

January 2014

Moore Park News

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IDENTIFYING, ADVOCATING AND ACTING ON NEIGHBOURHOOD CONCERNS
IN ORDER TO ENHANCE MOORE PARK.

Annual General Meeting

January 23rd, 2014, 7:00 pm

(registration begins at 6:30 pm)

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church

78 Clifton Road (Clifton & St. Clair West)

The Evergreen Brick Works and Mud Creek Ravine Hillside Restoration

At our Annual General Meeting on January 23rd, we will have two guest speakers:

- **Melissa K. Yu**, a Project Manager at **Evergreen Brick Works**. Melissa Yu works on community programs and events related to Evergreen Brick Works and in the Lower Don Valley. Ms. Yu will discuss trail access, habitat restoration, use and programs at Evergreen.
- **Karen R. Wianecki**, Director of Practice with **Planning Solutions Inc.**, the consulting company working with the City on a plan for protecting and restoring the ravine hillsides of Mud Creek and work with private landowners abutting the ravine to do erosion control landscaping and planting.

Please come to our Annual General Meeting.

If you are unable to attend, please complete and return the Proxy on the last page of this newsletter.

Boring News from Hydro One

The tunnel excavation from Mount Pleasant to Bayview Junction is complete (total distance was 1550 metres), and the tunnel is being lined with concrete. The concrete pouring activities are occurring at the Bayview junction site, and they expect that the section from Mount Pleasant to Bayview Junction will be complete by April 2014.



The tunnel boring machine (TBM) is now moving west towards the Birch Jct site, located at Birch Ave and Yonge

Street. They expect that the tunnel boring portion of work will be complete by March, 2014. Spoil from the west leg of the tunnel is being removed from the main shaft on Mount Pleasant just as it was for the east leg. Technicore will then continue with the concrete lining, which will occur at the Mount Pleasant site, to line the west half of the tunnel. They expect this to begin in April and anticipate that it will take approximately 8 to 12 weeks.

You Like it here – you really like it!

When Toronto Life tallied up the scores for Toronto’s best neighbourhood in their summer 2013 issue, Rosedale-Moore Park came first.

See the article at <http://goo.gl/8wpTA1>

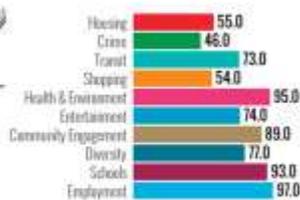
But we’ve known that for years.

If you’d like to learn more about the history of Moore Park, then you’ll want to read **Historic Moore Park**, a ‘walking tour’ history of the neighbourhood first published by the MPRA in 1984, under the editorial leadership of Donna Baker.

This living history was then updated in 2004 by editor Beth Marley and her committee to include additional anecdotes about Moore Park, along with photographs and other relevant findings.

The monograph has been enjoyed by the community and, in 2005, it was nominated for a Heritage Toronto Award.

To order your copy for only \$10, please go here: <http://www.moorepark.org/moore-park-history>



Kay Gardner Beltline Study

The City, in association with the Toronto Regional Conservation Authority and the Bateman Foundation, conducted a study in 2013 to improve the Beltline Trail which includes the ravines adjacent to homes in Rosedale, Moore Park, Bennington Heights and Governors Bridge.

The Beltline Trail study was completed April 2013. A copy of it is available at: <http://goo.gl/7TW9ka>

The report recommended 5 "Quick Start" projects as most feasible in the short term:

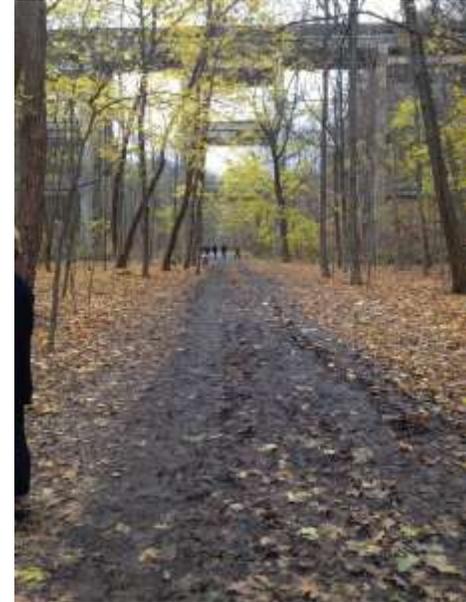
1. Construct a trail switchback connection between Chorley Park and the Don Valley Brickworks
2. Construct a switchback trail access from the Health Street bridge to the Beltline Trail
3. Develop wayfinding and

signage strategies and design improvements for trails in ravine and natural environment parks.

