



September 20, 2006, Indian Road Crescent Public School Minutes of Meeting

Chair: Duncan Farnan **Recorder:** Hilary Bell
Attendance : 6

Agenda

1. Planning for the Association's meetings Oct 2006 - June 2007
2. Reports from Committees
3. Canadian Tire Site Update
4. Municipal Elections

1. Planning for the Association's meetings Oct 2006 - June 2007

The following were suggested as potential topics for the association's meetings in 2006-2007:

- Developments on the railway corridor (GO-Transit expansion, Air-Rail Link, grade separation) - long-range plans, status of projects, etc.
- Municipal election (all-candidates meeting)
- Meet with new councillor following election
- Railpath construction plans
- Baird Park improvement project
- Keele Street traffic
- Western Waterfront developments and consultation process, also other TWRC initiatives (west Donlands, Bay front, Queen's Quay)
- Canadian Tire site development
- The Keele Centre (meet with Keele Centre manager and Peggy Nash re operation of the half-way house, aiming for a less confrontational atmosphere than the meeting last January)

2006-2007 Meeting Dates with tentative topics

2006	2007 (continued)
October 18 – Municipal All-Candidates Meeting	February 21 – What's happening on the Waterfront
November 15 – Status reports: Baird Park Improvement and Keele Street Traffic Safety	March 21 – The Keele Centre (with Shelley Hassard and Peggy Nash)
December 20 – seasonal gathering TBA	April 18 – GO-Transit's plans for the rail corridor
2007	May 16 – Baird Park Event final planning
January 17 – Dialogue with our new City Councillor	June 20 – TBA (possible Railpath construction plans)



2. Reports from Committees

We agreed that we needed to have a status update on various initiatives that are happening under the WBCA umbrella:

- **Baird Park Improvement** – awaiting response on funds from City staff; find out if any s.37 is available for park improvements (Canadian Tire site); full report planned for November meeting.
- **Keele Street traffic safety** – this group agreed to prepare a request for presentation to the City (with prior consultation with Greg Stewart, Transportation Planner). Request draft should be brought to the November meeting for discussion.
- **GO-Transit** – the Individual Environmental Assessment (for the Georgetown GO expansion to all-day service plus the Air-Rail Link) is at the terms of reference stage. T of R should be sent to Minister of the Environment in October. West Toronto Diamond grade separation is a separate project already approved but work will probably not start till the IEA is nearing completion. Possibly request a GO-Transit speaker for April meeting.
- **Railpath** – north section will begin construction in spring. There will likely be one or two public meetings prior to construction. Hilary and other Railpath members met with the landscape architect in August re the planting approach.
- **Railside Gardens** – activity has been fairly minimal this summer. Two plots were planted as part of the Clean & Beautiful City initiative. There will be an early October fall clean-up.

3. Canadian Tire Site Update

The City conducted a Public Meeting on September 19 (last night) but only notified people living within 300 metres, so we were not able to give advance notice to the wider community. About 25 – 30 people attended. The project will go before the Committee of Adjustment on October 18.

The original design was "part of the package" when the site-specific rezoning was approved, so most of the variances requested are related to the design change (moving to two buildings rather than three, reducing the amenities space, etc.). There will still be roughly 620 units and the height on the Keele side is still about the same. The other heights have been redistributed somewhat because of the design change. The parking is all going at the back of the "podium" along the CP railway line (one below-grade, one at-grade, two above-grade).

Residents can ask the City to make Heintzman one-way north and that one-way restriction would continue to the laneway entrance to the east of Heintzman so people can get to their garages. Indian Grove would remain two-way and would be the route for City services (fire, waste pick-up, etc.). Residents in the new buildings will be able to go out on the Keele side as well as the Indian Grove side but only right turns will be permitted onto Keele for obvious reasons.

Options for Homes is also requesting a severance for the part of the property where the gas station and lube shop are located. That was re-zoned for stacked townhomes but Canadian Tire has a potential to lease that site for another 30 years (5-years x 6 renewals). Options for Homes - and every other developer - considers these low-rise components to be loss leaders. They can't be built (except at a loss) in isolation from the high density components. If/when Canadian Tire moves, there will need to be another proposal put forward for that chunk which will be a separate property following the severance.



Options for Homes is not asking for the s.37 money to be reduced. The amount agreed was earmarked for various community projects (\$150,000 for BIA streetscape improvements; \$20,000 for Junction Business and Community Development Corp activity; \$30,000 for improvements to three parks – Ward 13, 14 and 11). Councillor Watson wanted Options for Homes to go through a re-zoning and, in that case, the s.37 amount could be re-negotiated; however, with the intent to create more affordable housing in the neighbourhood, it seems counter-productive to increase the cost of the units in that way. There is a development charge for each unit in any case.

Action: We agreed to write a letter in general support of the development for the Committee of Adjustment. (Hilary to draft and circulate).

4. Municipal Elections

We decided to use our October 18 meeting date as an All-Candidates meeting for the municipal election (November 13). There are 11 candidates for the vacant position of city councillor. Hilary and Aileen will work on the set up (contact candidates, reviewing process from federal meeting, arranging for switch to GP room from staff room, microphones and amplifiers, etc.)

Action: Coordinate date with other associations. (Hilary)

Other Business

1. Anne Langdon has asked us to sign on as a supporting group for an event called **Pledge TO Green** that she is helping to organize as part of the East Toronto Climate Action Group and Post Carbon Toronto. The event will take place in City Hall Council Chambers on Saturday Oct. 14th, from noon to 3 p.m. Its aim is to encourage candidates to implement key areas of the City's neglected Environmental Plan, adopted by Council in 2000.

Action: We agreed to sign on as a sponsor of the event. Hilary to contact Anne with the decision.

2. David has taken over from Patricia as Treasurer. There is approximately \$1,200 in the account (\$500 is reserved for murals maintenance and \$234 is the balance from the Clean & Beautiful grant.)

3. Walt Jarsky introduced himself as a candidate for councillor and spoke briefly about his platform.