

## Minutes – CRBA Public Meeting

September 3, 2013

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

**Meeting Start Time:** 7:10 p.m.

**Adjourned At:** 9:00 p.m.

### Attendees

#### CRBA Board Present:

Kara Isert (KI), Matt Elliott (ME), Sandra Iskandar (SI), Mike Kapil (MK), Arthur Sinclair (AS), Alex Bartlett (AB),

#### CRBA Board Regrets:

John MacEwen (JM), Peter Coish (PC), Adam Holmes (AH), Larry Webb (LW) - Past President, ex-officio

#### Guest Speaker(s):

Gobnait O'Connell McAnoy, A Cork woman's emigration to Toronto in 1965  
Ryerson University Planning Department, Corktown Heritage Study

#### Public Attendance:

Approximately 20 (excluding Board)

## Minutes

### Opening Remarks

- President KI welcomed everyone to the meeting, introduced the board of directors members in attendance and went over the CRBA's mission statement.
- KI explained that tonight's meeting would start with brief neighbourhood updates before focusing on heritage with presentations from our guest speakers

### Development Update

- ME gave an update on development in Corktown
- Progress continues in the West Don lands and with the Canary District developments. Residents continue to move into River City and tenants are expected to start occupying the TCHC buildings on King Street shortly.
- Bayview is closed to allow Enbridge to repair a gas line beneath the street. KI announced that Enbridge will be holding a neighbourhood party for Corktown and nearby residents as compensation for the shutdown. CRBA will work to set the details and announce to the community.
- The city is conducting a study on a proposed cycle track for Richmond-Adelaide. AS discussed potential of connecting these bike lanes to other bike lanes and trails in Corktown. CRBA will follow-up.

### **Parks Update**

- AB has written a letter to Councillor Pam McConnell and the city on behalf of the CRBA requesting the installation of a sidewalk on the north side of Richmond Street between Power Street and St. Paul Street. The letter is available at [corktown.ca](http://corktown.ca).
- The CRBA has also expressed to the city its support for extending any cycle tracks that get installed on Richmond and/or Adelaide to connect with bike infrastructure in Corktown.
- AB provided a general update on the CRBA's work to improve Corktown parks. A "wish list" for local parks is being developed based on feedback. In January, a consultant will begin work on conceptual designs that will be available for comment before final CRBA approval. Will start seeing improvements to parks within two years.
- Corktown Common will remain open until at least Thanksgiving. Erin Balser is developing a Friends of Corktown Common group in consultation with Park People, the city and other groups. There will be a public meeting to discuss the group in October.
- Attendees highlighted the importance of regular park maintenance to ensure our public spaces do not fall into disrepair.

### **Business Updates**

- ME and KI welcomed new businesses to the area: King Street Realty, Que Supper Club and the Healthy Road (opening soon). The board also congratulated local real estate agent Socrates Apallas on moving his business into Corktown.

### **Other Updates**


- The CRBA, along with neighbourhood associations in Cabbagetown, South Cabbagetown, Regent Park and Gooderham & Worts, is working to put together an all candidates debate as part of the coming federal by-election in Toronto Centre. Those interested in volunteering and helping to organize the debate can email [info@corktown.ca](mailto:info@corktown.ca)

### **Heritage Presentations & Discussions**

- Local resident Gbnait O'Connell McAnoy gave a presentation on her experience immigrating from Cork, Ireland to Corktown, highlighting the challenges and opportunities related to moving to a new city in a new country.
- Ryerson student Matthew Hillgren, representing his group from the School of Urban and Regional Planning, gave an overview presentation of the group's recently-completed Corktown Heritage Study. The study recommended that Corktown residents work to develop at least one Heritage Conservation District, in order to ensure the heritage of the neighbourhood is maintained. The full report is available on [corktown.ca](http://corktown.ca).
- SI led a discussion on the subject of heritage. Ideas brought up included developing a Heritage Conservation District, offering self-guided walking tours, participating in events like Doors Open, adding banners on streets celebrating Corktown's heritage, and using parks to celebrate heritage.

## Coming Events

Date	Event Info
Sept 9th	<b>Gooderham &amp; Worts Neighbourhood Association Public Meeting</b> – 6:30PM at 70 Mill Street – Community Room, 1 <sup>st</sup> floor <i>Guest Speaker Tom Davidson</i>
Sept 23rd	<b>West Don Lands Committee Public Meeting</b> – 7PM at 39 Parliament St, 11 <sup>th</sup> Floor Amenity Room <i>Update on WDLC Public Art Strategy</i>
Sept 4 & Sept 9 & Sept 12	<b>Island Airport Expansion: Workshops &amp; Town Hall Meeting</b> <i>Details on Corktown.ca and pammccconnell.ca</i>
Sept 17	<b>Toronto Community Housing Regent Park Phases 3-5 Update Meeting</b> <i>Amended proposal for the next phases of Regent Park's redevelopment. Details on time &amp; place of the meeting to follow – check Corktown.ca</i>
Oct 1st	<b>CRBA Public Meeting</b> – 7PM at Dominion on Queen <i>Guest Speaker TBA</i>
Nov. 5th	<b>CRBA Public Meeting</b> – 7PM at Dominion on Queen <i>Guest Speaker TBA</i>

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