Newsletter of the Sir John's Homestead Ratepayer Association Inc. Editor - Bob Alden



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From Our President

Dear Friends and Neighbours,

It has been a while since your Ratepayer Association has sent you a newsletter. Rest assured that we have been working very hard for you. Much has happened in the past six months. I will highlight some of our activities and accomplishments and you may obtain the details in the body of the newsletter.

The first item is to thank and acknowledge the contributions of Brij Chadda and Mark Leonard, your Association Secretary and Vice-President, respectively. Both of these gentlemen have worked hard for the Association but have found that they must resign for personal reasons. We are sad to lose them on the Board but understand that their decision was not made easily. Their replacements are Colleen Close as Secretary and Tom Zakrzewski as Vice-President.

In early January we hosted an evening with Elaine Buckstein, By-law Enforcement from the City of Mississauga. This was a very informative evening which prompted the City of Mississauga to include the 400 meter separation distance between Lodging Houses as a condition to be met during the rezoning process any new Lodging Houses must go through before they can be licensed. This is something we all required in order to know that our neighbourhood would not be overrun with lodging houses. The City of Mississauga has heard our voices and has acted accordingly.

On May 26, 2010 the Licensing By-law was passed and is to be enforced immediately. All Lodging Houses are to be licensed by the end of the year. Please refer to the link provided to get the full text of the Bylaw and the conditions that must be met before a license can be issued. We have been advised by the City that we must remain vigilante and report any unlawful conversions to the By-law Enforcement Section of the City. Members may do this directly, but you may inform the Executive and then it will inform the City on behalf of the community. Do not be shy. This is our community and we all must play our part to maintain its nature and character intact.

Your Executive undertook a survey in the early part of the year and we received an excellent response from the community. Please refer to the summary and a more detailed report by Craig Finlayson who is in charge of Membership. We would have liked to follow through on the Barbecue and Garage Sale, but due to the ongoing construction and safety issues posed, they have been deferred to next year.

And last but not least, the Executive is working on a new Constitution and By-laws for the Association since we are now an incorporated entity. The revised documents will

be sent out to all members shortly and a vote will be held at the Annual General Meeting to be held in October, 2010.

My door is always open. If you need any information or direction on matters concerning our community please contact me or anyone on the executive. Our email addresses are listed on the website.

Respectfully, Alina Zogala President SJHRA

From Our Membership Chair

We had a very positive response rate with 68% participating in the survey. Thanks to all that contributed. This method may be used in the future to tap into the pulse of the neighbourhood. It was revealed that we do have stability in our area with 71% of respondents calling SJH home for over 10 years. It was noted in comments and in the responses (79%) that the Lodging House issue is still very important to all of us. I do want to emphasize that the committee will always consider this issue as paramount. Even as progress is being made we will not let our guard down and any related matters will continue to be monitored for years to come.

Of concern to drivers is the difficulty of entering SJH when travelling eastbound on Dundas St. An advanced green light was the top selection (65%) and we are pleased to report that communication with the city has been initiated. Speaking of entrances we had 53% supporting a potential entrance beautification project. As further investigation is undertaken the possibility of this project will be evaluated.

Group buying had a solid response closely followed by online classifieds and the BBQ (70%) was slightly favored over the garage sale (64%). A response was also received from a volunteer offering to initiate forming a retired men's group and if this individual is still available we ask that they contact any committee member through SJHRA website e-mail link.

Our committee does plan to undertake some projects and we will keep you posted and ask for additional input when needed. The survey will be posted on the SJHRA website. Once again thanks for your input and time.

From Our MIRANET Liaison

Here is a short primer on the City of Mississauga Strategic Plan which was developed through extensive consultation over the past few years. This Strategic Plan sets the road ahead for our City, and has established a Vision for what Mississauga should become. There is no established timeline for the completion of the Strategic Plan, as it is a 'living document', which evolves over time.

The Sir John's Homestead Ratepayer Association plans to contribute to this evolution and monitor its progress.

To that end, a presentation was made to the full City Council on June 9th by the MIRANET Association (the Citywide association representing all the rate payer associations). The citizens' priorities for the Strategic Plan were identified as;

- Build a reliable and convenient Transportation system
 - Accommodate the needs of cyclists
 - o Implement real time bus tracking
 - Establish transit stops within 10 minutes walk
- Support aging in place
 - To provide alternative housing types, designs and tenures in each neighbourhood.
 - Designate older adult clusters in nodes to provide better access to services
 - Greater independence and a higher quality of life in mixed-use areas and urban
 - Corridors of the city, which offer everyday necessities of life within a short walk.
- Develop walk-able connected neighbourhoods
 - Complete neighbourhoods with accessible public squares
 - Build libraries or community centres within 10-15 walk
 - Pedestrian first streets
- Create great public spaces
 - To provide opportunities for everyone to enjoy appealing destinations like interesting parks,
 - Plazas and unique natural environments
 - Establish international landmark destination on the waterfront
 - o Create "Central Park"
- Create partnerships for innovation
 - o Promotion of Centre of Health Care Excellence
 - Sharing of emerging, Innovative and creative industries
- Lead and encourage environmentally responsible approaches
 - Pursue renewable energy production and use
 - Implement water conservation programs
 - Develop green development standards

Progress:

The Strategic Action Plan has 87 items underway. The most impactful actions to date:

- 1. **Sheridan College Campus at City Centre.** Shovel in the ground in December. First classes in Business School in 2011.
- 2. **Hurontario Main Street:** Planning for new light rail rapid transit and new neighbourhood centres in Port Credit and Cooksville to start.

- Stimulus funding for infrastructure programs: City
 has received \$138 million to date from the Federal
 and Provincial governments. Must have all projects
 completed by March 2011. There are 132 projects in
 the plan.
- 4. **Rehabilitation of the City Square.** Part of the Stimulus Package. The plan to create a new larger, more useful City Square will cost \$40 million.
- OPG Lands at Lakeview: The plan is to create a sustainable, multi-use area including residential, recreational and commercial components.

Here are some ideas that were discussed at our SJHRA meetings that impact our neighbourhood:

- Invite a Strategic Plan Ambassador to address a neighbourhood meeting so we can further understand how we can influence the Strategic Plan impact on our neighbourhood.
- 2. Identify local initiatives and seek out corporate and neighbourhood sponsorship (and City \$) to develop and deliver the ideas
 - a. New park development
 - b. Change in use for townhouse development
 - c. New entrance to neighbourhood
- 3. Rally our support to one or more of the initiatives outlined above.
- 4. Make the City what we want it to be.

We welcome your ideas as to how your association can impact the Strategic Plan and how our neighbourhood can benefit from its delivery.

AGM: Tuesday Oct. 5, 7 pm at "The Grange"

- Major Revisions to our Constitution
- Election of Board of Directors
- Membership Fee for 2010-2011

Please plan to attend – you count!

On our web site

- Zoning and Licensing By-laws
- Membership Survey Results
- Proposed Constitution

SJHRA Executive Committee

President Alina Zogala - 3236 SJH

Vice President Tom Zakrzewski - 3049 SJH

Secretary Colleen Close - 3197 SJH

Treasurer Lorne McDonald - 3231 SJH

Webmaster Bob Alden - 3159 SJH

MIRANET Liaison Michael Spicer - 3086 RD

Membership Craig Finlayson - 3248 SJH

Member-at-large Sydney Lee - 3019 SJH

Member-at-large Margaret Morrow - 3171 SJH

Member-at-large Jeff & Heather Roberts - 3079 RD