



Bathurst Quay Neighbourhood Association
Minutes for Wednesday, December 13, 2023
7:00 - 9:00 p.m

In person: Waterfront Neighbourhood Centre and via zoom

Note: next Meeting is Tuesday Jan 9th at WNC (and via zoom) @ 7 pm
to prepare for the Air Quality Public Meeting set for January 22nd

Present:

Joan Prowse, Bev Thorpe, Ingrid van der Zande, Dawn Cormier, Louis, Diane Jameson, Steve Rashid and Natasha Francis from 550 QQ On zoom: Caroline @ constituency office of Kevin Vaughn, Jacqueline McLaughlin, Hannah Sherret, Corrie Galloway

1. **Approval of Agenda and Minutes from October 11 and Nov 8 2023**

- Minutes from Oct 11, Bev moved; Diane seconded
- Minutes Nov 8, approved by Jacqueline, seconded by Hannah

2. **New member welcome and update**

Welcome to Dawn Cormier, new rep at Harbourside Coop. Tony Makepeace will be alternate.

Steve asked more clarification of what BQNA does: See the BQNA website where all news and activities are posted. Also see Joan's handout to Arcadia detailing how BQNA reps initiated the Air Quality study with University of Toronto; catalyzed the Emergency Measures planning via Cllr Ausma Malik, and how the Noise Committee is an ongoing focus. We addressed the homelessness issue years ago; we held 2 public meetings with our board and city staff including Toronto Police reps, Councilors, and Toronto Public Health talking about the issues of the safe injection sites, Shelter plans and operations. Details are in past minutes as well as postings on the bqna.ca site.

ACTION Every Rep needs to push the BQNA website and updates in their building. Remind people in the community that all are welcome to the monthly meetings. Circulate the upcoming agenda on your building's internal fb page or post physically.

3. **Community updates and announcements**

- Bushra: **Emergency Measures Advisory Team** is composed of Jacqueline McLaughlin, Maureen Callaghan, Wendy Fisher, Hal Beck and Diane Simon (both at Windward, and with YQNA). First

meeting Jan 10th on zoom @ 7 pm. We are happy with how the emergency measures advisory team was created.

- Bev: highlights from the **Community Liaison Committee** for the island airport/Ports Toronto held Nov 22nd –
 - RESA (Runway End Safety Area) extension is needed to comply with new regulations by 2027, but Ports Toronto wants assurance that the Tripartite Agreement is extended beyond 2033. By January 2024, PT will have made public their plan for expansion.
 - Juhi Matta is the new appointment for ESG matters (environment, social and governance) at PT. Juhi's key initiatives will be: net zero pathway, carbon accreditation, climate risk and gathering data for consolidated ESG Report. Warren Askey is the new Corporate Sustainability officer for PT. Gave a preclearance update, facility to be built within existing terminal.
 - Stolport update: speed camera installed on Eireann Quay northbound. Will get rid of old kiosk from parking/sea wall. New traffic and pedestrian study completion by Fall 2024. New park open in Fall 2024; Corleck will open later.
 - Sylvain Thereault, Fire Chief at BBTC: very involved in Emergency Response framework. Meeting every Wed since Nov 8th with City, and Toronto Police – goal is completion of framework by January 2024. They are looking at all different scenarios; clear roles, document all processes and strategies; and will deliver recommendations for public education and messaging.
 - Connect Airline is still working toward approval for BBTC

- Lesley: **Noise subcommittee**. Looking for volunteers to place noise monitor. Hoping for someone at 500 or 550 QQ for ground noise study. Looking for a couple on the east side. Lesley will contact volunteers in early January. Corrie on ground level unit 111, 34 Little Norway. Patio outside and can be placed all day. Now volunteered.

- **Caroline from MP Kevin Vuong's office update**. Kevin will cover the room rental for the Air Quality Public Meeting. Safety issues are a priority for Kevin Vuong. Some doctors are sounding alarm of safe supply strategy. See Marcus Gee's article in Toronto Star. Kevin has been receiving push back about his stance. Kevin continues to raise issue of shelter for all homelessness.

Holiday Event Dec 17 at Sweetie Pie restaurant. Distributing clothing to homelessness. Please call our office if you have any concerns about safety. Note most issues are a city oversight; federal elected MPs can only arrange a meeting to raise these concerns with the City. Steve Rashid will pass along concerns about his building's security problems. Caroline is leader of the safety file. Contact her at: Caroline.Ramos.501@parl.gc.ca

Discussion ensued about the safe injection site in the community and so close to the school. Previous BQNA meeting with Homes First and Toronto Public Health maintains that a safe injection

site reduces the use of drugs in public parks. BQNA has list of people to contact at bqna.ca See the Toronto Public Health contact for issues around homelessness and drug use.

We discussed if BQNA should strike a sub committee to deal with these safety issues specifically. If so, who would form this? Joan suggests Natasha take the lead and get TPH to make a presentation to their building as a follow up to the talks they gave at the BQNA meeting.

Joan: **Air Quality Update**

Ultra Fine Particles are not regulated, but are known to be dangerous to health; World Health Organization (WHO) has now set guidelines for UFPs. U of T researchers document that when wind blows from the south, the UFPs are 3 times higher due to aircraft takeoffs. Question is how the University of Toronto presentation will communicate this to the public. Measurements also show a decrease in carbon emissions and Particulate Matter 2.4 (PM 2.5) from diesel when the ferry was electrified. Toronto downtown city air is equally impacted with PM2.5. UFPs are also generated from any form of combustion and downtown UFPs are being generated by traffic.

Monday, January 22nd Public Meeting now set. 6.30 to 9 pm. At Waterfront Neighbourhood Centre Dance Studio. Presentation and discussion of the final report on Air Quality Monitoring in our community.

Lots of discussion about **next steps to prep for the public meeting.**

We need to do the outreach Community members, media, politicians;

There will be four break out groups to brainstorm ideas.

We need a poster for website, Ingrid will do. For now, everyone to circulate in their building: Save the Date. Joan to write up the info for Ingrid. Ingrid will post and then we can link our building to the bqna.ca announcement. Need to put posters on public message boards on the street. Poster message: Your voice matters, come have your say, plans to expand the airport so this is a timely issue. Learn new facts from the Air Quality study.

ACTION Planning meeting on Tuesday, January 9th. Draft press release, Jacqueline, Maureen, Lesley and anyone with contacts in the media. Invite Toronto Star journalist, Dawn can forward to a CBC producer. Joan will draft press release and simple backgrounder. Ingrid to post on website with QR code. Hannah also has a couple of journalist contacts.

Joan will send out a draft email along with a press release. Emphasizing 2 year study involving community campus partnership with research team. Ports Toronto, BQNA and U of T. The AQ presentation is timely because end of January the City will start hearing deputations as to whether or not the Tripartite Agreement is extended.

Each of the tables will have a facilitator from U of T; but BQNA reps need to be at each table.

Diane will write a letter to Subject Matter Experts in the medical and environmental community.

We can anticipate questions along the lines of: People who moved back to this area have witnessed the changes in air quality and noise quality. How do the air quality results impact our health? Future economy? Realtor? Environmental advocates, Parks and Recreation, Tourism, Music Garden events. How will this impact the economic value of this neighbourhood and future development plans? Bev/Joan to emphasize this to U of T.

If there is more money for another study, what should the focus be?

We also need to focus on mitigation strategies; 2 or 3 positive ideas around the table; people can put stickers/dots on the wall to reflect their biggest concerns and ways for the air quality to improve with concrete steps taken by Ports Toronto and Toronto Public Health.

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