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**URA Member Meeting Minutes**  
**October 3, 2016**  
**Pan Am Centre**

**URA Directors:**

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

**Elected Officials:**

Councillor: Don Hamilton (Ward 3)  
Regional Councillor: Nirmala Armstrong

**Attendance:** Approximately 25 members

**1. President's Introduction**

URA Director, Reid McAlpine, called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. Reid welcomed members and elected officials.

**2. Membership Matters**

2.1 Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2016 meeting minutes' stand approved as read.

2.2. Membership Report

Director, Donna Day, confirmed that membership stood at 300 Ward 3 households. 45% were paid-up and that 28% of memberships will expire at calendar year-end.

2.3 Treasurer's Report

In anticipation of a full report at November's AGM, Director Donna Day, provided a preliminary Treasurer's report. The highlights included a bank balance \$2,935 and consistent current year quarter to previous year quarter membership revenue.

**3. Committee Reports & Focus Topics**

3.1 Unionville Home Society Redevelopment

Based on a recent meeting, Harry Eaglesham provided an overview of the latest development plans. Phase 1 has the region building 250-unit tower in 2020. Once complete, this phase frees up the cottage properties for redevelopment. Phase 2, scheduled for 2022-24 has Minto building traditional and stacked townhouses on the remaining property. Due to soil conditions, building density will be reduced from the levels originally proposed.

3.2 Secondary Suites, Rooming Houses & Short Term Accommodation (STA)

Geoff Pyne has been following the pending zoning by-law changes and provided the following updates:

- a) Rooming houses are currently not permitted and will not be permitted in Markham
- b) Currently the only short term accommodation permitted are bed and breakfast businesses. Under the proposed changes other STA's, such as Airbnb, will be permitted but will require licensing to maintain uniform safety standards

A City of Markham's by-law change open house is planned for Oct 11, 2016. Final recommendations to Markham's Development Services Council are schedule for late 2016 or early 2017.

A key issue raised by members was whether the by-law changes included the regulation of vacant housing.

### 3.3 Main Street Vision

Don Hamilton provided a brief update on the Main St. vision planning:

- a) \$400,000 was requested for a public washroom
- b) Don confirmed that Don Heath requested more funding for additional by-law enforcement staff
- c) No update on the Street Scape Study
- d) No update on the Highway #7/Main St Gateway Study
- e) A request for increased heritage funding is being considered to fund completion of the secondary plan
- f) Building maintenance: region to request additional funding
- g) Parking Optimization: the TRCA is against building a parking deck on the east-side in floodplain area, but proposed a list of studies needed to move the idea forward

### **4. Council Updates**

With respect to the Safe Needle Injection Site study, Don Hamilton circulated a letter from MP Bob Soroya, but also acknowledged that residents' responses are wide-ranging and lacked consensus.

Nirmala Armstrong advised that she has asked the City to implement video streaming to improve accessibility of Council and major committee meetings. Don Heath has submitted a 2017 budget request.

### **5. New Business**

None

### **6. Closing Remarks**

Next meeting and AGM scheduled for November 7, 2016 at the Pan Am Centre

### **7. Meeting Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM

### **8. Special Presentation – 28 Main Street Zoning Update**

Guest speaker, Architect David Butterworth presented an update on the zoning changes under consideration for the 28 Main Street (Main Street & Enterprise) site. With the property, recently changing ownership the new developers have significantly changed the building plans. The key changes include reducing the number of buildings from three to two, while maintaining the 685-unit count, and the addition of a small open park adjacent to Main Street and Enterprise. Since the park would sit on top of an underground parking lot, park ownership would have to be shared between the property owner and Markham. The City planners are reluctant to place a park at that location, but the design is under peer review by Markham's Design Review Panel.