

**JUNCTION RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION  
MINUTES OF COMMUNITY MEETING  
8 SEPTEMBER 2011 – 7:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.  
WEST TORONTO BAPTIST CHURCH**

**Participants:** 26 attendees including 16 members plus 5 participants via UStream webcast

### 1. Opening Remarks

Martin Lennox welcomed everyone to the Junction Residents Association (JRA) general community meeting. Attendees introduced themselves.

### 2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the previous JRA meeting had been distributed by email web-link.

**MOTION by Pam Mountain:** to accept the minutes of the 12 May 2011 meeting. **Seconded by Ken Clements. In favour: All. Opposed: Ø Carried**

### 3. Junction News & Events

#### Celebrate the Junction

The community is gathering to *Celebrate the Junction* on Saturday, September 10<sup>th</sup>. Events are listed on the back of the agenda and on the JRA website. The centre of activity is the Annette Street Library (145 Annette Street) and the closure of Medland Avenue from Dundas to Annette Streets between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Pam Mountain spoke about the various events in the Library and of the local business participants; however there won't be any food vendors, because this requires a permit.

The JRA is participating in this community festival between 1 and 4 p.m. along with the West Toronto Junction Historical Society (WTJHS), Annette Street Library, Wise Daughters, and Latitude 44. Visit the JRA booth to renew your membership and share your thoughts about density development in the Junction.

Proceeds from the sale of make-your-own-buttons will be donated to the Annette Street Library by Wise Daughters, and Latitude 44 will display the retrospective work of local artist, Reid English. The WTJHS will showcase Junction history with a preview of Heintzman month, the Junction Shul

centennial, and unfurl the newly discovered Junction flag. The second issue of the five part graphic novel series, *Justice in the Junction: the Life and Times of Josiah Royce* by Neil Ross and Brendan FitzPatrick will be released.

At 7 p.m. the Junction Craft Brewery will introduce Conductor's Ale at local venues; a toonie from the sale of every Conductor's Ale will support the WTJHS.

Aquila Restaurant is hosting the Junction Community Music & Art Fest between 11:30 a.m. and 11 p.m. Junction area artists, artisans and vendors will display their works for sale on the patio. Junction musicians will perform from 1:30 p.m. until closing.

#### Junction BIA – Jumpin in the Junction

On Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> the Junction Business Improvement Area (BIA) will host a Family Fun Day from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. with live entertainment for children at the train station platform located on Dundas Street West at Pacific Avenue.

The program continues at 3 p.m. with skateboard demonstrations and a competition hosted by Sanction Skateboarding & Snowboarding. Pacific Avenue north of Dundas Street West will be closed for the competition until 7 p.m.

## **4. JRA Motions & Updates**

### a) Junction Votes 2011

The Ontario provincial election is October 6<sup>th</sup>. The JRA was interested in hosting a Parkdale – High Park candidates meeting, but encountered numerous scheduling challenges because the candidates are already committed to participate in other community events.

The candidates will attend the:

- Swansea Village Co-op meeting at 85 Coehill Drive on Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup> from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- Sunnyside Community & High Park Residents' Associations debate at Bishop Marrocco / Thomas Merton Academy (1515 Bloor Street West) on Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.
- Bloor West Village Residents Association debate at the Runnymede United Church (423 Runnymede Road) on Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

- Swansea Area Ratepayers Association debate at the Swansea Town Hall (95 Lavinia Avenue) on September 27<sup>th</sup>, but this event may be rescheduled due to the Leader's Debate broadcast.

After a brief discussion attendees felt that residents could attend other community meetings to learn more about the candidates. Martin Lennox will also forward questions to the candidates submitted by residents and post the candidates' responses on the JRA website.

b) City of Toronto Core Service Review

Martin Lennox reported that the Core Service Review will be discussed at City Council meetings this month. Given the comprehensive nature and sheer volume of programmes and services, the JRA Executive will focus its efforts to monitor and report on issues that have an impact in the Junction neighbourhood, such as the Library and Junction 40 bus. The JRA will also follow other topics that are of interest to residents – the Waterfront, Parks, and Heritage Preservation have already been identified. Please contact Martin if you have another specific topic for the JRA to monitor.

Pam Mountain mentioned that funding for the Macaulay Child Development Centre, an organisation that operates a drop-in child care centre in the Library, is in jeopardy. Postcards to support this service are available in the Library for residents to sign. Further information about the organisation and its services is available at: <http://www.macaulaycentre.org/famresource.html> and <http://highparkhomedaycare.blogspot.com/2011/06/annette-street-library-program-for.html>.

Councillor Sarah Doucette reported that the City Manager's Report, released earlier this week, outlines the reduction and elimination of dozens of City services. A copy of the full report is available at: <http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/decisionBodyProfile.do?function=doPrepare&meetingId=5053>.

If you wish to voice your support for or concerns about the service cuts, consider making a deputation to the Executive Committee on Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup> commencing at 9:30 a.m. Alternatively you can submit written comments. Contact Frances Pritchard, Committee Administrator at: 416-392-6627, or by email at: [exc@toronto.ca](mailto:exc@toronto.ca), if you require assistance to schedule a deputation or to file written comments.

