

**South Rosedale Ratepayers' Association
Minutes of Annual General Meeting
Toronto Lawn Tennis Club
Wednesday, November 11, 2009, 1900h**

The President, David Townley, took the Chair and minutes were taken by the SRRA Administrator. The Chair announced that a quorum was present and that the Meeting was properly constituted.

Minutes of the 2008 Annual General Meeting (“AGM”)

The Secretary summarised the Minutes of the 2008 AGM held on November 17, 2008.

- *It was **MOVED** by William Phillips, **SECONDED** by Barbara McGregor and **CARRIED** that the Minutes of the November 17, 2008 AGM be adopted.*

President's Report

The President gave the following Report:

I have had the pleasure and good fortune of living in South Rosedale for over 46 years and on the Board of the South Rosedale Ratepayers' Association for the last 8 years as President and the previous 8 years as Treasurer.

The SRRA may be considered one of Canada's oldest ratepayer groups and certainly one of the most active. Formally incorporated in 1931, the Association's Board is committed to providing South Rosedale's residents with a strong voice relative to the area's unique position as one of Toronto's most desirable residential communities. The Association is pro-active in such functional areas which impact South Rosedale as: the environment including trees, parks and ravines; heritage matters as they relate to South Rosedale being a designated Heritage District; both commercial and residential development and the resulting Committee of Adjustment and Ontario Municipal Board Hearings; policing and neighbourhood security issues; and roads and traffic matters.

To many of you, the face of the Association is our seasonal Newsletter, the Fall edition which you should have recently received in the mail with additional copies being available at tonight's Meeting.

I am particularly proud of the level of membership in the SRRA which stands at close to 50% of the single-family homes in the South Rosedale community and in addition, virtually all of the multi-unit condominium and co-ownership buildings in South Rosedale. Notwithstanding the current economic climate, in a perfect world, every household in South Rosedale would be a member of the Association, however I can confirm that the membership in total has remained relatively stable on an annual basis which is a testament to people's interest and pride in this community. That being said, we would love to see an increased level of membership participation and in that regard, I would ask that current members reach out to their neighbours who they know are not members, as well as recent newly arrived residents of South Rosedale to encourage them to join the Association.

I would like to take the opportunity to again introduce to the Meeting, Wilma Van Berkel who is now in her second year as part-time Administrator for the Association to aid the Board in organizing the “back office” component of the SRRA which is becoming increasingly complicated. With a strong background

in the not-for-profit sector, Wilma's skill set is much appreciated in contributing to the efficiency of our operation.

While we obviously focus on issues within the geographic boundaries of South Rosedale, as part of a much larger downtown residential community, opportunities continue to arise where the SRRA can work more closely with our fellow and adjoining neighbourhood ratepayer groups including North Rosedale, Governor's Road, Moore Park, Summerhill and ABC. Beyond our traditional joint efforts including federal, provincial and municipal all-candidates meetings held during election years and public meetings held to discuss community policing and security issues, we are increasingly finding areas of common interest where it makes sense for us to be either heard as either one voice, or to pro-actively work together on issues which affect us all as Toronto downtown residential communities. These would include issues such as the Don Valley Transportation Master Plan, Evergreen's plan for the Toronto Brickworks, and the proposed Jarvis Street Streetscape Project, as well as the reforestation issues and clean-up and tree and plant remediation of our inter-connecting ravines.

I would like to report on a several of the issues that the Association has dealt with during the year past.

Heritage Matters

The Board under the leadership of Alex Murray with support from ex-Board Member Ellen Hand and myself, continues to work closely with the City's Preservation Services Department Staff to ensure that major residential renovations are in keeping with South Rosedale's District Heritage Designation. This has now become a seamless process that works very well with the Board playing a consultative role to the City as ultimate decision maker.

I would note that we have only ever had one instance where we disagreed with the position of Preservation Staff and this only occurred recently. In this particular situation, we were encouraged that the position of the SRRA was ultimately influential in swaying the Toronto Heritage Board to approve a resident's application that had been initially opposed by Preservation Staff.

