



BQNA Meeting Minutes for Jan 15, 2025

Held at the Waterfront Neighbourhood Centre and online

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Happy New Year!

NOTE: WE ARE CHANGING OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS TO THE 3rd WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH AND NOW MEETING IN ASSEMBLY ROOM A (bigger, quieter room in the WNC).

Next meeting date: Feb 19 @ 7 pm

We will also send out Zoom meeting info for people who can only join virtually. See List of upcoming 2025 meeting dates for your calendar at the end of these Minutes.

1. Present: Jacqueline, Maxyne, Marissa, Hannah, Todd, Joan, Bev, Max, Diane, Ingrid, Brian, Holly, Maureen, Corrie, Carolyn, Brian. Quorum was met

Guests: Daiana Ferrri (MP Vuong's office), MPP Chris Glover, Tom Davidson, Director, Waterfront Revitalization Initiatives and Marouan Malaeb-Proulx (Councillor Malek's office), Christine and Ertha (Streets to Homes)

2. Agenda was approved. Moved by Diane; Seconded by Brian

3. December 2024 Minutes approved (with edits sent to Bev prior to posting). Moved Todd; Seconded by Jacqueline

4. Chair, Director and Representative Duties. Joan sent round the duties and time allocation for the Chair. We did a read over of the current By-laws so everyone understands their roles as building reps and voting duties as well as General Members input. We noted some small edits needed.

ACTION:

- Bev to highlight text that needs updating and to circulate prior to Feb meeting for discussion and further tweaks/approval. Note: Bylaws are always posted online – along with the Minutes.

Joan nominated Bev Thorpe as new Chair of BQNA.

- **Resolution to appoint Bev Thorpe as new Chair of BQNA was put to a vote and unanimously agreed. Thank you!**

- **Resolution to appoint Brian Gottheil as new Secretary of BQNA was unanimously agreed.**
Thank you!

5. Communication and Financial Situation.

Financial Situation. Ingrid noted that Invoices for all buildings will be sent out in the Spring 2025. Building reps are responsible for getting them paid in a timely manner. Current donation is \$100 per building. Bev noted that some buildings can pay \$125.

ACTION:

- Discuss \$ contribution amount increase at Feb meeting.

Ingrid noted that FOSTRA issues no invoice or receipt and this needs correcting.

ACTION

- Max/Ingrid to resolve with FOSTRA

Communication. Joan stated that email traffic to Chair needs better delegation and copious emails to bqna google group needs to be reduced. Chair should delegate work/queries to each Sub-committee to then meet and report back. Bylaws state that one Board member needs to be present on each sub-committee. Ad hoc committees are very important and are doing great work with general membership involvement.

Ingrid, as lead on the website, was asked to lead the Communication sub-committee and, with help from Board members, clarify the type of information needed for social media posts, website updates and regular communication with the community.

ACTION:

- Ingrid to lists tasks and types of help that would be useful to increase our outreach and streamline requests that come into BQNA inbox.

6. Chair Succession and Priority Setting – Role of Sub Committees in 2025

We reviewed current Sub committees and Ad hoc groups. Listed here again.

ACTION

- **Need to review this list and discuss at next meeting.** These groups are how we engage with the General Membership in our Community. **How can we better engage the community and bring more general membership into some of this work?** We need to appoint one person from the Board to be point person on each of the current sub committees. Let's firm this up at the next meeting.
 - Canderel development (545 Lake Shore Blvd – currently shelter) – Maureen, Jacqueline, Ingrid

- Billy Bishop Toronto City Airport (BBTCA) Community Liaison Committee (CLC) – Bev and alternate is Joan. We agreed to make Joan the BQNA Rep with Bev as Alternate
- BBTCA Noise Sub-committee: Lesley, Max
- 545 Lake Shore Shelter CLC: Jacqueline, Ted Ferguson
- Air Quality Committee: Joan, Bev, Marie-Monique, Lesley
- Homelessness Task Force – Diane Langill. Should this be merged?
- BQNA website: Ingrid. Need to merge this into Communications Sub- Committee for outreach and newsletter. Lesley interested in helping. More help needed.
- Toronto Island Master Plan: Ingrid, Joan
- Community Safety: Jacqueline
- FOSTRA: Lesley, Max
- Stakeholder Advisory Group for Public plaza: Joan, Ingrid, Jacqueline, Reneee. Is this still operable? Should it be merged into something else/renamed?
- Encampments: Maureen, Hannah, Holly, Marissa and many general members
- Tall Buildings – *this is a proposed NEW subcommittee. The current proposal for a 49 storey building corner of Spadina and Queens Quay will impact our community. We spent over 2 years dealing with the Canderel proposal which we managed to get reduced to a 22 storey building and now there is a new push by developers. Lesley is point person from her building. Who else could help?*

AD HOC Groups – keeping abreast of issues relevant to our community but not official BQNA business. Would it be useful to have a report back as needed?

