

Meeting Minutes

KMBIA Internal Masterplanning/Public Realm Debriefing with Stakeholders

Monday, December 2nd, 2019 at 12:45am – 1:45pm

Attendance

Zenon Mandziuk (resident, KMAC, KRA, SSMP subcommittee) **Pouria Lotfi** (BIA SSMP subcommittee/chair, resident), **Dominique Russell** (Resident, FOKM) **Su Alexanian** (Resident, KMAC – on behalf of Yvonne Bambrick), **Catherine Nasmith** (resident) **John Struik** (resident, KRA), **Betsy Stuart** (notetaker on behalf of John Struik) **Cassandra Alves** (KMBIA Coordinator)

Invited – (All Missing) - **David Pearlman**(resident) **Anthony Aarts** (BIA SSMP subcommittee member), **Michael Shepherd** (BIA SSMP subcommittee member) **Robert Allsopp** (Resident) **Graham Holdings** (BSPRA), **Shamez Amlani** (PSK) , **Patrick Morrison** (PSK), **Gwen Bang** (BIA Chair) **Mika Bareket** (resident, SSMP subcommittee member)

Open House

Chair of the streetscape committee – Pouria

Pouria – Major issue with communication—lack of communication being spread and a lot of miscommunication. There was a lot of discontent at the open house. The BIA is going to try to take more of a proactive role – The city needs the BIA facilitator/leadership role for this project. It would be more inclusive and spread to the community. With stakeholders – my personal feeling – we’d like to form a committee and it would be more permanent – for those who work/live in the area who are active members in the community.

Suggestions

Catherine – Big idea of macroplanning runs against the nature of the place. Big things like this, we need to work on together. What we are suggesting – we form a group with city officials who can authorize things for the market and help with what works here and fast track the good idea.

Garbage is a main issue, curbside pavement doesn’t belong here. As we (Robert and Catherine) were walking home, last year I took a major tumble in the market – there is only inner 2’ 5” ft to be level. Take out all the cuts and instead have a rolled curb, which gives more leveling areas that we can all use. (Rolled curb is about 6”)

Lighting – Ideas—having lighting standards

The awnings—we need them – role for the BIA that can standardize them and can use and use them for bulk purchasing. It could be BIA with the city working on what is acceptable, range of choices and organize some of the purchases.

City Interventions – Thinking about St. Andrews –the parking lot—what about opening up the other side for businesses to activate the street. The city should fix that.

New retail spaces – affordable and long -term places. Expropriated building on St. Andrews. The city should expropriate it. KM develop a model as a typology for more frontage on St. Andrew.

Pouria— Curbless –no funding for it. More of an idea than an actuality. Maybe there would there be possibilities around the park in future? There is no money to actually make changes. Maybe its about cultural shifts—using reusable take-away – working on garbage, installing new infrastructure. Things everyone can get behind on, as a general idea.

Catherine – In Glasgow they have communal giant bins. Drop off centres. Having a more centralized garbage system.

Su—Snow removal is a disaster. Only 9 commercial spots have shoveled and none of the park was shovelled before this meeting and its icy and slippery.

Catherine – Maybe there is a need for a small removal. \$12,000 a year for terrible snow removal is not worth it for our building.

Zenon—The BIA can move outside of the masterplan. Accessibility issues – all kinds of places that are hazardous for wheelchairs – etc.

Dominique – Procedural issue that comes up – tear up the masterplan and start over.

Su - Very hard to get to this meeting, with no option for rescheduling. Let's address that for the next meeting. Essentially reminding everyone that planning here is not planned nor has there been top-bottom planning. When we do make changes, we do it as very inclusive and cumbersome way with full on community consultation. For Pedestrian Sunday in the market – it was through painstaking community consultation. We did nothing until the community was satisfied. For this, we felt we were being pushed to decide – whether or not we like it. The feedback —there wasn't a wide scale decision. Let's address the most important things that need fixing etc.

Issues – garbage, accessibility, snow removal, problems with curbs, those are the kinds of things that are already a problem and can be fixed. Full on community consultation can begin now. There are a lot of people who are very upset. KMAC wants a sense of inclusive consultation.

Pouria - From the councillor's office -- The idea was that we take the lead as a community and have an active role. It wasn't as inclusive as it should have been. The BIA doesn't want to be solely involved.

Dominique—working as a group. Building new principals –We want the city to be on board to protect the market. Second principal -- focus on small improvements.

Pouria -Look at it more so as a collection of ideas – We can implement parts of it and there is a document we can cherry pick from.

Pilot Projects

(Chosen by the SSMP subcommittee are Pilots for Augusta + College and Dundas + Kensington)

Catherine – We shouldn't complete them just because a design team said to do so.

Dominique – Last Tuesday – We do not endorse to proceed with any of the pilot project until there is a proper consultation. It would be fully around the ideas and with an assurance that the masterplan and the issues will not be used as a guideline for moving forward.

John – This seems like it was a waste of the BIA's money

Catherine – Pretty good pilot projects, actually.

Dominique – How were they received? What was the reaction?

Su – I rejected them and it went forward anyway and we might come up with something completely different.

Dominique – Regarding the entrances –there was a design charette and people didn't understand how we got to this stage? How did this happened? – that is the disconnect. That's part of the animosity with the masterplan.

Pouria- We can't proceed unless there is city and helping out on how to govern it. Go back to the board and bring up the fact that we want to be more involved in the selection and have a more active role in how to see it through. We really need to think about how this group is going to be constructed.

Su- Full on consultation would be really helpful. Come up with something completely different.

Dominique – FOKM has someone to follow through, help untangle the position—so we can move things forward. Public realm is shared but the BIA has the money to address it.

Catherine – Advice is doing certain things without involving the city – so that we're heading the game.

Dominique – This an opportunity to protect certain things of the market – we have a situation where we can get to a consensus and can shift the whole conversation to get the point where were approving the plan together. The city wants a masterplan, we want things to be protected.

Su - On a larger level. What are the important things that that we want to protect?

Catherine – Here were people talking about putting stickies on the map – the plan did not catch the specificity of the market and what makes it magic.

Dominique – Looking at different ways of channeling feedback.

Catherine -- What are the issues of the BIA?

Pouria – Help the green grocers, keeping the market the market.

Dominique – Concern about the document -- We have to be careful on what we need to have done. If we can use the masterplan to pressure the city to provide exceptions for the market, then we have something that makes people say yes. Remove the obstacles for the businesses as well.

Catherine– Needs to be run in a special way to address the market. We can't deal with the bureaucracy of the city.

Pouria – It's hard for the city to wrap their heads around it. BIA wants to be inclusive on the decisions they are making – it's not just the businesses but a multi-dimensional community. We do not want to receive the flack for any commitments made, but it is difficult to get people involved.

Dominique - Right now there is a great big no. We have to have a meeting which is a debriefing about this. Let's talk about the issues and lay them out – strike a committee. The BIA needs to lead and what does that committee look like. There is a way forward. We would meet again, feedback from the open house, composition of the room might be slightly different. We can decide what we want to move forward with and what we don't want to move forward with.

Catherine – The plan doesn't address the real issues in the market.

Pouria – Committee wants to have a broader community meeting as to how we are going to tackle the public realms stuff. Broader meeting to decide and what that committee will focus on.