Councillor Doucette also reported that the City of Toronto's City Planning Division has launched a website dedicated to the Official Plan and the Municipal Comprehensive Reviews: <http://www.toronto.ca/opreview>.

The City of Toronto's Official Plan is the main policy document to manage and direct physical change in the city through to the year 2031. This review is the first assessment of the Official Plan that was approved by Council in 2002 and brought into effect in 2006. The City of Toronto is also undertaking a Municipal Comprehensive Review under the Provincial Growth Plan that looks specifically at designated areas of employment in the Official Plan.

Share your thoughts with Councillor Doucette. She has constituency hours at the Annette Street Library on Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup> between 3:30 and 5:30 p.m. in 15 minute intervals. An appointment is required; please email her office at: [councillor\\_doucette@toronto.ca](mailto:councillor_doucette@toronto.ca).

c) JRA AGM & Executive Elections

November 10<sup>th</sup> is the JRA's Annual General Meeting and we will be electing Officers. We are seeking a new Secretary, because Tina Leslie is moving from the neighbourhood. A notice about the process will be sent in October.

d) Junction Seniors

Eleanor Batchelder spoke about her efforts during the summer to establish a senior's group. She encountered several challenges while attempting to schedule an activity and participation was minimal. Based on this outcome, the idea is being shelved.

e) Mavety Street after 11 Division

Following the departure of the Toronto Police Services 11 Division on September 26<sup>th</sup>, the activity level and streetscape will change. The JRA will monitor the effect of the reduced police presence, and wants to open a discussion about the future plans for, or sale of, the building.

Councillor Doucette responded to a question about plans to sell the City-owned 11 Division building. There are no existing plans to sell, because the City process begins once the building has been vacated. However, she expressed concern for a timely resolution so that the building would not remain empty for an extended period. Councillor Doucette will keep us apprised of any developments regarding this property.

Andrew Wood and Tessa Schmilz-Wood thanked Councillor Doucette for resolving the chronic garbage issue at the corner of Mavety Street and Dundas Street West.

f) Vine Avenue Parkette

Martin Lennox reported on the progress of the Vine Avenue Parkette improvements that were discussed at our 10 March 2011 meeting.

Councillor Sarah Doucette hosted a meeting on 6 July 2011 in Vine Avenue Parkette to preview the final design plan as approved by the community. Also attending were members of the Toronto Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff and Kavinthia Battiq, our new Parks Supervisor.

The baseball diamond will be replaced with grass and new trees will be planted. A senior playground will be created in the centre of the park with equipment specifically selected for children aged 5 to 12. New standard park benches and lampposts will be installed as well.

Tina Leslie reviewed the locations of the bulbs planted by the community with Kavinthia to ensure they would not be disturbed by employees during the impending renovations.

## 5. Community Presentations

### Junction Shul Centennial

Martin Lennox welcomed Edwin Goldstein, President of the Junction Shul, who spoke about the history of the synagogue at 56 Maria Street and the upcoming community activities to celebrate the century milestone.

Knesseth Israel is the oldest original synagogue in Toronto and the building is designated as an Ontario Heritage site. The Shul Centennial Celebration is Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup> between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. For more information, please visit: <http://www.junctionshul.org/hundred.html>.

Neil Ross assisted Edwin with the visual presentation and co-authored, *One Hundred Years at the Junction Shul* with Lorne Miller. The book was launched on September 7<sup>th</sup> at the Lippa Green Centre, and it is available at the Annette Street Library for \$30. For a limited time, if you purchase the book you will also receive a free Shul calendar valued at \$15. Proceeds from the sale of books and calendars will support the Junction Shul.

## **6. Community Open Forum Announcements**

### Ward 13 Redevelopment Projects

Councillor Sarah Doucette provided an update about two redevelopment projects near the Junction.

The Daniels Corporation plans to build a condo complex on the Bloor Street West city-block between Pacific and Oakmount. The Daniels Corporation is expected to submit a revised application for review by City staff, as per the next steps discussed at the community consultation meeting on 4 May 2011.

The other project is a revised application to develop the property and replace the 15 rental townhouses at 200 Keele Street. A public consultation meeting is scheduled on Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup> from 7 to 9 p.m. at Humberside Collegiate Institute (280 Quebec Avenue).

### MP Peggy Nash Constituency Office

Peggy Nash's Constituency Office is opening at 1596 Bloor Street West. Office hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Advance Green for Northbound Keele Street Traffic

Robert Playter asked Councillor Doucette about the status of an advance green for northbound Keele Street traffic. Councillor Doucette advised that a traffic study was requested.

## **7. Next Meetings**

The next Junction Residents Association meeting will be held on Thursday, 10 November 2011 at West Toronto Baptist Church from 7 to 9 p.m.

The JRA Executive Committee will meet Thursday, 20 October 2011 at Axis for our community social candidate recruitment event. This is an opportunity to chat with members of the JRA team if you are interested in getting involved.

## **8. Adjournment**

Motion by Francine Chiasson to adjourn at 8:15 p.m.