

The 519 Church St. Community Centre
Board of Directors
Monday, April 27, 2009
Meeting # 7 (2008-09)

Board Members Present: Joan Anderson, Jessica Carfagnini, Mathieu Chantelois, Natasha Garda, Lyle Kersey, Marv Lucey, Enrico Mandarino, Donald Middleton, Derrick Navarro, Jake Schonfeld, Kabir Ravindra,

Regrets: None

Staff Present: Maura Lawless, Eric Berndt, Rinku Modi, Helen Rykens

The meeting was opened by Derrick Navarro

1. **Welcome**
2. **Agenda approval**

MOTION: To approve the Agenda. Moved by Marv Lucey and seconded by Kabir Ravindra - APPROVED

3. **Visitors:** none.
4. **Minutes of the last meeting**

MOTION: To approve the Minutes of the meeting on March 30, 2009. Moved by Marv Lucey and seconded by Don Middleton- APPROVED

5. **Declaration of conflicts of interest:** None
6. **Agency business--Funding proposals approval** - none this month
7. **Executive Director's Report** – Maura reported:

Toronto City Council approved The 519's 2009 Operating Budget.

Upcoming events:

- Poetry of Resistance Festival on April 30. The 519 will host this festival featuring international poets, visual arts displays as part of this city wide event.
- International Day Against Homophobia. Gareth Henry and Scott Clarke are planning to have volunteers hand out flyers and raise awareness in five areas of the City.

Café development:

- George Brown College (GBC) students completed their feasibility study and business plan. They were more interested in organic food than local growers, but they did good research - neighbourhood consultation, costing analysis and job descriptions. The business model is to create a local food based café and take out. We would form relationships with local farmers and develop cafe from that concept.

- The Toronto Enterprise Fund is putting out a request for proposals. We will be applying for this in September and the GBC work will help in this application. We can apply for up to \$30,000.
- We will have a proposal in August for the start-up money.
- Given construction and the timing of the opening, we will not open until the Spring of 2010. There is more work to do and best to start a business model in the spring, not the fall.
- There should be a good market for community based cafe with very fresh and good tasting food.
- Question: Is George Brown likely to operate it as a training centre? That is one possibility, however, there are other options as well. We will have to generate revenue to pay for staff. Social enterprise component needed.

Capital campaign, construction

- We are examining the original contract and recognizing that in order to have a beautiful building we will need to continue raise funds this year to cover the repairs that were not originally envisioned. Painting the auditorium will cost \$50,000. The back balcony will be repaired and painted this week.

Pride planning

- Pride planning is well under way.
- The Request for Proposals (RFP) for an event planner closed today. We received 5 proposals ranging from \$9000 to \$27,000. Hiring will take place shortly.
- There is some discussion about bringing the Queer Family Fun Fair to the week of pride rather than having it in early June.

8. Human Resources

Lyle Reported: We reviewed the Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Policy that Maura sent out. It is not ready to come to the Board as yet. Maura has created a detailed discussion paper for the City's response. Ten community centres are reviewing this document, so it is still in process. We have to report to the city on our adoption of the policy by June.

The largest issue is that the Board's role and the internal management role are not reflected. Complaints go to the City first, without a possibility of an investigation taking place at the Community Centre level.

9. Building committee

Marv reported: There has not been a meeting. We will talk about the building at the finance committee meeting.

Maura reported: The floors are level, so we can take the Board on a tour at the end of the meeting today.

Elevator question

- Although some elevator closures are construction related, the elevator seems to break down quite frequently for a variety of reasons. Last week's closure had to do with oil loss, which is a major problem.

- Replacing the elevator would cost \$50,000 and it would be a City expense. There is \$37,000 earmarked in the future for replacing the elevator cab.
- Kone is the new elevator maintenance contractor.

10. Finance committee

Marv reported: The Board reviewed the draft audited financial statements for the year ending Dec. 31, 2008.

MOTION: That the Board accept and approve the audited financial statement for the year ending Dec. 31, 2008 and present it to the members at the AGM. Moved by Marv Lucey and seconded by Don Middleton. CARRIED.

Questions:

Q: Page 4 at the bottom shows that we lost money in 2008. In 2007 we had a surplus. Is that carried over to 2008? Is our loss for 2008 still \$51,000 as shown here?

A: \$39,000 of that is amortization which is a non cash value. There were additional expenses in 2008 in the core that we charged back to the City of Toronto. We had to include these in as receivables according to the City's requirements.

Q: How battered are our reserves?

A: We took approximately \$10,000 from the unrestricted operating reserve to pay for the difference. Capital assets are being differentiated between program assets and city assets.

1st Quarter Financials

Rinku reported: Marv Lucey came up with a one page report for the Board, the finance committee sees the more detailed report. We will have financial reports every month for the Board. The finance committee will meet quarterly.

11. Strategic and Program Planning Committee

Derrick Reported: The group did not meet this month. The meetings will be the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The next meeting will be on May 12.

12. Advocacy Committee

Joan Reported: The Advocacy Committee didn't meet this month as the meeting was scheduled for the same night as communications.

Joan met with Maura and did some preparation for a meeting that will take place on May 5. They prepared a template for recording our positions that we have now. We have historic positions that we've taken, for example, in favour of gay marriage. The staff are completing the template with The 519's positions on issues in their programs. It will be helpful to start with our public policy history.

The committee's work will answer questions about what else we should have positions on and what should those positions be?

13. Fundraising and Communications Committee

The logo

Mathieu will present a logo proposal which has been developed after some process with various designs at the Executive Committee. There are five colours, so we will vote on the colour as well. The logo discussion is confidential as we wish to launch our new look in a coordinated fashion.

MOTION: That the Board go in camera for the confidential discussion regarding logo designs and colours. Moved by Kabir Ravindra and seconded by Marv Lucey. APPROVED.

MOTION: That the Board end the confidential in camera discussion and reopen the meeting to the public. Moved by Kabir Ravindra and seconded by Jake Schonfeld. APPROVED.

The Board agreed to defer the communications plan and media spokesperson policies to the next meeting.

14. Correspondence

Swine flu – the 519 is receiving emails from the city corporate communications which we are distributing to staff. We will assess information as it comes in. At this point no one is recommending masks, but we will keep the board posted on any new developments.

15. Other business

- Nicci’s going away party is on May 7th at 5 PM at George’s Play.
- Also on the 7th at 6:30 PM will be Maggie Cassella’s “We’re Funny That Way” Gala at Buddies in Bad Times. At the Gala, Salah will present the Salah Bachir Awards to Doug Elliot and Nada Ristich. Salah will give 519 Board members tickets to the Gala for those who want to go after Nicci’s party.

16. Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting is Monday, May 25 at 6:30 PM

Signature, Board Secretary

Date

Print name