



**ROUNDTABLE ON A BEAUTIFUL CITY
MINUTES
MEETING 4**

Date of Meeting: Monday, May 30, 2005
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Location: Committee Room 2
City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto M5H 2N2

Enquiry: Maria Kolominsky
Committee Secretary
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Attendant Care Services can be made available with some advance notice.

Members

<p>Present: Deputy Mayor Sandra Bussin, Chair Joe Berridge Matthew Blackett Ian Leventhal Joe Lobko Katrina Miller Karen Mills David Mirvish Janet Rosenberg Matthew Teitelbaum Councillor Peter Li Preti Councillor Peter Milczyn Councillor Jane Pitfield</p>	<p>Absent: Joe Abbinante Jeanne Beker Anthony C. Coombes Jack Diamond Philip Goodfellow Marjorie Harris Alun Lloyd Roberto Martella Palwashe Mohammed Anne Swarbrick Mike Yorke Councillor Howard Moscoe</p>
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The meeting convened at 6:00 p.m. with a tour of Nathan Phillips Square.

There were no declarations of interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.

Confirmation of Minutes – April 4, 2005 - *Confirmed*

1. Tour of Nathan Phillips Square led by Facilities and Real Estate

1.1 Discussion of Nathan Phillips Square upcoming process

Min. 4.1

The Roundtable on a Beautiful City endorsed a design competition for Nathan Phillips Square with an appropriate budget to be funded totally by the City and not funded privately, and that this project be considered a high priority for the budget setting exercise of 2006.

The Roundtable also requested that prior to approval by City Council, that the Terms of Reference be forwarded to all members of the Roundtable for review or, if possible, considered at its next meeting on September 12, 2005.

At the suggestion of Katrina Miller, Corporate Services agreed that a shade audit would be prepared and would be part of the terms of reference.

Sheila Glazer, Manager, Strategic Policy and Projects, Corporate Services, provided an overview of the modifications needed and timeline for completion. The Roundtable noted that a number of compromises had been made during construction of the square and that it was constructed differently than Viljo Revell's original vision.

The following persons addressed the Roundtable:

- Cathy Nesmith
- Roger Brook

2. Updates

2.1 Architecture and Urban Design Awards (AUDA)

(Lorna Day, Urban Design) – Due to time constraints this item was not discussed.

2.2 Postering By-law Status – Coucillor Howard Moscoe

(Presentation – Matthew Blackett)

Min. 4.2

Matthew Blackett made a brief presentation on postering. The Postering By-law has been sent to the Mayor's Office and a revised version is expected in the fall.

Members of the Roundtable requested that they be provided an opportunity to comment on the Mayor's report regarding the Postering By-law prior to its consideration by City Council.

3. Subcommittee Reports

3.1 Neighbourhood Beautification Program –

Ian Leventhal and Roberto Martella (Co-chairs)

3.2 Parks Renaissance and Urban Street Trees – Janet Rosenberg (Chair)

3.3 City Processes, Standards and Practices

(include discussion of Nathan Phillips Square)– Joe Lobko (Chair)

3.4 City at Large - Status of “Strong Beauty” - Staff

Min. 4.3

1. *Ian Leventhal, Co-Chair, Neighbourhood Beautification Program, provided an update on initiatives of the Sub-Committee as follows:*

The Neighbourhood Beautification Initiatives are on the brink of getting underway. The planned projects are comprised of a combination of murals and greening of spaces i.e. planting.

Councillors as well as suggestions from city staff and members of the Subcommittee have identified the locations. There should be at least one project per ward.

The criteria for project selection includes: (1) maximum visibility to citizens; (2) being simple in design and workload; (3) having a keen and able group of volunteers to help execute and maintain the project; (4) simple approval process; (5) safe access. Up to \$1500 will be allocated per ward based on the above criteria.

Everyone involved is encouraged to document and take before and after photos to demonstrate the progress of the project. Our goal is to showcase all projects and create an information forum on www.toronto.ca/cleanandbeautiful.

There is also a Recognition event that is being planned to take place in the Fall to acknowledge accomplishments in contributing to the Clean & Beautiful City Initiative.

A working partnership is also being developed by local commercial retailers and other institutions such as with the Toronto Catholic District School Board, Toronto District School Board/Evergreen, University of Toronto, Ryerson University, George Brown College, York University, LCBO, Home Depot and beyond.

Current status on the Neighbourhood Beautification Projects:

There are currently 6 projects that have been identified to date.

