



# Baba Yaga Place

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## Quarterly Report July 1<sup>st</sup> – September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019

### Governance

Congratulations to the 2019/2020 officers:

President - Beth Komito-Gottlieb,  
Vice President - Ellen Passmore,  
Treasurer - Danuta Zadorecki and  
Secretary - Harriet Bernstein

who were elected at our first post-AGM board meeting held on July 15<sup>th</sup>. We are happy that they agreed to accept these responsibilities.

Until at least February 2020, the board will be operating with eight (8) directors rather than the slate of nine (9) which was elected at the AGM since a director's request for a leave of absence has been granted.

### Housing Matters

On the afternoon of August 7<sup>th</sup>, Beth and Director Ronny Y. met with Toronto Ward 12 Councillor Josh Matlow. Councillor Matlow (JM) was an early endorser of the BYP initiative (as per the letter of support he provided) and is Toronto's Seniors' Advocate. He is thoughtful, progressive and works tirelessly for his ward, whose residents include Beth and other BYP members, and for the city as a whole. In that meeting there were discussions on:

- a specific City property in his ward which JM believes should be developed largely with seniors as future tenants and with a significant portion of the units being identified as 'affordable';
- the issue of affordability and BYP's concern re present formulas used to assess affordability which leave some middle income seniors in rental purgatory since they are neither eligible for rents *below* market value nor can they afford rents *at* market value. JM shared that he recently requested that city staff prepare recommendations to Council for a realistic definition of affordable rent and
- BYP's belief that this property may be a good fit for our members and requested that we be included in its planning, beginning at this early stage before the City has even chosen a developer.

Even though no promises were made, it was an informative meeting which allowed BYP to react quickly to the new information and lobby for a seat at the table in the proposed development.

As a follow-up, on JM's request, further info on BYP itself and our Visioning document on the proposed physical layout of our community were emailed to the Councillor's office. We await information on the next steps.

**Working Towards Realizing Our Vision!**