

# Dundas Works

Summary of Minutes from Community Meeting #1  
Tuesday, February 7th, 2017  
Winchester Arms

Hosted by:

Jim Sweetman (moderator), Tim Leslie, Bob (Robert) James, Michelle Chin, Margot Carnahan

Present:

Chris Krucker, George Vance, Diana Kenel, Patrick Rowan, Theresa Picone, Brian Baetz, Dave Wilson, Marc Risdale, Dave Carson, Harriet Woodside, Rob Bell, Sage Pearson, Bill (William) Curley, Diane LaFrance, Rev. Rick Spies

Regrets: Joanna Chapman, Tanya Jenkins, Alison Maxted, Frances Neufeld

Thank you to all our friends in the community for spending your time with us at the first community meeting held by Dundas Works recently. At the meeting, we were seeking your thoughts on possible future directions for Dundas Works. We are intent on creating a vision for Dundas and would like to be proactive in decisions affecting our public and shared spaces.

We began with short talks by five members of our group:

1. Jim Sweetman: Present Process Precludes Positive Public Participation
2. Michelle Chin: Complete Communities/Secondary Plan
3. Margot Carnahan: Happy Cities/Loss of Public Properties
4. Bob (Robert) James: Compassionate Communities/ Smart Growth
5. Tim Leslie: Project for Public Spaces

Then, we asked for your ideas and feedback. The following is a synopsis of the group's discussion:

- The 5x2min and round table format of the meeting allowed for meaningful discussion, since everyone had multiple opportunities to contribute.
- Enthusiasm and positive ideas were expressed by all, even those who have not known Dundas for a long time, and a strong consensus that Dundas is worth protecting. Our community spaces should be welcoming to "all" community members, all ages, all incomes, all backgrounds.
- It is apparent that there are/have been a number of community groups in existence with Dundas' best interests as their goal.
- It was noted that we should remember that churches are public spaces.
- There was discussion of creating a Secondary Plan for Dundas that may give strength to zoning and property issues.
- The concept that there is power in numbers/groups was shared by several speakers, and that elected officials are more likely to act on ideas if many voters present with a platform. Community decisions need to be discussed publicly, not behind doors.
- Gathering community support for Dundas' vision could be possible through meeting at public

places and/or by a block captain concept. Need to keep momentum for the vision to stand the test of time.

-We discussed the need to be specific about the issues that we are discussing. While it is important to create a broad overall plan, we need to be clear about the point that we are talking about! This will help us to be proactive, rather than reacting to decisions that have already been made.

We are very grateful for the thoughts and experiences shared by such a caring group of citizens! We feel that it is time to explore the possible elements of a vision for Dundas, which we are starting to work toward. We plan to host another round table in the coming months to discuss what could become a framework for our shared vision. If you wish, we will contact you with future developments. For more information, please visit our website:

<http://dundasworks.wixsite.com/completemunities>

Thank you again!  
Dundas Works