

**Minutes
York-Eglinton BIA
Board Meeting
Wednesday February 19, 2007
Maria A. Shchuka Library
6:30 p.m. – 8:30p.m.**

PRESENT:

Nick Alampi-Chair
Arnold Rowe – Vice Chair
Marjorie Renwick-Treasurer
Vennicia Allen – Board Member
Roland Beggs-Board Member
Rohan Singh – Board Member
Abdulwassie Berhan-Board Member
Angelo Zito-Board Member
Ben Rothman-Rep. Councillor Moscoe’s Office
Michael Saunders-City of Toronto Economic Development

ABSENT

Henrich Plummer – Secretary

Call to Order

The meeting was call to order at 6:35pm

Welcome by Chairman

Nick Alampi, the Chairman welcomes members.

Apologies for Absences

Mr. Henrich Plummer and Roland Beggs were unable to attend due to business commitments

Reading and Correction of the Minutes of January 17, 2007

The minutes was read and correction by Arnold Rowe was noted
Arnold Rowe pointed out the incorrect spelling of the word levy on page two. The word should read, “*levy*” instead of *levee*

The motion to accept the minutes was moved by Arnold Rowe and seconded by Marjorie Renwick

Arnold Rowe brought to the attention of the meeting the fact that the city has approved the board nominees that were sent in after 2006 AGM

Mr. Michael Saunders read the names approved by council.

Arnold Rowe asked that the board hold the election of the executive at the beginning of the meeting.

Nick Alampi asked if he is still chair.

Mrs. Renwick told Mr. Alampi that he is chair until the election is held. She agreed that the new executives should be to be elected.

Mr. Saunders informed the meeting that they could elect their executives now or at the end of the meeting where it is listed on the agenda.

Abdul Berhan and Angelo Zito agreed that the electing of the board executives should be held at the end of the meeting. This presented some confusion and further disagreements. Ben Rothman clarified that both parties are correct.

A vote was cast for those in favour of holding the elections at the beginning of the meeting and those in favour of holding it at the end. Those in favour of holding the meeting at the end of the meeting won in a vote of 6 to 1.

Nick Alampi handed over the chair to Arnold Rowe in order to present his Report on the final work on the planter boxes.

Planter Boxes

Nick Alampi stated he received a phone call from Victor Adessa of Systems Electric stating that he had completed all the work and will be furnishing a certificate as proof of power disconnection.

Hydro Pole

Ritta Roach reported that Toronto Hydro Street Lighting Inc has completed work on the Globe Lights and have sent in the final invoice.

Nick Alampi asked Ritta Roach to obtain Toronto Hydro to enter into a one-year maintenance contract for the globe lights

Arnold Rowe hand over the chair back to Nick Alampi.

Relocation

Mr. Alampi informed the board that he and Arnold Rowe have located a commercial property at 1668 Eglinton Avenue W for the relocation of the BIA office. The Sobaro Group owns the storefront property. Mr. Alampi further added that he had obtained a four-year lease agreement with 60-day renewal on the anniversary date. He said that the document is in the read only format sent to members e-mail addresses.

Nick Alampi stated that Mark of the Sobara Group said that it would not be a problem to have a year-to-year lease that would be re-signed on the anniversary date.

Mr. Alampi explained to the board that the place needs to be renovated and that he had asked for one-month free rent in exchange for doing the necessary repairs. He said that the rent is \$650 plus security deposit, which brings it up to \$689 times 2 for first and last.

Nick Alampi asked Michael Saunders about the leaseholder. He explained that this is an active BIA recognized by the City. Mr. Alampi stated that he is asking the board to make a decision regarding this location.

Nick Alampi moved a motion that empowered the executives to enter into the lease with the Sobara Group for the property at 1668 Eglinton Avenue W. This motion was second by Abdul Berhan.

Nick Alampi also requested that the BIA allocate \$650.00 dollars for graphic work, signage and \$150.00 labour to be completed by Victor Adessa of Systems Electric.

Arnold Rowe asked if the BIA was incurring another month's rent at the current location.

Ben Rothman asked if there is a budget for cleaning up the space

Nick Alampi said that he would get paint donated by Home Depot.

Marjorie Renwick moved a motion that the board allocate \$1000.00 for clean up. Rohan Singh seconded this motion.

Findings from the Survey

Ritta Roach stated that detail report was not completed but she read the quantitative results from the survey she conducted.

