

YORK MILLS GARDENS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

Minutes

On May 16, 2016, at Trinity Presbyterian Church, North Hall, the York Mills Gardens Community Association (YMGCA) held two meetings.

At 7:15 pm a **Special Meeting** of the Association was called to approve an amendment to section 3(a) of our constitution regarding boundaries of the Association. Our boundary increased to include on the west, from the west side of Bayview Avenue, along Wilket Creek/St. Andrews Park to Legacy Court and including the houses on Carluke Crescent. These amendments were moved by Ron Morgenthal, seconded by John Nicholls and approved unanimously by the required quorum of members. This Special Meeting then adjourned.

At 7:30 pm the Association's regular **Annual General Meeting** was called to order.

Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting of May 25, 2015 were approved, as moved by Sandra Comisarow and seconded by Rikki Meggeson.

Treasurer's Report

Ron Morgenthal, the Treasurer, presented the financial report. In 2006 when the Association was reactivated, it had approximately \$11,000 in assets. At the most recent fiscal year-end December 31, 2015, we had \$18,062 in assets consisting of a large term deposit and a bank account. During 2015, we received \$3,140 in membership fees, \$10 in donations and interest income of \$138, and had \$1,750 of expenses for the year.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's report was moved by Albert Saati and seconded by Alice Nicholls, and approved by the members.

Membership Report

Alex Greco, the Membership Director, reported that to date we have 150 paid-up members and are hoping for between 180 and 200 members this year. We have 21 paid up members from the Fifeshire area who have now joined our Association.

The Membership report was accepted.

Report from the President

John Nicholls stated that this is the 10th anniversary of the public meeting at which York Mills Gardens Community Association was officially reactivated – on May 15, 2006.

He referred to York Mills Gardens Community Association's purpose to advance and protect our neighbourhood, to be alert to building projects in our community as well as other concerns within our area, and to make sure the City's by-law requirements are met. We also keep an eye on main roads for traffic flow and congestion issues. We advise residents on many matters involving City services and responsibilities.

To help improve our communications and provide access to information, we have a computer website that is readily accessible any time by members and the public at www.yorkmillsgardens.ca. The boundaries and streets in our defined area are listed on the website.

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We want to more actively participate in the City's community cleanup day in April each year. We wish to encourage a green and more environmentally friendly community, and are hoping to become more pollinator bee friendly by encouraging pollinator plants in our gardens.

The President's report was accepted.

Election of the Executive Committee

The election of officers was conducted by Joe Reis. The proposed slate of officers was introduced, the nomination process followed and included new nominees in the meeting, Camilia Hanna and Xiong Deng. A motion to elect the officers was then moved by David Fleming and seconded by Paul Wan, and was approved unanimously by the members present.

The Executive Committee members for the 2016-17 year are:

President	John Nicholls
Vice President	Alex Greco
Recording Secretary	Marci Newton
Treasurer	Ron Morgenthal
Membership Director	Steve Horvath
Director, Area & Issues	Shelly Candel
Director, Area & Issues	Gwen Cole
Director, Area & Issues	Rick Comisarow
Director, Area & Issues	Camilia Hanna
Director, Area & Issues	Ahmed Jibril
Director, Area & Issues	Tom Katirai
Director, Area & Issues	Barbara Krieger
Director, Area & Issues	Albert Saati
Outreach Subcommittee	Xiong Deng

Other Business

Rob Oliphant, Member of Parliament, Don Valley West – remarks:

Rob Oliphant said community associations are very important and help citizens organize and find solutions for issues concerning the area in which we live.

He stated that the federal government is investing in infrastructure, public transit to relieve congestion, and young families by having money flow to these families. He said the economy grows when people have money to spend.

He co-chaired the Special Joint Parliamentary Committee on Physician-Assisted Dying which also recommended a national dementia strategy. He is currently Chair of the House of Commons Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security.

He explained the government's challenge in balancing the budget that is dependent on the price of oil which is low at the present time, so \$15 billion is the planned federal deficit. He said the Canadian economy depends on the price of oil (petroleum).

We thanked Mr. Oliphant for returning from Ottawa to attend and speak at our meeting.

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Councillor Jaye Robinson, City of Toronto Ward 25 – remarks:

Councillor Robinson told us that the Ward 25 Community Environment Day event will be on Saturday, May 28th outside York Mills Collegiate.

She also announced that the City is establishing a Local Appeal Body (LAB) in October, 2016 to replace the Ontario Municipal Board function for hearing appeal cases regarding the City Committees of Adjustment decisions involving by-law variances for building applications and permits. There has been much discussion to remove the City from the OMB entirely and replace it with a Toronto local appeal body as the OMB is insensitive to local issues and concerns.

She said the Toronto Police force is overstaffed and that there are too many layers of police officers.

She reported that a subway “Yonge relief line” and “smart track” should be operational in 7 years’ time.

Old Colony Road will be totally rebuilt this year and a sidewalk will be added on the north side of the street with brick-style pavers rather than plain cement. She assured us that there will be no increase in the footprint of the street.

We thanked Councillor Jaye Robinson for attending our meeting and discussing important local issues with us.

Trinity Presbyterian Church provided the North Hall room for this meeting. We appreciate their generosity and will formally communicate our thanks to them.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was approved at 9:35 pm.