

# URA UNIONVILLE RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

*Your Voice...Makes Our Voice Stronger!*

[www.unionvilleratepayers.com](http://www.unionvilleratepayers.com)

**URA General Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, April 7, 2014**  
**Varley Art Gallery**

**Directors present:** Peter Miasek, Alick Siu, Brian Brewer, Gene Genin, Keing Li, Reid McAlpine and David Wilson

**Regrets:** Donna Day and Jeff Morris

**Elected officials present:** Deputy Mayor Jack Heath, and Councillor Don Hamilton (Ward 3)

**Attendance:** Approximately 30 members and guests attended

## **PRESIDENT'S INTRODUCTION**

The meeting was called to order in the Varley Art Gallery meeting room by Peter Miasek, President, at 7:05pm. Peter welcomed members, elected officials, and guests.

It was confirmed that a quorum was achieved, thus enabling the Association to do business.

## **APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING REPORT**

Members reviewed the previous meeting report from March 3, 2014. No revisions were requested.

Motion: That the March 3, 2014 meeting report be approved.

Reid McAlpine made the motion. Wes Rowe seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Brian Brewer, Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report to the Association. Highlights presented include:

- Operating Fund Bank Balance \$10,813
- Heritage Fund Bank Balance \$1,684
- Total Funds \$12,497

The Association's savings account was closed. It was deemed not to be needed.

A \$9,000 investment certificate has been acquired. It has a 30-day liquidation notice.

## **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

A Membership Report was not presented at the meeting.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS/FOCUS TOPICS**

The activities of the Association's committees and selected focus topics were presented.

### **Unionville Main Street Master Plan**

Peter Miasek presented an update.

The Association is part of the steering committee for the Main Street Unionville study that will define a 30-year vision for the Unionville Core District. Revisions to the Unionville Secondary Plan and Zoning by-laws were presented at a statutory public meeting on February 4, 2014. URA made a deputation to the City supporting the staff report recommending approval of additional restaurant floor space and permitting additional uses. City staff submitted a second report seeking additional feedback. A subsequent meeting was held at DSC on February 25, 2014 with one deputation supporting the revised staff report. The report was submitted to Council for approval at the March 5, 2014 meeting.

The Master Plan study is currently wrapping up with some details still to be reviewed. A comprehensive analysis and proposal is expected. The City expects imminent release of the report.

Michael Morrissey (author) is scheduled to present the study results at the combined URA/UVA meeting scheduled for May 5, 2014. *[Post-meeting note: This presentation has been postponed due to the unavailability of the presenter. URA/UVA will reschedule when possible.]*

### **Section 37 Funds and Potential Projects**

Peter Miasek presented an update.

URA is currently developing an evaluation strategy for use to prioritize its support for the 23 potential community projects suggested by members. The project ideas range from open space enhancement, facilities, transit, and road/cycle/pedestrian infrastructure.

### **Markham Centre (Enterprise/Rivis Development)**

Peter Miasek presented an update.

Markham Centre Development Corporation has recently proposed a new development in the southwest quadrant of Enterprise Drive/Rivis Road intersection. It will consist of 1,400 residential units and an office building. City staff has identified several concerns including the proposed building height, site density, combination of land uses and lack of compatibility with current growth projections.

A public meeting will be held on May 6, 2014. Time and location details will be communicated once known.

### **Markham Public Library**

Peter Miasek presented an update.

A public consultation meeting was held on April 1 in Unionville (and at other times in other communities within the City) to gain additional perspective on MPL's proposed strategic plan.

### **GO Transit Horn Mitigation**

Peter Miasek presented an update.

URA participates in a committee reviewing opportunities to reduce or eliminate the need for GO Transit train signalling (blowing horn) at grade crossings with the City. A recent review of mitigation strategies suggests that the implementation cost may be lower than previously anticipated.

The GO Horn committee will meet at 1pm on April 8, 2014 at the Markham Civic Centre to review the updated cost implications noted.

### **Metrolinx GTHA Transit Proposals**

Peter Miasek presented an update.

Metrolinx will be presenting an overview of its current transit plan proposals at 6:30 on April 8, 2014 in Richmond Hill (Presbyterian Church on Yonge Street).

### **COUNCIL AND REGION ISSUES UPDATE**

#### **Local Issues**

##### **Markham University Campus**

Deputy Mayor Jack Heath provided an overview.

In January, the provincial government requested that Ontario universities consider opportunities to extend the reach of post-secondary education into under-served markets. The City is fully supportive of locating the campus within Markham Centre. York University is now considering Markham as a possible location for a satellite campus; the City was one of several municipalities making presentations to York to influence a favourable decision. A possible joint-venture between York University and Seneca College was also noted. Other universities have not openly expressed an interest in expanding to Markham. There will likely be a need for the City to provide land and possibly other infrastructure improvements in support of the bid for a new university campus. URA representatives (Peter Miasek, Gord Walter, and Jack Mather) expressed support of the project to the City's committee on April 7, 2014.

##### **Lichfield Road**

Ward 3 Councillor Don Hamilton provided an overview.

The City recently met with the local community to discuss possible approaches for Lichfield Road when the lands to the west are developed. The roadway is currently stubbed with a temporary cul-de-sac. Options discussed include extending the roadway to the west or constructing a permanent cul-de-sac. The local community has expressed an interest to have a permanent cul-de-sac, assuming concerns with refuse collection and snow plowing can be resolved.

##### **Village Parkway/Highway 7**

Ward 3 Councillor Don Hamilton provided an overview.

The City recently met with the developer with the aim to have the lands consolidated. This initiative is still in progress.

#### **Regional Issues**

Not discussed.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Not discussed.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjournment proposed by Cristal Reeh and seconded by Gord Mah at 7:45 pm.

Next meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on Monday, May 5, 2014 at the Varley Art Gallery, 216 Main Street, Unionville.

### **SPECIAL GUEST PRESENTATION**

Peter Miasek presented "Markham Centre and Ward 3 – Population Projections and Implications".

*[Post-meeting discussion: The members supported the recommendation that URA present these findings to the City as soon as possible.]*