



**Next Meeting: March 19, 2025 @ 7:00 p.m.**

**Minutes: February 19, 2025**

Present: (in person) Bev, Ingrid, Brian, Todd, Carolyn, Joan

Present: (virtual) Jacqueline, Hannah, Diane, Corrie, Max

Regrets: Holly, Maureen, Marisa

### **1. Approval of Agenda**

- Modifications:

Chris Glover not attending (due to election)

Coyote & off-leash dog issue added to agenda – to discuss with Marouan (Cllr Malik's office)

**Agenda approved as modified.**

### **2. Review and approval of Minutes from Jan 2025**

- Moved: Jacqueline, Seconded: Todd

**Approved.**

### **3. BQNA financial situation**

Current bank balance needs to be kept as buffer.

Anticipated expenses for the year is \$1,000 for basic expenses.

Current pricing of \$100 per building = ~\$1,000, just covers basic expenses.

**Resolution passed:** To raise annual contribution from buildings in BQNA from \$100 to \$125 per building.

### **4. Update from elected officials**



*MP Kevin Vuong*

- Ferry went into marine exclusion zone and hit part of the airport. No damage but created significant safety risk. Concerned it was not reported to Transportation Safety Board (TSB) when it happened in April 2024. MP Vuong's staff reached out to Minister of Transport and TSB, will keep community posted.
- Parliament prorogued. New Liberal leader to be elected March 9. Unclear when an election may happen. Kevin's constituency office will continue to operate if there is a federal election.
- There is a court challenge to the provincial decision to shut down the 545 Lakeshore safe consumption site (SCS). Kevin swore an affidavit supporting shutting down the SCS.
- Coyotes: At least 4 pets have been killed, needs to be addressed.

*Councillor Malik's office: Marouan Malaeb-Proux*

- BQNA expressed concerns about Cllr Malik's announcement of ceasing ticketing for off-leash dogs, as part of coyote response, as there have been off-leash dog attacks. Also the protection of coyotes, that are driven into public area due to recent habitat destruction, needs equal attention.
  - Marouan: Will have the responsible person from Cllr Malik's office respond.
  - Community members should report off-leash dogs through 311 for targeted enforcement.
- BQNA expressed concerns about car share vehicles parking on Little Norway & Bishop Tutu
  - Marouan: Communauto has 2 spots but 4 different cars were staying longer than the allowed 72 hours. Now resolved; Communauto will ensure rules are followed.
  - Marouan working with neighbourhood associations there to add Communauto parking in Fort York and Cityplace to alleviate the burden in BQN.
- Encampments in Little Norway Park:
  - Marouan: Working group will be created in next two weeks, a BQNA representative will be invited.
  - Since November, 26 encampments reduced to 3.
  - Security & Community Safety Teams there 24/7; Parks & Forestry there 1-2x/day, focused on removing combustibles; needle crews attend on weekends; Streets to Homes attends daily; other services also engaged.



- Last 3 people have all accepted housing, working on documentation & other details. Believes encampment will be resolved in next few weeks.
- Post-encampment plan: will send survey to BQNA & residents re what community wants from the park. Security & Community Safety Teams will remain 30 days after encampment ends, to ensure no one comes back.
- What happens when Better Living Centre temporary shelter space closes? – They get referred to other shelters. Nobody is “just discharged.” There are housing managers & case managers in Better Living Centre currently working on it.
- Safe consumption site (SCS) at 545 Lakeshore will close March 31. Concern the people who currently use drugs there will use in streets instead. City aware and working on plans for this.
  - MP Kevin Vuong: Province will be building Homelessness and Addiction Recovery Treatment (HART) hubs, funding allocated. SCS’s to close March 31, HART hubs to start April 1 so no gap
- City Council Motion to increase water taxi use in the harbour
  - BQNA expresses concern there are already too many and underutilized; hard for kayakers, sailing boats; Marouan will pass on this feedback & provide info on how community can raise concerns about boat speeds.

#### **5. Pirate Life renewal of license**

Pirate Life’s license was revoked because he did not comply with the terms of the license. He has since come into compliance and reapplied but has not heard back from the City. Requesting support from the community.

**Resolution:** To provide a letter on BQNA letterhead, supporting Pirate Life’s license application provided that they comply with the terms of the license.

#### **6. Update on Air Quality public engagement for March/April**

1. Event on AQ in Arcadia Art Gallery in March/April. We welcome ideas & volunteers for additional programming. Need to explore funding sources.

2. AQ committee met about why Ports Toronto’s hired consultant is doing AQ testing without input from the University of Toronto original researchers. Ports Toronto’s ESG sustainability reports contain conclusions inconsistent with independent researchers.



**Outcome:** Ports Toronto has agreed that key findings of the U of T researchers will replace the inaccurate information in the ESG report. AQ subcommittee and independent researchers will be involved in consultation about data before further data is released.

3. A meeting will be held in early March with AQ subcommittee, with CBC filming. Cllr Malik & staff are invited.

**Adjourned** at 9:00 p.m.