

Junction Residents Association

Meeting Minutes No. 5 - March 12, 2009

Toronto West Baptist Church, 3049 Dundas St. West, Toronto, Ontario

Facilitator: Martin Lennox – Urban Development Committee

Minutes: Pam Mountain – Annette Street Library

Louis Marrone (LM) – Chair
Linda Clements (LC) – Co-Chair
Renee Wells (RW) – Treasurer
Martin Lennox (ML) – Urban Development Chair
Ruth Yeoman (RY) – Safety Chair
Robert Hilts (RH) – Communication Officer
Eleanor Olds Batchelder (EB) – Wiki
Jocelyn Midghall (JM) – Webcasts
Janet McKay (JMc) – Green Committee
Rita Bijons (RB) – Green 13
Kristen Buckley – Junction Historical Society
Kristy Hollidge (KH) – Minutes

Approximately 32 people total were in attendance plus 7 via webcast.

Item:	Notes:	Responsibility:
1.1	<p>Meeting called to order 7pm. Meeting was streamed live over the web. Last meeting's minutes were accepted with no modifications.</p> <p>A reminder that free babysitting is available for residents wishing to attend the meetings – two teenagers with first aid training. Let JRA know in advance.</p> <p>The JRA provided pizza, fruit and beverages for this night's meeting. Plans detailing various projects in community displayed on walls around room. We went around the room and everyone introduced her/himself.</p>	
1.2	<p>Treasurer's Report and Membership Update</p> <p>Current balance is \$695.68</p> <p>10 single members, 8 family to date – membership dues cover administration fees.</p> <p>Expenses - \$132 for bank charges and cheques</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">\$ 50 donation to Holiday Train</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">\$ 62.15 meeting expenses</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">\$ 10.45 domain name registration</p>	
1.3	<p>Lecture Series</p> <p>JRA is holding a monthly lecture, last Monday of month, co-sponsored by the Annette Street Public Library. Usual start time will be 7pm. More information in the JRS newsletter and on website</p> <p>March 14 – free First Aid and CPR course, offered by Linda</p> <p>March 30 - History of the Junction Fire Station (6:45 – 8:15pm)</p> <p>April 29 - Artist David Creighton</p> <p>Residents with an interest you would like to share are welcome to approach Linda or Louis to be a presenter</p>	Linda

1.4 **Green Committee** Janet
Janet McKay invites anyone interested in environmental issues in our neighbourhood to join her on this committee. See 1.5 below.

1.5 **Urban Development** Martin

- 30 Weston Rd – Largest retail development in Toronto at present, at Keele and St Clair. 50% owned by Canadian Pension Fund. 53,000 square metres, 2000 parking spots. After a public consultation on Jan 17 the developers are moving the parking to the centre, so stores will face the street. Good reviews from local residents and businesses. Slated to open Dec 2010. Replying to queries from us about parking concerns, developers said “Keele and Dundas is not in our territory”. A traffic assessment is underway at present. A benefit of development is that the park west of site will be developed, with a commercial garden, soccer field, basketball court etc (2% of site must be parkland; City will push them for more open space). JRA is asking them to improve the streetscape, i.e. make wide sidewalks.
- 3385 Dundas St W – presently a car wash, a 6-story retirement home is proposed. 118 units with retail space on street level, geared to residents. Dundas has been declared an avenue for development so up to 6 storeys is allowed. Will have 88 parking spaces below grade, 16 for stores and the rest for residents. Traffic seems slow around there, possibly due to the Tim Hortons drive-through
- St Clair right-of-way for streetcar will extend from Caledonia to Gunn’s Road, so all the way to Yonge St. Hopefully will be extended west to Scarlett Road ASAP. There will be a major overhaul of the Gunn’s Road transit loop. Jane St LRT still far away from becoming a reality.
- Metrolinks expansion of the Western Rail corridor (information meetings about this at Annette Street Public Library, Friday March 13, Wed March 18, 2-9pm) – GO service between Brampton and Union Station will be expanded; eventually hope to have a link to airport. A \$120 million project. Tunnel under CPR track so GO train can run every 15 minutes. A problem for community is that the GO trains are diesel, and also may mean more CPR freight trains as well

1.5 **Green Events** Janet
• Janice McKay and Rita told us about a Green 13 event planned for Earth Hour, March 28, 8:30 - 9:30pm. People will meet in the Bank of Montreal parking lot, have a candlelight walk along Dundas to St Johns Rd to Runnymede to Runnymede United Church. Meet there with walkers from High Park and Bloor West Village for a reception sponsored by Cheri DiNovo. There may be a lantern-making workshop prior to the walk, details TBA. (High Park does have this, in Nature Centre, 6:30pm the Monday and

Wednesday of the week prior to the walk). Wheelchair-friendly walk.

