

2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) South Eglinton Ratepayers' and Residents' Association (SERRA)

Tuesday, April 30, 2019 at Greenwood College School, 443 Mt. Pleasant Rd. Toronto

MINUTES

WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER

- Welcome by Andy Gort, SERRA President and Chair for the 2019 AGM.
- The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m.
- The acknowledgment of traditional territory was read by Athena Mclsaac.
- Andy thanked Greenwood School staff for their help to organize this AGM. SERRA participated in mediation with Greenwood School and the City of Toronto at the time of the school expansion. Provision of AGM space at no cost was part of the formal mediation agreement, and this has worked out well. Mary Gautier, Executive Director of Teaching at Greenwood School, was recognized.
- Andy described the agenda for the meeting, the guest speakers and the information booths making up the Development Fair in the hall.
- The Members of the SERRA Board of Directors were introduced along with Sharon Mourer and Amy Isaac who have worked on Heritage issues.

MINUTES OF THE May 14 2018 AGM

- Minutes of last year's AGM were distributed to members at tables in the hall.
- The minutes had also been posted on the SERRA website.
- Motion to accept the minutes of the 2018 was by Elizabeth Ridler, seconded by Joan Bedard.

CARRIED

FINANCES – TREASURER'S REPORT

- President Andy Gort presented the Treasurer's Report.
- Motion to accept the accounts by Shelley Laskin, seconded by Sue Caines.
- Financial statements are available to SERRA members on request.

CARRIED

ELECTIONS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- All current Board members, with the exception of Dale Mathews and Geoffrey Jones are willing to continue to serve on the Board for the upcoming year.
- The following list of members was presented for election to the Board:
 - Andy Gort
 - Jane Auster
 - Paul Newbigging
 - Al Kivi
 - Rosemary Corbett
 - Lilly Mclsaac
 - Charles Iscove
 - John Hiddema
- Motion to elect all persons on the list to be members of the Board of Directors of SERRA in the year to come, by Dale Mathews, seconded by Naomi St. John.

CARRIED

SPEAKERS

- Andy Gort – President of SERRA
Andy spoke about a number of issues including the following.
 - The theme of the 2019 AGM, "Midtown Pushed to the Limit", reflects proposed construction in our area – 21,000 new condos still to be built and 35,000 new residents. This will have a big effect on transit, schools, safety.

- SERRA focuses on residential development, tall and midrise building construction, heritage issues and green initiatives. The work doesn't stop when a development is approved. There is a community liaison committee to see that regulations are followed.
 - 2018 successes included the new Davisville Public School with a community hub at the same location. Thanks were expressed to Shelley Laskin and Josh Matlow for their involvement.
 - In 2019 SERRA will be focusing on the concept of "complete community". What other resources are needed in conjunction with the ongoing development to ensure quality of life is maintained?
 - SERRA needs volunteers. We will be organizing a volunteer night.
 - Midtown in Focus (MIF) has been a major initiative. A planning blueprint for our part of town was submitted last September but still need to be approved by the provincial government. Andy encouraged people to write to their MPP asking that this blueprint be approved.
- Josh Matlow - City Councillor, Toronto St. Paul's
Josh spoke about a number of issues, including the following, after which he took questions from the audience.
 - Josh also spoke about Midtown in Focus, particularly in the context of the abolishment of the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB). This will reform the way decisions are made, and what reasonable limits should apply to development. He encouraged people to contact Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs, to get this approved.
 - Current concerns on the St. Paul's side of our area include the list of proposed tall buildings. On the positive side are the Sprint building (affordable housing for seniors) and additional park space.
 - With respect to transit, Josh indicated he had been advocating the Line 1 relief line as a priority. Part of the provincial plan (Ontario Line phase 1 to Eglinton) makes sense. In the interim we need to look at other routes, e.g. additional buses on Avenue Road.
- Shelley Laskin – Toronto District School Board Trustee, Ward 8, Eglinton-Lawrence and Toronto St. Paul's
 - Shelley stressed that Toronto has a world class education system.
 - The Toronto District School Board has participated in Midtown in Focus. There are school capacity issues with respect to so much proposed development. Schools are full, and many are on constrained sites.
 - Shelley discussed several issues with respect to provincial government actions, including the effect of changes to class size. The operating budget is currently being set; the provincial funding announcement came late.
 - A review of the French programme is underway.
 - We are going into a collective bargaining time.
- Jaye Robinson - City Councillor, Don Valley West
Jaye spoke about a number of issues, including the following, then answered questions from the audience.
 - Jaye spoke about her background and indicated she is currently working with SERRA on various motions.
 - With the expected growth in the city, we need to make sure it remains liveable.
 - Jaye is chair of the Toronto Transit Commission (TTC). The TTC is the third largest transit system in North America and has an ancient signalling system. Line 1 is near capacity, there are safety issues at the Yonge / Bloor station. We need to increase capacity while awaiting the relief line, for example increasing the number of trains.
 - Other topics raised were Metrolinx developments, road safety and school safety zones.

MOTION TO CLOSE THE 2019 SERRA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

After some closing remarks by SERRA President Andy Gort, at 8:57 PM John Hiddema moved to close the meeting, seconded by Rosemary Corbett. CARRIED

The text of the minutes was finalized June 11, 2019 for publication and distribution.