4. Develop a detailed plan for restoration of the natural environment in Restoration Priority Zone 1 (Moore Park Ravine)
5. Plan a pilot project for engagement of private landowners and best management practices for stewardship of properties adjacent to ravine and natural environment parks.

MPRA pushed hard for point #5 and is currently working with the City to develop a plan to use to approach MPRA landowners whose properties back onto the ravine.

For more information, please contact Chris Lowry or Bill Rosenfeld.



Poor drainage of the path along Mud Creek make people walk on the edges thereby widening the path.

Crime Prevention tips

Home and auto break-ins are on the rise in our neighbourhood. Interestingly, peak hours are from 4-8pm.

53 Division suggests you do a few things to make your home, car and neighbourhood safer:



- Keep your home and car doors locked at all times.
- Don't leave valuables in your car, particularly if they are exposed.
- Do not leave your car running in the driveway or roadway – it can be stolen easily.
- Use outdoor lights on timers or photocells to make your property well lit and unwelcoming to intruders.
- Have your neighbours collect your papers and/or mail if you are away.
- Put timers on your indoor lights to make it look as though someone is home.
- If you see anything suspicious call Metro Police at 911 for emergencies or 53 Division at 416-808-5300

For further information on 53 Division's Community Police Liaison Committee, please contact Don Cameron.

Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

MOUNT PLEASANT CEMETERY is therefore the property of the citizens, and its affairs are managed by a Board of Trustees, chosen according to law, who have no private interest whatever in the trust, and representing the principal religious communities whose custom or usage place no impediments to the burial of the dead without regard to the religious opinions they hold or to denominational ceremonies.

By order of the Trustees,

W. F. McMASTER, Sec.

Toronto, 3rd October, 1876.

Mount Pleasant Cemetery Governance Issues

"Mount Pleasant Cemetery is therefore the property of the citizens..."

The Friends of the Toronto Public Cemeteries (the "Friends") is a not-for-profit organization that was incorporated in January 2013. As stated on its website at <http://friendstpc.jimdo.com>, its primary purpose is to advocate to the government of Ontario for positive change and increased transparency and accountability through the interpretation, enforcement and updating of legislation governing the Mount Pleasant Group of Cemeteries (MPGC).

In April 2013, the Friends filed an application with the Ontario Superior Court of Justice. The application asks for the court to make several declarations as to the status of the Mount Pleasant Group of Cemeteries ("MPGC") including, that:

- the Burying Grounds Trust ("BGT") was created in 1826 by a Special Act of Upper Canada for purchasing land in operating a general burying ground for inhabitants of the Town of York;
- MPGC was incorporated in 1871 by an amendment of the Special Act for the sole purpose of acting as trustee for the Burying Grounds Trust;
- the BGT is a charitable purpose trust;
- the MPGC is a charitable corporation;
- the 1871 Special Act continues to govern the BGT and the MPGC; and
- both were created for the benefit of the public.

The Friends have filed three affidavits as their evidence in support of their application. They are affidavits from:

- Lorraine Tinsley, the Chair of the Friends, an independent consultant specializing in corporate social and environmental responsibility, and Moore Park resident.
- Pamela Taylor, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Friends, a lawyer and Moore Park resident, whose affidavit attaches many historical documents; and
- Leonard Knott, a former public relations consultant for MPGC from the 1960's until 1985, who lives next to the Mt. Pleasant cemetery and whose affidavit also attaches many historical documents.

In Reply, The Ontario Public Guardian and Trustee ("OPGT") has filed an affidavit of Nicholas Hedley, its Acting Director of Legal Services. His affidavit provides the Court with information principally focusing on MPGC's status as a charity.

In applications to court such as this, the usual procedure is for each party to cross-examine the other party's witnesses and then have an oral hearing. MPRA contacted the lawyers for both sides of the application to ask what was the schedule but, as of the time of going to press, no replies had been received.

Planning, Zoning and FoNTRA – Jeremy Gawen

This has been a busy construction season in Moore Park with lots of renovation and a number of houses demolished to be replaced (usually) by much larger houses. The good news is that the renovation is generally being done respecting the Zoning Bylaw so we have had very few applications to the Committee of Adjustment (COA) for this activity. It's worth noting that, to encourage renovation, the City allows the owner to increase the size of his or her house by about 15% more than allowed for a new house so if you are surprised by the size of the renovated houses, this is probably the reason why.