- Inorganic Market, Saturday, March 21 in No Frills parking lot (Pacific Ave) and Sunday, March 22 in No Frills parking lot (Bloor West Village). Orientation for volunteers Wed March 18; email Janice at janet.e.mckay@gmail.com for more information
- Critical Mass bike ride Friday March 27, leaving from Dundas and Keele corner. Ride through area, arrive at Revue Cinema for free screening of *Tales of a Yellow Bike* sponsored by Cheri DiNovo.
- Debate at Swansea Town Hall Tuesday March 24, regular debate, topic is Energy. Special debate Thursday March 26th at Swansea Town Hall, Keith Stewart from World Wildlife Federation debating someone from Ontario Power Authority, topic is nuclear power.
- Mentioned an organization called Live Green Toronto. They have meetings March 28 and April 18; contact Janet for more information

All these events need volunteers. Humberside High School has a volunteer board and an environmental club which can be approached.

Louis will check to see if the Junction BIA is involved in the walk and lantern-making.

1.6

West Toronto Junction Historical Society

Kristen from WTJHS thanked the JRA for changing the night of the monthly meeting so as not to conflict with the WTJHS meeting.

Kristen,
WTJHS

- There is a Junction Poetry Crawl Saturday April 18, starting at the Annette Street Public Library at 2pm. Features local resident Glen Downie, whose book *Loyalty Management* won the City of Toronto Book Award in December and is the Toronto Public Library's choice for "Keep Toronto Reading" in April. Co-sponsored event with WTJHS and the library.
- Amalgamation celebration May 1, 6-11pm at Humberside Collegiate. 100 years ago on this date the City of West Toronto amalgamated with the City of Toronto, and had a night-long celebration in the high school. From 6-8pm community organizations and local businesses are invited to hold family oriented activities; 8-9pm there will be a historical re-enactment presentation, 9-10:45 enjoy "100 years of Canadian music", 10:45-11pm a countdown (re-enactment of the countdown held 100 years ago). WTJHS invited the JRA to help with this event, help spread the word, help find volunteers etc. All community groups and businesses are invited to take part – contact WTJHS, more information on the website WTJHS.ca; students can earn volunteer hours.
- "Second Coming of the Junction Homecoming" will take part as part of the Amalgamation celebration

- 1.7 **Junction Wiki** Eleanor
Eleanor has set up a wiki with a short history of the area and a map of schools and parks. <http://junctionra.wiki.is/> Please have a look and make a post. Will be able to link to it from the JRS website www.junctionra.ca
- 1.8 **Public Space Initiative** – for Pacific Ave north of Dundas to the alley. Martin invited everyone to look at the plans posted on the wall. There is a blog off the website where people can make comments. There is no JRA monthly meeting in April, instead plan to attend the community meeting on May 14 @ the Keele Community Centre – volunteers are needed for this meeting. The Junction BIA is trying to have this street temporarily closed off to traffic for June and July. This will be hard to do but not impossible – need to make a symposium at City Hall and be able to demonstrate that the community is behind the initiative. junctionps@gmail.com and <http://junctionps.blogspot.com/>
- 1.9 **Rona noise problem resolution** – The new manager Steve Emery has reset the outside loudspeakers from setting 7 to 3, which means people living nearby no longer hear them.
- 2.0 **Safety for Vulnerable People** discussion – Rita raised question about how to help vulnerable people in our community (i.e. old, bedridden, non-English speakers, recent immigrants, etc) in case of an emergency i.e. power outage this winter, same thing could happen in a heat wave. Could JRA organize a street-by-street survey so we know where these people live? Sue of Safety Committee said JRS could look at doing this, in conjunction with police, 4 Villages Community Centre etc.
- 2.1 **Area Parks** – Linda said JRA is looking for a volunteer/volunteers to be responsible for looking at the parks, communicating with the City about our parks etc.
- 2.2 **Minute taker** for JRA meetings needed! If you are willing to volunteer please contact JRA.

Dates:

Next Meeting

May 14
Special meeting focusing on Public Space Project; larger community is invited (No JRA meeting in lieu of this meeting)
Location: Keele Community Centre