

The Park in the City Committee

5:30 p.m. - Wednesday, February 27, 2019

MacBain Community Centre Boardroom

Minutes of Meeting

Present:

Michal Lukac, Frank Fohr, John Anstruther, Janet Hassall, John Brucato, Dan Cicchino, Sheila DeLuca, Tom Mingle, Councillor Pietrangelo, Jeff Guarasci (Staff)

Regrets:

Audrey Fraser, Councillor Strange, Paisley January-Pool, Pat Mascarin, Carly Milani

1. Introductions

The consensus from the committee was to keep the existing format of having Councillor Pietrangelo and Councillor Strange remain as co-chairs of the Park in the City Committee.

Majority of the Committee voted to have meetings moved to the fourth Wednesday of the month starting at 4:30pm with the exception of the May meeting, which is to remain on Wednesday, May 15th, starting at 4:00pm.

Accepted members representing the Park in the City Committee to sit on the Niagara Falls Summer Trillium Awards Sub-Committee are John Brucato, Sheila DeLuca, Janet Hassall, Pat Mascarin and Audrey Fraser.

Accepted members representing the Park in the City Committee to sit on the Niagara Falls Schools In Bloom Program Sub-Committee are John Anstruther, Sheila DeLuca, Frank Fohr, Dan Cicchino, Janet Hassall, Tom Mingle, Pat Mascarin and Audrey Fraser.

2. Adoption of Minutes

a) *October 17, 2018 Meeting Minutes*

IT WAS MOVED BY John Brucato, second by Frank Fohr that the minutes of the meeting of October 17, 2018 be approved as written.

Motion Carried

3. Business Arising from October 17, 2018 meeting

a) *Gerry Bruins Memorial Tree*

Cemetery Staff indicated that the memorial tree for the late Mr. Gerry Bruins will be planted in late spring of 2019. The Committee will be notified in advance once a date has been chosen.

b) *Enviro Week*

Deferred to the March, 2019 meeting for discussion.

c) NS & T Line Improvements

Staff have indicated that improvements of the NS & T Line from Kalar Road to Garner Road have not been included in the most recent capital budget submission to Council. Staff will bring back information on what stage 1 and stage 2 improvements for the trail represent.

d) Whirlpool Road Improvements

Staff are currently working on design for improvements of Whirlpool Road from Churches Lane to the Niagara Parkway. Once the Niagara Parks Commission (NPC) completes design for the intersection at the Niagara Parkway and Whirlpool Road, the City will then be able to consult with the NPC on a plan to connect the existing Millennium Recreational Trail to the Niagara River Recreational Trail.

e) Library Seed Bank

The Niagara Falls Public Library is interested in partnering with the Committee to help establish a future seed bank and community garden. Staff will be able to bring more information back to a future Committee meeting.

4. Events & Programs

a) Scheduled Spring Activity Review

Schedule updates and Committee Member expectations were discussed. Comments were made that future tree planting sites should consider areas along existing trails.

b) Niagara Falls Horticultural Society May 25 Plant Sale

Members were requested to notify Staff if they are able to volunteer for the 2019 Niagara Falls Horticultural Society Plant Sale that will take place at the Niagara Falls Public Library on Saturday, May 25.

5. Transportation and Trails

a) Active Transportation Niagara Network

Members who are interested to volunteer on the Active Transportation Niagara Network are to notify Staff of their intentions prior to the next meeting. One seat is available.

b) Millennium Recreation Trail Update

Staff are waiting on the Niagara Region to finalize a construction schedule with their contractor at the trail location. The Niagara Region is upgrading the sewer line. City staff anticipate work on the trail to commence sometime in the summer and will be completed in 2019.

6. New Business

a) Proposed Memorial Tree

IT WAS MOVED BY Frank Fohr, second by Mike Lukac that the Park in the City Committee accept donations to the Park in the City Memorial Fund from residents in lieu of having a memorial tree planted by volunteers at a Park in the City Committee tree planting event. Donation amount must cover the cost of the tree, staking, identification markers and potential future watering costs.

Motion Carried.

A memorial tree will be planted this year during the Committee's Arbour Day event on behalf of Eleoner Meisser's late husband Vincent Lavigne.

b) *Tree Inventory Report*

The Committee requested that Forestry Staff conduct a presentation on the City's Tree Inventory GPS system at a future Park in the City Committee meeting.

c) *Committee T-Shirts*

Mike Lukac indicated that former Park in the City Committee Member Dr. Kenneth Groves has offered to purchase Park in the City Committee Member t-shirts for the new Members. Staff are to order new t-shirts and send billing to Dr. Kenneth Groves.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 4:30 pm at the MacBain Community Centre Boardroom.

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