



## Summary Notes

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R.C. Harris Public Advisory Committee

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Meeting #02/10

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March 2, 2010

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**R.C. Harris Public Advisory Committee**  
Meeting # 2/10  
R.C. Harris Water Treatment Plant, Construction Trailer  
2710 Queen Street East, Toronto

Tuesday, March 2, 2010  
7:00 p.m.

**SUMMARY NOTES**

**ATTENDANCE**

***Public Advisory Committee***

Julie McNeill (co-chair)  
David Lewis  
Henry Spencer  
Jim Tulk

***City of Toronto Staff***

Ron Brilliant – Toronto Water: R.C. Harris Water Treatment Plant Manager

***Facilitator***

Cheryl Dow – Public Consultation Unit  
Josie Franch – Public Consultation Unit

***Minute Taker***

Barbara Legault

**REGRETS**

***Public Advisory Committee***

Julie Charles  
Alan Demb

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:05 p.m.

**1. Introductions**

All present at the meeting introduced themselves. **Cheryl Dow** introduced **Josie Franch** as the new facilitator for the R.C. Harris Public Advisory Committee.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda was approved.

**3. Approval of January 5, 2009 Summary Notes**

The January 5, 2010 Summary Notes were adopted with one amendment on page 6.

**4. Plant Updates**

**4.1 Building Envelope Rehabilitation (BER)**

**Ron Brilliant** reported that they are working on the east end and south side of the Filter Building, and the north side of the Service Building. They have 50,000 bricks on hand for building rehabilitation and have been able to effectively match the range of brick colour to this historic brick pattern. The brick manufacturer has closed down while they are putting in a new kiln, but

they have enough on hand to continue for now. They are doing work on the interior and exterior of the Filter Building. There is quite a bit of work to be done on the inside; some of the brick has been damaged and needs to be replaced and a lot of interior expansion joints also need replacing.

**Ron Brilliant** also reported that they are reviewing the Terrace Building rehabilitation with *Heritage Preservation Services*. Both groups would like to leave as much stone upstanding as possible. The contractor has created models of the brick, mortar alignment, stone and colour selection and will have them approved by our heritage consultants.

**David Lewis** asked if they would be removing the east end of the Terrace Building. **Ron Brilliant** explained that because the east end is not part of the original building it will be removed. At some point the interior was dug out and made a chemical storage area; however it was not adequate for this purpose. This will be filled in and no longer used as storage.

**David Lewis** asked if they would also re-landscape the grounds around the fountain. **Ron Brilliant** confirmed that they would be restoring the grounds on the south side of the Terrace Building, by where the fountain is. **Julie McNeill** stated that Toronto Botanical Gardens will be looking after these grounds.

<p><b>Action Item:</b> At the next meeting <b>Ron Brilliant</b> will give an update on the schedule but it hasn't really changed, they are on time.</p>
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## 4.2 Lighting Upgrades

**Ron Brilliant** updated the group on the light upgrades that were selected at the last meeting. He confirmed that the lights would be four metres tall and showed a sample of the material selected for the lights. The material was a dark graphite colour with a matte finish. He explained that this dark grey colour looked richer than the glossy black one. They are now looking for the company to put a graffiti coating on the lights. This may change the colour slightly but since these are high profile areas for graffiti it is important to have the coating.

## 5. Heritage

**Julie McNeill** gave the heritage update. She reported that the group still needs to meet to complete the exterior review. They met once but it was raining and they haven't had a chance to meet again. She also noted that former PAC member, Steve Mannell, will be in Toronto in April.

**Cheryl Dow** explained that Steve had found out about the Heritage Inventory through the minutes and wanted to stop by during his visit to Toronto to hear more about it. He will be in Toronto from April 4 – 14. The group decided to pick their next meeting date to accommodate Steve Mannell's visit.

## 6 North East Corner Lighting

**Ron Brilliant** reported that he had surveyed the area. There are two streetlights and he doesn't feel that they need additional lights there.

**Julie McNeill** asked if the lights illuminate the stairs in that corner. **Jim Tulk** explained that people are able to get up and down the stairs without any risk; the issue was that it is a party area and it was upsetting some of the neighbours in nearby apartments. **Ron Brilliant** noted that in the summer time the trees and leaves may block some of the light. Under winter conditions it looks fine, he suggested that the group wait until summer and then reassess the lighting situation.

**Jim Tulk** reiterated that concerns had been raised from the apartment buildings nearby. Residents would like another light in that section to cut out the partying.

**Ron Brilliant** confirmed that they have upgraded security on that side of the property and hasn't heard of any issues on that side of the property recently; however, right now the area is fenced off for construction. So they may need to reassess the situation. He agreed that because of the isolation of that area, it may need to be lit up more than other parts of the facility. He also noted that as the rehabilitation is finished, that side of the building will be more open and there is a large window with a lot of interior light spilling out so it may look very different. They will be doing construction for another six months.

**The PAC** agreed that they would wait and reassess the lighting in the summer time.

**Ron Brilliant** also reported that they are finishing the rails on the Queen Street side of the property. They already have the holes done and expect to be finished this month. One of the steps on the main steps (centre ones on North side) had collapsed, so they have closed that staircase off and will repair it quickly so stairwell can be reopened. This stairwell is not closed on a permanent basis. They are also looking to replace and upgrade some of the rails that have started to rot by the end of the summer.

<b>Action Item: Outstanding Action Item: Revisit North East corner lighting needs in June/July.</b>
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## **7. New Business**

**David Lewis** asked about the timeline of the new security wall.

**Ron Brilliant** said that the contractor has scheduled for this spring (May – early June) to commence work. Parks, Forestry and Recreation and Toronto Water have agreed to work together to upgrade the area at the foot of Nursewood while they are building the stairs. The stairs will be built just outside of the plants property line on the Parks property and parks and Toronto Water will tidy the area up all the way down because of construction vehicles etc. They will also put something in to keep the slope in place. There is no agreement in place for Transportation to work on the top section at all (Note: shortly after this PAC meeting Transportation has become involved).

**Julie McNeill** asked about the work that is happening on the west end of the Service Building that made the ruts in the mud.

**Ron Brilliant** confirmed that it is the work happening on the north side of the building; all the stone has been removed from below grade and weather-proofing has been put in. They are working on the expansion joints in that area, some of which were leaking water because of rusting steel. In an earlier meeting they had established that the Service Building would be scheduled for repairs a year from now, however due to excessive leakage and deterioration, they moved it up. They have stopped almost all of the leakage in that building now. They will come back to the service building later in the project. A lot of work still needs to be done on the east side, including rebuilding the smoke stack. The project is still on schedule. They hope to be finished about 3 ½ years from the start of the project (last September).

## **7. Next Meeting and Agenda**

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday April 6, 2010 at 7:00 pm.

## **8. Adjournment**

**Julie McNeill** adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:00 p.m.