

Summerhill Residents Association Annual General Meeting for 2023

March 26, 2024, 7PM

Constitution and Quorum

With a majority of the directors and many members in attendance, and having received the notice of the meeting, the meeting was declared properly constituted.

Debbie Briggs acted as Chairperson and Virginia Maclaren acted as Secretary of the meeting.

1). **Welcome**

The Chairperson welcomed the attendees and introduced the Board members who were present (Debbie Briggs, Preston Thom, Jim Pecka, Virginia Maclaren, David Rich) and those who sent their regrets (Jill Cameron, Morgan Cann, Sarah Farr). She thanked outgoing Board member David Rich for his years of contributions to the Board.

2). **SRA Business.**

a). **AGM Minutes.**

The Chairperson asked whether there were any comments on the Minutes from last year. There being none, she called for a Motion to Accept the 2023 AGM Minutes. The motion was moved, seconded and approved.

b). **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer reported on SRA income and expenses for the past two years. In 2022, the balance in the SRA account was \$21,328 and that had increased to \$23,218 by the end of 2023. Expenses for 2023 included the website, FONTRA, Christmas Carolers donation, photocopying and banking fees. The Treasurer's report will be posted on the website.

c). **Election of New Board Members**

Two members had volunteered to serve on the Board: William Heisey and Jacqueline Poriadjian. No other members at the meeting expressed an interest so the Chairperson asked for a motion to approve the new Board members. Motion moved, seconded and approved.

d). **Updated Bylaws**

In response to a question from the floor, the Treasurer read the voting clauses and clarified that it is one vote per member and that voting members must be over the age of 18. The Chairperson called for a Motion to pass the bylaws. Moved, seconded and approved.

3). **Guest Speakers.**

a). Councillor Dianne Saxe. The Chairperson noted that Councillor Saxe has been instrumental in getting approval for reversing the direction of traffic on Shaftesbury. Councillor Saxe invited SRA members to sign up for her newsletter and to visit her website diannesaxe.ca. She then commented on questions that had been sent to her before the meeting:

- The city's climate adaptation plan is 16 years old and needs to be updated.
- Bus lanes on Avenue Rd and Yonge St are not a priority.
- The stretch from Bloor to Heath is a development hot-spot in the city with 28 approved or proposed developments. Developers are trying to get approval before the affordable housing clause in the city's new Official Plan is authorized by the provincial government.
- The city's water system is being upgraded and the sewer system is also being upgraded because of more frequent intense storms.
- The neighbourhood traffic study requested by the Councillor from Transportation Services last year is still in the pre-consultation stage.

Questions.

Q: Why is softscaping of 75% in front yards not enforced? A: The city doesn't have enough municipal licensing staff. A new stormwater fee under discussion at Council will disincentivize paved parking spaces.

Q: Can front yard pavement be removed? A: Possible but it is a long process. If staff feel that they need to make an example, they could request a court order to have it removed.

b). TTC. Three staff members from TTC gave a presentation on the Summerhill Station Easier Access project, scheduled for completion in February 2025. Shaftesbury will be reopened to two-way traffic at that time. The project has been delayed due to a number of issues, including availability of concrete, labour issues, and the challenging nature of the construction site. Community council has approved the reversal of traffic on Shaftesbury and there will also be a speed limit reduction.

Questions:

Q: Will you do anything to block the sound when you are doing the construction?

A: We are always monitoring noise during construction.

Q: Is elevator 1 going to be running before elevator 2? A: No, they will both open at same time.

Q: The Shaftesbury road surface is in very poor shape. Who will take care of that? A: At the end of construction, areas that have been disturbed for excavation will be repaved.

Q: Is there any intention to adjust the barriers for protection measures around the new entrance? Most subway users are using the road as a sidewalk. It is unsafe. Answer: There are plans to add a temporary crosswalk.

Q: Is there any arrangement to enforce the new reversal of direction for drivers on Shaftesbury and advertise it? A: (from the Chairperson) She will check.

Q: Garbage left in front of the station is blowing down the street. A: TTC will contact station staff to find a better solution for the garbage.

Q: Have you addressed security issues that 21 Shaftesbury is facing now? We have had people walk into our building at night. A: We can reach out to Streets to Homes and ask them to monitor this area.

c). Community Safety

Colin Anderson and Julian Hertzburg, crime prevention specialists from the Toronto Police Auxiliary, made a presentation on crime statistics, how and when to report crime, and principles of crime prevention. They noted that overall, major crimes for the Rosedale/Moore Park statistical area (which includes Summerhill) are, as of this date, down compared to last year and that Summerhill continues to be a low violence residential area. Break-and-enters are up but auto thefts are down. They offered to provide household crime prevention audits to anyone in the community. The audits usually take one hour and are free.

Questions:

Q: Are things that we are seeing around the subway station, like stabbings, included in the crime statistics? A: Yes. Violence on the TTC has also been declining.

4). Other Business.

- a). Dogs in David Balfour Park. The City will be putting up more signs indicating that it is not an off-leash park.
- b). Vale of Avoca. Reconstruction of the stream bed below Summerhill Gardens is starting next month and will continue for 6 months. Part of the trail from the bridge crossing to Mt Pleasant will no longer be accessible on weekdays.
- c). Summerhill Fair. This year is the 50th anniversary of Summerhill Fair, on June 8th.

Meeting Adjourned.