



## Minutes January 9, 2024

Present: Maureen Callaghan, Ingrid van der Zande, Joan Prowse, Bev Thorpe, Hannah Sherret, Corrie Galloway, Lesley Monette, Diane Jameson, Caroline Ramos @ constituency office of Kevin Vaughn, Bushra Mir

Regrets: Jacqueline McLoughlin, Natasha Francis

### 1. Agenda and December minutes

December minutes: Moved to accept (with corrections): Corrie Galloway; seconded by Hannah Sherret

### 2. Local representatives updates

#### Bushra Mir update (Councillor Ausma Malik's office)

- Noise bylaw review. Deadline tomorrow. Budget townhall Tuesday Jan 16, 6pm  
<https://www.ausmamalik.ca/budget>
- New city budget being released tomorrow.
- Night Economy town hall on Jan 27 at Beanfield Centre 6 to 9 – opportunity to attend virtually
- TO Emergency Measures due out Jan 10
- Parking booth now gone from the dockside. Corner of Stadium Road and Queens Quay s/e corner, more signage with directions around the city

Issue brought up: No lighting on E side of the silos – Bushra to investigate; also needle disposal issues need attention when meeting with Homes First.

Issue brought up: What is policy for mentally challenged people sleeping rough? Outreach team does one on one discussion and offer of help.

#### MPP Chris Glover update:

- Ayesha Khan. New assistant to Chris Glover.
- New noise regulation tools for traffic noise would automatically ticket people that violate the regs. Last year we had a significant victory with Attorney General proving corruption in Green Belt development push. Premier Ford now backtracked on farmland takeover.
- Ontario Place ongoing focus and fighting constitutionality of Bill 151 which was passed before the holiday break to break provincial and federal Heritage Act, Ontario Bill of Rights and City Planning and Noise bylaws. Attempts to inoculate gov officials from legal breach of tort,

confidence, misuse of govt authority. NDP looking into acts of malfeasance. Province did not follow the rules with awarding contract to Therma for the proposed spa at Ontario Place. Auditor General will release report sometime in 3 to 4 months. This shows the result of public pressure and research. Note: cost to taxpayer of Ontario Place proposed Spa: \$420m from Federal government; provincial subsidy of \$650m for parking lot. This is only the tip of the iceberg; taxpayers will be on the hook for maintaining the public structure, including the roof over the dome for the spa's 90 years lease.

- Affordable housing. 40,000 units of affordable housing since 1995. We know how to build affordable housing, and now we need government to get back into this business with 250,000 across the province.
- OPSU – 40% of healthcare staff thinking of leaving the profession.
- Holapaluzzo – great music, and community celebration. Helped with food drive at 5 schools; east waterfront community organizations. Will soon have a new community centre in the waterfront.
- Jan 18. Pre- budget hearing. Nothing planned in Toronto; so NDP is holding one on the 18<sup>th</sup> and how budget should be spent on healthcare; education; and mental health supports.
- Petition can be found here: <https://www.chrisglovermpp.ca/saveontarioplace>
- Question video can be found here: <https://www.instagram.com/p/C0g4BT5gGcr/>
- You can sign up for the opposition pre-budget hearing here: [http://www.maritstilesmp.ca/toronto\\_pre\\_budget\\_consultation](http://www.maritstilesmp.ca/toronto_pre_budget_consultation)

#### MP Kevin Vuong update.

- Thanks to MP Vuong for paying the room rental for the public Air Quality meeting on Jan 22.
- His office is focused on supervised consumption of drugs and regulatory requirement for supervised injection sites. Current site did not meet the regulatory requirement to hold a community consultation before this was allowed. When the site is up for review, this will be a priority issue for him.
- Many doctors are now sounding alarm on safe injection policy saying this policy needs reform or elimination and often causes more harm than good. When House resumes in 2024, he will push for policy reform and targeted funding to keep the community safe.
- A 10% property tax hike is anticipated; along with some program cuts. He will push for federal funds to offset the cuts. Kevin gave an update on increase of hate crimes and is in contact with city police to ensure all protests are respecting our laws. He concluded by saying 'What I vote and prioritize is what I hear from you.'

### **3. Air Quality Public Meeting scheduled for Jan 22, 2024**

The rest of the meeting was taken up with organizational planning ranging from refreshments, media planning list and outreach, sign in, note taking and facilitation. Joan to send around a memo detailing tasks and names. We want to ensure the meeting is participatory and includes all the local elected

officials, Ports Toronto, community members and Toronto City staff. University of Toronto researchers are in charge of zoom for the hybrid meeting and facilitation of online questions. The meeting will be recorded. We need to summarize and write a draft report and make this public afterwards. The outcome must be a series of recommended actions by Toronto Public Health, all levels of government, and Ports Toronto to take real action to reduce air emissions from the airport.

4. **Next meeting** will be February 21<sup>st</sup> (which is not the usual scheduled time, but that date falls on Feb 14<sup>th</sup>). Meeting will be in person at the Waterfront Neighbourhood Centre. Note: Bev will be at the CLC meeting with Ports Toronto on Feb 21<sup>st</sup>. Someone else will need to take minutes.