



From Our President

Dear Friends and Neighbours:

The long hot summer is coming to a close and our thoughts turn to all that has happened in the past few months. Your Executive has been very busy this summer. After much effort the Licensing Bylaw has been passed and is now in effect across the City of Mississauga. This and the zoning bylaw now make it very difficult for anyone to be a non-resident lodging house landlord. We did get the 400 meter separation distance and a maximum of four lodging units in a house with a one person per unit limit. As a result we should see a much quieter neighbourhood and perhaps some of the lodging houses closing since they are not economically viable.

On August 10, 2010 our Greenspace Sub-Committee met with Councillor Mahoney and two City staff members. At that time, while participating in a walk-about various improvements were discussed and what could be done by the City or by our community that would result in a better environment for all stakeholders. All agreed that improvements should be undertaken and an immediate result was that the townhomes had a cleanup order issued against them by the bylaw officer. I would ask you to please refer to the report from the Greenspace Sub-Committee to familiarize yourselves with potential improvements for our Community.

We have also delivered a letter to the Townhome Owners asking that they reinforce with their new and existing tenants the obligations under the noise bylaws of the City of Mississauga. Copies of this letter were also hand delivered to Councillor Mahoney, Elaine Buckstein, Director of Bylaw Enforcement and Constable Marcia Hanlon, Community Liaison Officer 11 Division, Peel Regional Police. Hopefully, we will have a quieter and more orderly group of tenants in the townhomes.

The last item of note is our Annual General Meeting that will take place on October 5, 2010. Please be prepared to vote on the New Constitution and Bylaws and also elect your new Board of Directors. We start at 7:00 p.m. at the Grange (Old Scout House). Everyone can walk to the meeting and enjoy the sights and sounds of our community.

I hope to see everyone at the meeting.

Respectfully,
Alina Zogala
President SJHRA

Welcome Newcomers

Over the past while several new families have moved into our neighbourhood. Some of you have given us your email address and will be receiving this newsletter for the first time – Welcome! You can find previous newsletters and lots of other information posted on our website (see above for the URL). If any of our members have a new neighbor, please share our website address with them and invite them to come to our AGM. Our policy is to send information to all ratepayers who live in our area (for whom we have email addresses – typically we send about four messages a year- and the mailing list is safeguarded against spam). All are welcome to attend our AGM. Voting is restricted to those who have paid the current (2009-2010) membership fee. We hope all of you will pay the membership fee for 2010-2011, become voting members, and financially support our activities.

The Licensing Bylaw is Working

In addition to the two houses that were initially converted to house students that led to our working with the city to develop the zoning and licensing bylaws, a third house was subsequently converted for student housing. A vigilant member of our association has been active in ensuring that city officials were aware of this activity. This member has advised us that city staff gave an ultimatum to the owner to either license as a lodging house or cease the activity. Apparently the owner decided not to renew the students' lease and has started renovations and will put the house up for sale!

From Our Greenspace Sub-Committee

On August 10, our sub-committee (Jeff Roberts, Michael Spicer and Bob Alden) met with Councillor Mahoney, Andy Wickens – Manager Parks and Forestry, and John D'Ovidio – a Parks Supervisor at the playground in the N-W corner of our neighbourhood. We walked down the Glen Erin trail, along Mississauga Road, then Dundas, and back to the playground. We pointed out the damage on the grass bank behind the houses on SJH - caused by using overly large grass-cutting machines, the infestation of wild grape which is covering (and killing) trees and shrubs, the encroachment of weeds (so-called naturalization) at the expense of grass in many areas, and other areas where landscape maintenance has been reduced or neglected. We also pointed out the mess along Dundas beside the townhouses and the fact that the

"Sir John's Homestead" name (see our logo above) can no longer be seen.

We discussed creating a "feature area" in the large grassy area beside Sir John's Homestead near the entrance to Solitaire Court -restoring the grass which has been naturalized (i.e. not cut so weeds grow) adding beds of flowering shrubs and perennials, and some seating. We are now in a dialog with city staff and are optimistic that improvements can and will be made. We learned that the city can designate specific areas where local neighbourhood ratepayer volunteers can provide maintenance which would go beyond what city staff normally provides. We were asked to prepare a plan for this area. One of our ratepayers, Nick Close who has landscape planning experience, has offered to assist in developing the plan. We will be looking for additional volunteers to help with regular maintenance of these areas if we can work out a plan with city staff.

As a group we need to decide if this is something we want to do. For example, is there sufficient interest to contribute time and possibly some funds – time to tend to some common "gardens" and/or money to purchase some bulbs or annuals for our "feature area"? We might want to establish a committee to organize and perform the planting and tending.

Lawn Care Tips

This is the time of year when some of our lawns are in rough shape from the summer heat and lack of rain. It has also been a particularly bad year for the bugs that grow under the sod, eat the roots for their own growth and provide tasty snacks for the raccoons that dig them up. Now is the time to apply 'Lawn Guardian' – Nematodes for biological control – available at most garden centres. Then wait a couple of weeks for the bugs to die so the raccoons stop digging and then seed bare patches and top seed the rest. A light sprinkling of triple mix before will provide the base for the seed. Then water regularly. In addition to regular cutting, front lawns look much nicer if the edges by the sidewalk and driveway are trimmed to form a neat edge.

Nominations

Assuming that the new Constitution and By-laws are approved, the current Executive Committee will be replaced by a Board of Directors (same jobs – different titles). Because we incorporated, we are required to have a board of directors, hence the change. Nominations are sought for directors to replace several members of the committee that were elected last year and are not continuing for a second year of the normal 2-year term. Self nominations are welcome. If you nominate a person other than yourself, make sure they are willing to serve. Please contact either [Colleen Close](#) or [Margaret Morrow](#) who are serving as our Nominating Committee to let them know of your interest. Please consider volunteering. We need new blood and the workload is not onerous. We meet about 10 times a year for two hours at The

Grange. For most directors there will likely be a couple of hours of additional time related to each of the meetings.

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!

Where is The Grange? – On the north side of Dundas Street between Sir John's Homestead and Redstart Drive

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
(Email addresses are on our website if you wish to contact anyone)

Editor Note: Correction – the June 2010 issue should have been identified as No.4 (not No. 3) and this December issue 2010 has been corrected to be No. 5.