting along with a group of planning students who are currently working on a heritage study of Corktown.

- **West Don Lands retail**

KI discussed Dundee Realty, who are responsible for developing the retail spaces for the West Don Lands. Dundee is looking for help preparing a vision and plan for the retail mix in the neighbourhood. KI suggested that the CRBA will be looking for feedback on this issue – get in touch via info@corktown.ca.

Visioning Exercise

- KI led the group in a quick visioning exercise, asking attendees for feedback on what the short- and long-term vision for Corktown should be. A number of priorities were generated through discussion, including:
 - The need for consistent retail development and a diverse mix of responsible commercial establishments serving the neighbourhood. (Attendees *really* want a grocery store.)
 - The possibility of establishing a Corktown BIA
 - More community spaces
 - The need for more parking spaces in addition to improved local transit service
 - More branding of the neighbourhood as CORKTOWN via banners, flags, etc. and a neighbourhood map available at local retailers

- Heritage preservation that ensures the unique character of Corktown is maintained as development happens
- Increased public engagement and communication, especially to highlight the impacts of potentially disruptive construction related to the West Don Lands.

Coming Events

Date	Event
March 25, 2013	West Don Lands Committee Public Meeting at 7 p.m. – 39 Parliament St (open)
April 2, 2013	CRBA Public Meeting at 7 p.m. – Dominion on Queen Guest: Parks & Public Spaces Discussion
May 7, 2013	CRBA Public Meeting at 7 pm. – Dominion on Queen Guest: Arts & Culture evening
June 4, 2013	CRBA Public Meeting at 7 p.m. – Dominion on Queen Guest: TBA