The demolitions are another story; the owners of every one of them have applied to the COA seeking significant variances. We review each situation against the guidelines we developed some years ago and, after

checking with the neighbours, if we believe the variances are reasonable, we will not oppose the application. If the variances are too large, in our judgment or if neighbours are opposed, we try to negotiate with the owner to reach a compromise position. Our Councilor, Kristyn Wong Tam, and her staff have been very helpful on a number of occasions in this regard.

We have only had two recent applications for which we considered the variances too large. One was negotiated to a satisfactory conclusion. The other at 240 Rose Park was deferred at the November 20th meeting of the COA because both we and the City Planner for this area objected to both the size and the fact that the proposed house would significantly encroach on the front yard.

At 182 Moore Avenue, the COA had refused the

request to demolish the house, sever the lot into 2 lots and build 2 townhouses, the owner then appealed to the OMB where, unfortunately, she won the appeal so we will lose another charming older house to be replaced by 2 modern ones.

Another proposal which requested a 47% larger house than the bylaw allows, was approved by the COA last winter, despite our strenuous objections. This was a particularly unreasonable decision, in our view and that of the next door neighbour, and the latter has appealed the decision to the OMB which will hear it next April.

Two members of our Committee recently attended a FoNTRA meeting at which the guest speaker was Jennifer Keesmaat, the City's new Chief Planner.

We were all very impressed and hope to see a more neighbourhood friendly attitude coming from the City's Planning Department.

Join MPRA & attend our AGM

Learn what your community association is doing for you.

Meet your neighbours; ask questions; elect your Board of Directors and stay in touch with relevant issues.

Membership Form

Name / Resident(s): _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____ Home Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Fees: \$40 for one year (until Dec. 31/15) OR \$100 for three years (until Dec. 31/17)

Moore Park Residents' Association, P.O. Box 25, 1531 Bayview Ave. Toronto ON M4G 4G8

Moore Park Residents Association

P.O. Box 25
1531 Bayview Ave.
Toronto, ON M4G 4G8

membership@moorepark.org

www.moorepark.org

Board of Directors

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Charles Zimmerman
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Notice of Annual Meeting Agenda

Thursday, January 23rd, 2014

7:00 pm, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 78 Clifton Road

Agenda

1. President's Report
2. Official Business:
 - a) Approval of Minutes from AGM held April 2, 2013;
 - b) Financial Report for FY ending 2013;
 - c) Election of Directors for a term of 2 years until the FY 2015 AGM:
PJ Gordon, Jeremy Gawen, Carlo Giuliani, Ellen Greenwood.
3. Guest Speakers
 - Melissa K. Yu, Evergreen Brick Works
 - Karen R. Wianecki, Planning Solutions Inc.,
4. Introduction of other guests
5. Other Business
6. Adjournment

PROXY

The undersigned member of the Moore Park Residents' Association (the "Corporation") hereby irrevocably constitutes and appoints Don Cameron, President of the Corporation, or failing him, PJ Gordon, Treasurer of the Corporation, or _____, as proxy of the undersigned to attend, act and vote in the name of the undersigned in all matters presented before the members at the annual meeting of the members of the Corporation to be held on Thursday, January 23, 2014 at 7:00 pm at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 78 Clifton Road, Toronto and any and all adjournments thereof.

Without limiting the generality of the power hereby conferred, the undersigned hereby directs the said proxy holder to vote the shares represented by this form of proxy in the following manner:

1. FOR or WITHHOLD FROM VOTING FOR an ordinary resolution electing a number of directors of the Corporation for a two year term;
2. FOR or WITHHOLD FROM VOTING FOR an ordinary resolution accepting the financial statements presented by the Corporation;
3. FOR or AGAINST an ordinary resolution approving the minutes of last year's annual general meeting;

4. At the discretion of the said proxy holder, upon any amendment or variation of the above matters or any other matter that may be properly brought before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

DATED at _____, the ____ day of _____, 2014.

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

FILE ONE (1) COPY OF THIS PROXY FORM WITH THE MPRA BY SENDING IT:
by Post: to P.O. Box 25, 1531 Bayview Ave. Toronto, ON M4G 4G8
by email: scanned copy by email to membership@moorepark.org.
by dropping it person to: Don Cameron at 44 Old Bridle Path, Toronto.