



**Scadding Court Community Centre Inc. Board Meeting
via Zoom
January 31, 2023**

PRESENT:

Board: Doug Lowry, Mona Eldardiry, Coreen Gittens, Donna Alleyne, Alex Liang, Stephen Lane, Chartreuse Noutelie, Jasjit Sangha, Peggy Poon, Terrence Liu

Staff: Brenda Morse, Herman Ellis, Katie McLeod, Sanjay Sarkar, B’Jamiin Melamad-Turkish

REGRETS: Stephanie Donaldson, Alfred Adjetey, Nicholas Austin

1. CALL TO ORDER

Doug Lowry called the meeting to order at 6:07pm

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Doug Lowry read the Land Acknowledgement for the City of Toronto:

We acknowledge the land we are meeting on is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None declared

4. APPROVAL OF LAST MINUTES

A motion was moved to jointly approve the minutes of the 2022-11-29 SCCC INC Board Meeting and 2022-11-29 Scadding Court Community Centre Board of Management Meeting

Moved by: Jasjit Sangha

Seconded by: Chartreuse Noutelie

Motion Carried

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Herman Ellis Jr reported.

We are hoping to have the Board in the building soon. We are offering more hybrid programming and meetings to staff, participants and the board; we have new technology now to offer hybrid and are hoping at next meeting we will have that option. Of course, if folks are feeling like they want to stay at home, stay away from the crowd they absolutely can, and if folks feel like they want to come in person and share a meal, they absolutely can.

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Now that the technology is now affordable, we can offer it for a lot of our programs, such as swim & social, where we have for many years wanted this technology because people are confronted with barriers to participating. They can now attend the social aspect of program, which helps with reducing isolation, seeing people they're attached to.

We still have reduced staff, are encouraging ventilation, and we are trying to get bit by bit back to in person.

We had our first in-person staff meeting in many years. We didn't want it to end: it was a big group and it was great to see smiling faces and have a meal with folks. We used the conference camera and had folks online too. It worked out amazingly.

I want to thank the board and staff, we have had challenging times with the organization, thank you for the hard work.

We did have our very first big in-person special event, which was Lunar New Year. We only invited half the folks we would normally invite, but it was still well over 100 people. It was great to see so many people back. I am looking forward to Black History Month, there's a calendar available, if you are interested, it would be great if you could attend one or two of the special events we have to offer.

The organization has hired an accounting firm to help work with our finance department. Loxie Roberts, our bookkeeper, retired today. There will be an event to celebrate him where the board can attend. We are trying to find another similar person who can be part of the team and part of the community.

We are also looking for a Finance Manager. Sanjay was with us about 5 months and left for personal reasons. We are hiring a consultant to keep things up to date and will keep you informed about what's happening in the organization financially going forward. We are giving it 3-5 weeks to replace those individuals, and a few months of learning so our finance department is back on track. I think it's a good idea to keep a firm loosely connected to what's happening so if folks in the department are away for whatever reason we can still have reports and reconciliation.

Some of the work we'll be doing is looking at if the assets that were a bit down during the pandemic are being productive. For example, if Market 707 rent is being paid and units are occupied, if urban agriculture and greenhouses are productive; we want to make sure all our assets are doing what they're supposed to be doing. I don't want to have a container take up space outside and not be doing anything for the organization, I would rather find another use for it or take it away and turn it into a garden or something, we are going to pump a bit of energy into it and make sure we get optimal potential out of our assets.

In the next 3-4 months we will try to do some stuff aesthetically in Market707; we are going to try to

do some street art on the containers, and make it a cleaner, more vibrant looking market. The staff team in operations is doing a wonderful job. The patios got really busy sometimes, and it was great to see people using the space.

A lot of you might remember that we were doing markets around the City. A unique opportunity came up at the St Lawrence Market, so we put in an application to run an artisan and craft market on Thursdays. I'm excited about it because it's a return to what we were doing the past 8-9 years in the City, and we know a lot of vendors who want to work with us.

At the next meeting we will talk about the strategic planning process. I want to bring a report in Oct of this year for the next 5 years. In the next couple of months we will talk about how we want to do that planning, and if we want to do it in conjunction with our neighbours in APNLC (Alexandra Park Neighbourhood Learning Centre) & APCC (Alexandra Park CC).

Q: Alex – what dictates people coming back to work? The City, or the comfort level of how it relates to how we want to run programs?

A: We have been following the City's practices around Covid for the entire process, with the understanding that we can do whatever it is the Board chooses to do, but from a safety point of view we've been following TPH (Toronto Public Health) closely, the City's been following the Province closely, but we understand what happens in our building. For example, we only invited a smaller portion of people to Lunar New Year because though there wasn't anything preventing us from a large gathering, we thought 500 would be too many.

Q: Peggy - I saw in the minutes about a surplus in funding, what happens with that, do we have to return the funding or save it for future use?

A: There are rules that govern what happens with unspent money.

Thank you Chair, I'm done.

6. EVENTS UPDATE

Brenda Morse reported.

There was winter camp, holiday events for seniors, lunar new year, black history month calendar of events. Even though we were doing a lot of online stuff, we did a lot – pop up markets, trips, things for international women's day, many more.

The entrepreneurship team continues to produce many workshops.

Munira Abukar was recognized and profiled by CWF (Canadian Women's Foundation).

7. REDEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Herman provided an update. The latest partners are SSHA (Women's Res), PFR (Aquatics), Library. Three concepts were reviewed.

There will be a ton of other opportunities to discuss, review, attend in person and hybrid conversations with the community to talk about redevelopment of the site, I'm only sharing this with the board because there is a study and there is some buzz. I feel like this one can go all the way, but trying not to get too excited, as it's still preliminary.

8. TREASURER AND FINANCE REPORT

Herman Ellis reported.

Next month will bring audited financial statements for approval, and monthly statements. Hopefully a budget too.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

10. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by: Mona Eldardiry

Seconded by: Peggy Poon

Motion Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Chair

Secretary