- Parks Not Planes: Ad Hoc group
- YQNA: Ad Hoc group
- Waterfront for All: do we still have this as an ad hoc group?

7. Encampment Updates:

Marouan, Christine and Ertha provided updates: 13 people in 6 encampments currently in Little Norway Park and when new tents pop up they are targeted for immediate housing. Trailer now delivered by a power source and used for meetings with people in the park. Q & A followed.

Marouan is writing up an update for people to post in their buildings. The next one will include update on the trailer. The trailer will be there 24/7 until encampment is resolved. Trailer is for staff to help people in the park and to support Garda security on site.

It was noted that the local community engagement people are great with residents. If more help is needed contact encampments@toronto.ca

Regarding the fire on New Year's Eve, unfortunately this happened when staff were on break. The trailer will allow staff to eat and stay on site 24 hours a day. Regarding the timeline to resolve everything? It is hard to give a timeline....we are searching availability every day. Key factors influencing

placement in alternative shelter are: gender, mobility, location of supports, harm reduction workers, location. But once cleared, security will remain for 30 days to help prevent new encampments.

City is looking at what improvements and design options can be done at Little Norway Park (LNP) to prevent more tents. The Encampment sub-committee will continue to work with Marouan and engage directly with the Enhanced Planning for LNP.

Community Safety Teams are doing a good job but this needs better communication out to the buildings. We thank everyone for all their hard work.

ACTION:

- Maroun to send round a one pager to BQNA google groups for distribution to the buildings.

8. Air Quality/Public Health update

YQNA webinar this week featured Dr Greg Evans and Joan talking about the AQ study and outcome. It was recorded and now needs to be widely distributed.

ACTION

- Diane will recommend to YQNA that they disseminate the recording to Waterfront For All website.

Arcadia coop will soon feature: A Breath of Air in April and will have a Breather's Box for people to leave comments.

We also agreed to post the video about Air Quality on the BQNA site with a preamble stating that 'This video is being posted in the spirit of sharing other group's information.' The video, done by Parks Not Planes, is also posted on the University of Toronto website and YouTube:

<https://positivezero.civmin.utoronto.ca/bqna/>

ACTION

- Ingrid to post with the preamble

9. Ports Toronto/RESA update. (Runway End Safety Area)

The Survey with 3000 responses was only delivered the day before on Oct 8th. Voted the next day Oct 9th. When asked what is the most important issues that city council should consider. Majority was environment and health; only 9% voted for economic impact. We have to make this point much stronger.

10. Elected Representatives Updates

---MP Vuong. There has been a request to have a federal Environmental Impact Assessment done for RESA. Daiana will bring this up with Kevin Vuong.

---MPP Chris Glover gave several updates: (subscribe to his newsletter)

Screening of the acclaimed film Your Tomorrow at WNC on Tue Jan 21st at the Dance Studio. Please put posters up on your building's FB account or bulletin board. Joan sent round an email from Chris with the poster.

Latest news on Ontario Place: Env Registry Office; consulting on the plan to direct sewage into the breakwater. See update also on Waterfront 4 All.

Kudos to schools, staff and students with food drivers over the holidays. Delivered toys to 500 kids over the holidays. Community Recognition Award – see nomination form on Chris's website.

---City of Toronto. Marouan: Budget town hall tomorrow. Marouan to send link.

Big streetcar track changes on Bathurst and Lake Shore coming soon. Discussion about need for more red paint at this dangerous intersection and need for City to update the GPS aps because drivers do not know about construction. Community needs up to date information about bus and streetcar boarding. We need lighting by the malting silos. Still turned off. Maroun to investigate all the above.

11. Next meeting date: Feb 19 @ 7 pm

We will now meet in Assembly Room A for the rest of 2025 on the third Wednesday of the Month.

BQNA Meetings have been scheduled in Assembly Room A from 7 pm to 9 pm for:

Mar 19

Apr 16

May 21

Jun 11 * (room only available on second Wed)

Jul 16

Aug 20

Sep 17

Oct 15

Nov 19

Dec 10, 2025 * (room only available on second Wed)

Meeting adjourned. 9.20 pm

Minutes by Bev Thorpe (for the last time) – over to Brian – thanks!