

West Toronto Junction Historical Society

2 November 2023

7 pm General Meeting (In Person at St. John's Anglican Church West Toronto and on Zoom)

Draft

In Attendance: Ward Noble (Recording Secretary); Peggy Mooney (Treasurer); Diana Fancher (Archives); Cass Pollack (Leader & Recorder); Chris Rutty (St. John's Anglican West Toronto); Adrian Shincariol (Membership) in person. Dave Muir (Corresponding Secretary); Richard Lundeen (past Vice President); Vandra Masemann (Leader & Recorder) via Zoom.

Total attendance:

20 people via Zoom

27 people in person

Minutes recorded by Ward Noble

Item	Description	Action
1	Welcome - The meeting was called to order by Ward Noble at 7:03. Ward read the Land Acknowledgment	
2	Ward introduced Andrew McConnell. Andrew shared a presentation entitled "Aazhgemog-Crossroads" about the history of the Carrying Place and many of the indigenous people who played a part of the history of the area including Joseph Sawyer, Peter Jones, and Catherine Bunch/Brown. He told many wonderful stories and shared a view of different aspects of indigenous history, life, and language as an Anishinaabe and Ojibwe of the Nippising First Nation and a member of the Crane Clan.	
3	Break - Refreshments provided by Diana and Ruth in conjunction with Chris Rutty and the church.	
4	Welcome - the business part of the meeting was called to order by Ward at 8:20. Quorum of 10 was verified. There were problems with the microphone and it was hard for people on Zoom to hear at times.	
5	Minutes of General Meeting from May 4, 2023 - Ward shared the highlights of the minutes and moved acceptance of the May minutes. Peggy seconded. CARRIED.	
6	Business Arising from the Minutes - None	
7	Treasurer's Report - Peggy outlined the current state	

	<p>of the budget. Peggy moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Cass seconded. CARRIED</p>	
8	<p>Membership Report - Adrian As of Oct. 15, total membership of 164 members, including 26 life members and 5 life members in the 2022 protocol (fixed rate 10 year membership), 133 regular members.</p> <p>Adrian moved acceptance of the Membership Report. Ward seconded. CARRIED.</p>	
9	Updates and Announcements	
a.	<p>Expanding Housing Options in Neighbourhoods rezoning as it applies to West Toronto Junction - Diana followed up about the Vine Ave. property (currently The Sweet Potato) and its possible rezoning to condominiums as mentioned in the May 4 minutes. The city agreed with the heritage nature of the area and the rezoning will not proceed.</p> <p>Diana then shared the possibility of a rezoning of part of Annette St to 6-story residential buildings. She is working on the society's behalf, along with local residents' associations and the Junction Heritage Conservation District and they will be meeting next week with the city planners.</p> <p>She shared that there is a book sale of both the red book and the green book at local book stores. We have already collected \$390 from our two major book stores as part of the sale.</p>	
b.	<p>Nominating Committee Update - Vandra David Plank has agreed to stay on as vice-president while a new president is found.</p> <p>Vandra outlined the work that the nominating committee has done and where it is going in its search for a new president. (see attached report).</p> <p>Vandra suggested that we put out the call for volunteers at the beginning of the meeting while we have a larger audience.</p>	<p>Ward will attach the report to the minutes. He will also put a statement about the open positions on the December meeting agenda to be read at the beginning of the meeting.</p>
c.	<p>Future Speakers - Dave outlined that speakers are needed for next year. He has a list of possible speakers, but nothing is concrete yet.</p> <p>Chris Rutty outlined the December 7 event about the history of the St. John's church at its current location.</p>	
d.	Licensing agreement with TPL update – Ward	

	The agreement has been provided by the Toronto Public Library at long last. Christian signed the agreement before resigning, and Peggy arranged payment.	
e.	Leader & Recorder Update - Cass shared that the third edition is being prepared and is expected for December.	
f.	Other business - none	
10	Gib Goodfellow moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50pm.	

Nominations Committee Search for a new President

by Vandra Masemann

We regret to inform you that the President of the West Toronto Junction Historical Society, Christian von Donat, has resigned on account of family illness. We are very thankful to Christian for his inspired leadership since May of this year. He had many plans and a wide vision of the future of the Society, and we are sorry that we will not see his vision realised.

Now we must set about the task of finding a new President. We are exploring various avenues such as Volunteer Toronto, personal contacts, new members of the Society, social media, retired teachers in the Junction, and our publication, *The Leader and Recorder*.

What are the essential qualifications for our new President? First of all, they would be an existing member of the Society or else willing to join. We also need someone who is familiar with the Society or with the history of the Junction and its surrounding neighbourhoods. They need to have experience at chairing meetings and have an ability to organize the activities of the society. They would also need to recognize that the digital revolution is upon us, and that we will need to adapt to the new modes of communication, historical research, archival development, heritage conservation, and liaison with other historically-minded groups. On our website, the duties of a President are listed as follows:

- chairs all Executive and public meetings
- prepares communication for WTJHS-related matters or delegates this
- prepares meeting agendas with input from the Executive
- is ex-officio member of all committees and groups
- presents Annual Report to the members at the AGM
- connects to various external entities, such as the bank, the Toronto Public Library, the Junction community, and business groups

If you have the above qualifications and the motivation to offer yourself as our new President, please contact David Muir at junctionhistorical@gmail.com. We would be glad to discuss the position with you and answer any questions you may have.