

Minutes – CRBA Public Meeting

November 5, 2013

Dixon Hall Employment Centre (3rd Floor), 484 Queen Street East

Meeting Start Time: 7:00 p.m.

Adjourned At: 9:00 p.m.

Attendees

CRBA Board Present:

Kara Isert (KI), Sandra Iskandar (SI), Arthur Sinclair (AS), Michele Cummings (MC), Alex Bartlett (AB), Larry Webb (LW) - Past President, ex-officio

CRBA Board Regrets:

Matt Elliott (ME), Adam Holmes (AH), Peter Coish (PC), Mike Kapil (MK), John MacEwen (JM)

Guest Speaker(s):

Toronto Centre Federal By-election Candidates – All invited, Chrystia Freeland (Liberal) and Linda McQuaig (NDP) joined the meeting.

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.
- George Brown students presented their assignment of designing a hypothetical restaurant in Corktown and asked what we'd like to see. The comment was made that we are still waiting for a grocery store. SI said a Marche style one would be nice, not too formal, mid price, etc.

Community Events

- Christmas party is scheduled for Dec. 7 at Dominion on Queen. Time to be announced. The Corktown Chamber Orchestra will play. Details at corktown.ca.
- Volunteers are needed to help out and find high quality donations from the community. Eric Morse offered a framed photograph and Marien Breen is asking Body Blitz for a gift certificate.

Parks and Public Spaces

- AB continues to work to put together a wish list of things wanted and needed in local parks (5 major in Corktown)
- Little Trinity Church is forming a group to discuss improvements in that park and their first meeting is on November 12 from 7 to 9 p.m.

- Friends of Corktown Common met in October with a representative from Waterfront Toronto in attendance. There is security on site, and the park is currently in a transition phase until the city formally takes over operations from Waterfront Toronto.

Development Update

- James Caldwell, who helps distribute the Corktownner, said that Corktown has grown by around 500 homes in the last year
- SI and MC are CRBA representatives on the First Parliament Site working group. A library is planned for the site, and Councillor Pam McConnell is looking for further feedback on how the site should develop.

Road Closures


- Sumach Street south of King Street is now open to two-way operation again. The TTC continues to work on the eastern side of the street to install streetcar tracks.
- Queen Street bridge requires further repairs. The King Street connection will likely be closed until the early spring.
- Occupancy at the TCHC Development on King East has been delayed until early 2014.

Miscellaneous

- AS is organizing the electoral candidates' debate at Jarvis Collegiate on November 20 from 7 to 9 pm, moderated by John Tory. Ole Calderone will formulate a question to ask on our behalf, about transportation / transit.
- The Healthy Road, a new health food store, is set to open this month in the retail space at 510 King Street East.

Presentations from Toronto Centre By-Election candidates

- Linda McQuaig from the NDP is a Torontonian and journalist. She is interested in issues on equality, diversity and inclusivity. She congratulated us on the work done in Corktown so far.
- Chrystia Freeland from the Liberal Party of Canada is originally from Alberta. She spoke about economic security, healthcare, transportation and affordable housing.

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