Ward 37 - Michael Thompson: Ian Leventhal to discuss the initial ideas for murals.

Ward 21 - Joe Mihevc: Mural on Christie/Dupont Underpass. There are other potential sites for murals in this area as well (Spadina/Dupont). Volunteers from the Christie Gardens senior residence have come forward with interest to participate in the project.

Ward 42 - Raymond Cho: Create and refurbish gardens outside of housing development at Marlvern/Morningside.

Ward 19 - Joe Pantalone: Potential for refurbishment of gardens at Irene Avenue Parkette.

Ward 32 - Sandra Bussin: Numerous garden options being considered.

Ward 15 - Howard Moscoe: Greening around Lawrence Plaza by Lawrence Heights/Allen Rd. Exact location TBD.

Ward 39 – Mike Del Grande: Planting at Morecambe Gate & Chester Le, adjacent to an existing community garden.

We will continue to contact and work with the City Councillor's to identify one area in each ward to launch the Initiative.

2. *Janet Rosenberg, Chair, Parks Renaissance and Urban Street Trees Sub-Committee, reported on the sub-committee's accomplishments to date as follows:*

- (a) New protocol established this year coming out of the interdepartmental working group on street trees to ensure that any trees planted this year are to be a higher standard and will therefore live longer;*
- (b) Working with staff to understand, advise and support new street planting details that will be coming forward in June. This new streetscape manual will address forestry, transportation, servicing and planning;*
- (c) Instrumental in dramatically reducing the costs of hydro meters for park plantings. This allows successful watered parks and trees and allows more park funds to flow to tree planting and maintenance rather than utilities;*
- (d) Created a new partnership between members of Landscape Ontario and the City resulting in a pilot project to remove dead street trees and planting dramatic ornamental grasses. This will establish a new precedent of options for trees on boulevards when trees are not possible and become a part of the neighbourhood beautification program. This plant material is at no cost to the City.*

On motion by Janet Rosenberg, the Roundtable on a Beautiful City recommended that at the time of the 2006 budget review, that the Roundtable review, comment and send recommendations forward to the Budget Advisory Committee regarding Parks and Street Tree Budget enhancements and maintenance.

On motion by Janet Rosenberg, the Roundtable on a Beautiful City also requested the appropriate staff to report on:

- (a) *The ability to include more extensive requirements for a landscape standard through the zoning by-law and site plan approvals processes. A percentage similar to the public art requirement should be investigated.*
 - (b) *A program that would ensure that a fixed and sufficient portion of funds for any new development be allocated on private property and adjacent public realm.*
 - (c) *The establishment of clearer lines of responsibility and decision making for trees within the road allowance.*
3. *Joe Lobko, Chair, City Processes Standards and Practices, provided an update on initiatives of the Sub-committee and that they will be meeting regularly.*

The Roundtable on a Beautiful City requested that a joint meeting be held together with the Roundtable on the Environment to consider sustainability guidelines.

4. *Elyse Parker, Clean and Beautiful City Secretariat, provided an update on the status of the City at Large Sub-Committee and the “Strong Beauty” report, and advised that a report is expected from City Planning on a system for implementing private/public partnerships.*

Mike Major, City Planning, Bloor Street Transformation Office, reported on a proposed financing model for the Bloor Street Transformation Project which involves the City advancing financing for the construction costs for the project and recovering all costs by way of a Business Improvement Area (BIA) levy on commercial property owners along Bloor Street.

4.0 New Business

4.1 Regent Park Architectural Competition – Invitations to the Roundtable Forthcoming. (Joe Lobko)

Min 4.4

Joe Lobko reported on a design competition to select an architectural firm that will partner with Toronto Community Housing Corporation on the first new building to be erected in Regent Park. Five architectural firms have been asked to submit proposals that demonstrate a commitment to design excellence and environmental sustainability. The firms are Architects Alliance; Diamond & Schmitt Architects Inc.; Kuwabara Payne McKenna Blumberg; Montgomery Sisam/Kearns Mancini; and, Teeple Architects. The building to be designed – a tower in the northwest corner of Regent Park at Dundas and Sackville streets – will be part of the first phase of the Regent Park Revitalization. A reception to announce the winning design will be held on Friday, June 24, 2005, from 7 to 9 p.m., at the Regent Park Community Centre, 203 Sackville Green, at Parliament and Dundas.

7.0 Next Meeting:

**Monday, September 12, 2005, 6:00p.m. – 8:00 p.m.,
Committee Room No. 2, City Hall.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Chair.