Advertising and Promotion Campaign

Arnold Rowe gave a report from his research of various media that he contacted regarding advertising and promotion. He said that Flow 93.5 FM radio recommended that he purchase sponsorship for shows with large audiences. He said he was told to prepare to spend about \$1000.00 per month or \$250.00 per week.

He further added that print media was the best coverage because it reached the most people. He said that for example Share Newspaper cost \$1000.00 per month. This he said was best done with combine activities of the BIA.

Nick Alampi presented a sample of 26-page directory that would be a source of cost sharing advertising for the businesses.

Arnold Rowe asked if the BIA had to sell and conceptualize the directory.

Nick Alampi stated that it is group advertising with a distribution cost

Budget to the City

Nick Alampi informed the Board that the BIA needed to submit a budget to the City by next week.

Festivals

Nick Almapi suggested that instead of Festivals the BIA should launch the area as the International Market Place with segmented entertainment and sidewalk sale.

Beautification

Mr. Plummer who is responsible for the beautification project was absent.

Ritta Roach reported that she had spoken to George Melissis at Forestry who indicated that he could plant dogwood and lilac trees.

Arnold Rowe said that the board had to allocate \$30,000.00 for beautification

Michael Saunders of City of Toronto Economic Development asked about capital projects.

He said that banner cost \$28,000 and that the BIA had to be cautious because they are 100% BIA but there would be a cost share in 2008. Mr. Saunders further added that banners are only sixty days. He said that they are not good for the money given the short-term display period.

Arnold said that they could bring attraction value in the short term.

Abdul Berhan stated that this is something that could be discussed at the budget meeting.

Michael Saunders stated that Notice of the Agenda and the Budget Summary was due to the City on February 28, 2007.

AGM Confirmation

Nick Alampi stated that the Annual General Meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2007 and the venue, which St Thomas Aquinas Church is confirmed.

Just before the election of the executives. Marjorie Renwick stated that she the board members should be thanked for the work that they have done.

Election of the New Executive

Arnold Rowe asked Mr. Michael Saunders to receive the nominations for new executives.

The positions are:

Chair

Vice Chair

Secretary

Treasurer

Arnold Rowe stated that he is nominating himself for the Chair

Marjorie Renwick stated that she is nominating herself for chair

Angelo Zito stated that he is nominating Nick Alampi as Chair
He said that he selected Mr. Alampi because of his past history as chair, the contacts that he has made and the keys to doors open. Mr. Zito addressing Marjorie Renwick and the rest of the board said, “you are all great to together.” “You all work good together as a team, do not rock the boat.”

Mr. Zito asked the all three-candidate state why he or she wants to be chair.

Arnold Rowe stated that he moved a motion to realigned the BIA boundary and held it together and Nick Alampi voted against the realignment. He said, “I believe I have the leadership to move the BIA forward.”

Mrs. Marjorie Renwick stated that she is the strongest woman and since she has served on the board for 2 years she has the encouragement and the spirit to lead.

Nick Alampi expressed thanks for the nomination and the vote of confidence in him as chair. In response to Arnold Rowe statement about his disagreement with the re-alignment Mr. Alampi stated that the BIA is stronger with larger numbers and had the BIA chosen to stay together, it would have been better able to deal with some of the changes that are occurring in the area.

Michael Saunders prepared formal ballots listing the position
Chair

The ballot was cast and the results are:

Marjorie Renwick- 1 vote
Arnold Rowe -3 votes
Nick Alampi- 4 votes

There was no formal ballots cast for the following positions.

Arnold Rowe was unanimously voted in as Vice-Chair
Marjorie Renwick was unanimously voted in as Treasurer
Marjorie Renwick nominated Vennicia Allen as Secretary and she was unanimously voted in as Secretary.

Any Other Business

Mr. Saunders reminded the board that members who are deleted from the board should submit their resignation letter. He asked that Ritta Roach get resignation letters from Dominic and Alex so that he could present them at the next council meeting. He said that this presented two vacant spaces on the board.

Nick Alampi stated that the executive would meet on February 26, 2007 at 6: 30pm to discuss and prepare the budget for submission to the City.

Nick Alampi informed the meeting that the board would be moving the BIA account from BMO to CIBC after the city auditing is completed.

Adjournment

Marjorie Renwick moved a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00pm. Vennicia Allen seconded this motion.

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Nick Alampi
Chairman

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Vennicia Allen
Secretary

Moved by:

Seconded by:

.....
Board Member

.....
Board Member