Committee of Adjustment/OMB Hearings

Alex Murray, our Senior Director continues to review all Committee of Adjustment Applications relevant to South Rosedale and plays an excellent role in acting as a liaison between Applicants and their architects and planners, as well as surrounding neighbours and City Staff where applicable. If we find that a matter finds itself heading down the path towards the Ontario Municipal Board, the SRRA will sometimes choose to appear with standing at a particular Hearing, with or without professional legal and planning representation.

On that subject, the SRRA did attend an OMB Hearing in December of last year and January of this year as it relates to a Crescent Road proposal to replace an existing three (3) car garage to the rear of a property with another residential house. The development concept of a "house behind a house" is one that has been consistently opposed by the SRRA, except in the case of continuously occupied coach houses. As an Association, we believe this concept is inconsistent with the Official Plan for the area and would set a very dangerous precedent for "infill" projects of this nature. I would note that the SRRA's position on this particular case was equally shared by our neighbours in North Rosedale.

We were joined in opposition to the proposal by not only the immediately affected neighbours who had obtained their own legal and planning representation, but also by the City Planning Department Staff and City Legal Counsel who also appeared. Much to our surprise, the OMB Hearing Officer rendered a

decision favourable to the Applicant in allowing the project to proceed. So, we do not win them all but at this time, there has been no sign of construction.

As always, I would like to give a special thanks to Councillor Kyle Rae and the members of his office, particularly his executive assistants, Mark Wilson and Ryan Lahr. Kyle has provided a very effective and sincere interest in the South Rosedale community, especially when his larger constituency cases him to face and deal with many more serious social issues. He is always available, returns telephone calls, is a great facilitator and certainly knows what buttons to push at City Hall to wade through bureaucracy and get results.

In closing, I would like to thank my fellow Directors and Officers of the SRRA Board for their keen level of support and dedication to the Association. In their volunteer capacity, Directors generously contribute their efforts and time to ensure that South Rosedale remains a unique and special area within Toronto. I would also like to send out our well wishes to fellow SRRA Director John Stewart who is convalescing after a serious illness. John was instrumental in his professional capacity as a lawyer in drafting the Association's revised Constitution which was passed and implemented at last year's AGM

Financial Statements

The Treasurer, Mary Lamon, presented the Financial Statements for the year ended August 31, 2009.

- *It was **MOVED** by Mary Lamon, **SECONDED** by William Phillips and **CARRIED** that the financial statements and Auditors' Report be accepted as presented.*
- *It was **MOVED** by Mary Lamon, **SECONDED** by Alex Murray and **CARRIED** that Adam & Miles LLP, Chartered Accountants be appointed auditors of the South Rosedale Ratepayers' Association for the fiscal year ending August 31, 2010.*

Nomination Committee Report:

Yvonne Catty presented the Report of the Nominating Committee.

- *It was **MOVED** by Sheldon Hellin, **SECONDED** by William Phillips and **CARRIED** that Alex Murray, David Townley, Don Hogarth and Mary Lamon be re-elected as Directors of the South Rosedale Ratepayers' Association for three-year terms, ending 2012.*

Approving Acts of the Directors:

- *It was **MOVED** by Wilf Dinnick, **SECONDED** by David Kerr and **CARRIED** that all acts done and taken by the Directors and Officers of the Corporation on its behalf since the date of the last AGM be approved.*

Other Business:

The following subjects were raised by members from the floor:

- Construction taking place at Castle Frank TTC station. Councillor Rae indicated that fire exits were being constructed at either end of the platform.
- The junction of Nesbitt and Glen Road and the tail backs developing at the evening rush hour.

- The geographic and time restrictions on the off-leash area in Craighleigh Gardens. Councillor Rae indicated that enforcement is complaint driven.
- The signage into the ravine from the neighbourhood is unclear as to whether the ravine is an off-leash area.
- Restricted parking during set hours and the possibility of excluding actual residents. Councillor Rae indicated that the common mechanism for resident is permit parking.
- The issue of excessive noise arising from use of certain types of leaf blowers. Councillor Rae indicated that there is an existing noise bylaw and residents can call the bylaw enforcement officer.

David Townley indicated that these matters would be reviewed at the upcoming Board of Directors meeting and follow-up action taken as agreed.

Termination:

The President thanked everyone for attending and invited Members to stay for the talk by Christopher Hume and enjoy the refreshments. The meeting was terminated at 2055.

/wvb