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**URA Member Meeting Minutes**  
**June 6, 2016**  
**Pan Am Centre**

**URA Directors:**

Alick Siu, Karen Lui, Peter Miasek, Gene Genin, Tom Davies, Adam Poon & Reid McAlpine  
Regrets: Donna Day

**Elected Officials:**

Councillor: Don Hamilton (Ward 3)

**Attendance:** Approximately 20 members

**1. President's Introduction**

The meeting was called to order by URA President, Alick Siu, at 7:05 PM. Alick welcomed members and elected officials.

**2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

April 4, 2016 meeting minutes were not approved due to late publishing.

**3. Membership Report**

No Report was presented at the meeting.

**4. Treasurer's Report**

No Report was presented at the meeting.

**5. Committee Reports & Focus Topics**

**5.1 OMB Reform Update**

Don Hamilton advised that the first OMB Reform meeting was very productive. Consensus across participants was to maintain the OMB and improve it rather than discard all together. The key issue was how to prevent the OMB from overriding Official Plans that are vetted and approved by several levels of government. A second meeting is scheduled. Date and time to be determined.

**5.2 Main Street Vision**

Peter's confirmed that the Advisory Committee's first meeting is scheduled for June. Reid will be representing the URA on the committee. Coincidentally, Don Hamilton mentioned that there were rumors of building going up behind the Queens Hotel.

### 5.3 Tree Preservation

Update deferred.

### 5.4 Unionville Festival URA Membership

Six new members joined the URA and three renewed their membership at the festival. Membership stands at 200 households with 41% paid up.

## **6. Council Updates**

As a result of the by-law review project, Councillor Don Hamilton confirmed that 80 addresses were submitted to front parking pad by-law infringement in response to lax by-law enforcement.

## **7. New Business**

Maria Cummings asked that the URA endorse two motions regarding illegal signage enforcement and a proposed setback reduction for the old Village Grocer property.

Motion regarding illegal signs:

URA requests that city staff enhance the penalties imposed on businesses posting illegal signs.

Seconded by Tom Davies

Motion carried.

Motion regarding proposed setback changes to old Villager Grocer site:

URA to send letter to Committee of Adjustment opposing the application because of the substantial reduction in setbacks. Approval of the setback change would open the door for the approval of other requests thereby compromising the integrity of neighbourhood planning.

Seconded by Harry Eaglesham

Motion carried.

## **8. Transportation Sub-Committee Update**

Peter Miasek confirmed that Your Region was finalizing its Transportation Master Plan. With York Region having the highest congestion in the GTHA, the planners have their work cut out. An overview if the plan will be presented at a later date.

## **9. Markham Comprehensive By-Law Reform Sub-Committee Update**

URA member, Geoffrey Pyne, presented an overview of the City's by-law reform initiative and the recommendations submitted on May 19, 2016 by the URA sub-committee. The recommendations touched upon, shared housing, rooming housing, student housing and secondary suites.

Interestingly the Committee of Adjustments was deemed out of scope of the by-law review. Apparently provincial legislation is pending to help municipalities define, more precisely, what constitutes a "minor variance".

## **10. Meeting Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM

Next meeting scheduled for September 8, 2016