

# URA UNIONVILLE RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION

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

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**URA General Membership Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, June 2, 2014**  
**Varley Art Gallery**

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

***Regrets:*** Donna Day, Jeff Morris, and David Wilson

***Elected officials present:*** Councillor Don Hamilton (Ward 3)

***Attendance:*** Approximately 25 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 8:10pm following a provincial candidates meeting hosted by URA, UVA and SURF. 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 April 7, 2014. No revisions were requested.

**Motion:** That the April 7, 2014 meeting report be approved.

Elaine Wilton made the motion. Alick Siu seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

The financial position of the Association is essentially the same as last reported during the April Members Meeting.

## **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.

## **Multi-Venue Business Entertainment Complex**

Peter Miasek presented an update.

Regional Councillor Jim Jones, Ward 3 Councillor Don Hamilton, and Ward 5 Councillor Colin Campbell recently conducted a survey regarding the contemplated Multi-Venue Business Entertainment Complex (which may include

a casino). The survey results suggest only a marginal public interest in initiating a study to assess the feasibility of the project; the issue will likely remain dormant until after the municipal election in October 2014.

Councillor Hamilton reported that, similarly, there has been no recent discussion about the proposed arena project, which was debated last December.

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

Peter Miasek presented an update.

A non-statutory public meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, June 10, 2014, at Council chambers. URA will advise its members of the event via e-blast and its website.

### **Population Forecasts and Implications**

Peter Miasek presented an update.

URA continues to raise the issue of rapid population growth within Markham Centre and Ward 3. On May 6, URA presented our perspective and concerns to DSC. City staff were subsequently directed to study the URA presentation and report back to DSC in six months time.

URA has also recently intervened at meetings on two large developments – Markham Centre Development Corp and Global Unionville, urging that structured holds be instituted to phase development consistent with the overall planning of Markham Centre and with completion of required transportation infrastructure.

## **COUNCIL AND REGION ISSUES UPDATE**

### **Local Issues**

#### **Unionville Festival**

Councillor Hamilton reminded all that the Unionville Festival would be held on June 6-8, 2014.

### **Regional Issues**

Not discussed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Designation of Markham for Provincial French Services**

Mona Babin addressed the meeting attendees to provide an overview of a project by L'Association des francophones de la region de York. The organization has proposed that Markham be designated as an area where provincial services would be available in French in accordance with the Ontario's French Language Services Act. Members discussed the initiative and concluded that URA should demonstrate its support for this initiative.

Motion: That the Unionville Ratepayers Association send a letter to the Minister responsible for Francophone Affairs in support of the initiative to designate Markham as an area where provincial services would be available in French.

Harry Eaglesham made the motion. Alick Siu seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **Candidates for Municipal Council**

The following registered candidates were introduced:

- Nirmala Armstrong (Regional Council)
- Christine Brawley (Ward 3)
- Vincent Cheung (Ward 3).

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjournment proposed by Alick Siu and seconded by Keing Li at 8:30 pm.

Next meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on Monday, September 8, 2014 at the Varley Art Gallery, 216 Main Street, Unionville.

**SPECIAL GUEST PRESENTATION**

A provincial all-candidates meeting for the Markham-Unionville riding preceded the Members Meeting.