

The Park in the City Committee

1:30 p.m. - Wednesday, September 9, 2020

Virtual Online Meeting

Minutes of Meeting

Present:

Pat Mascarin, Michal Lukac, John Anstruther, Audrey Fraser, Sheila Deluca, Frank Fohr, Carly Milani, Paisley January-Pool, John Brucato, Dan Cicchino, Councillor Victor Pietrangelo, Councillor Mike Strange, Jeff Guarasci (Staff), Kathy Moldenhauer (Staff)

Regrets:

Tom Mingle, Janet Hassall

1. Adoption of Minutes

a) *June 10, 2020 Meeting Minutes*

IT WAS MOVED BY John Anstruther, second by Pat Mascarin that the minutes of the June 10, 2020 Park in the City Committee meeting be approved as written.

Motion Carried

2. Events and Programs

a) *Online Video Content*

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the committee has been able to produce 7 trail videos, 4 gardening tips videos and 20 pre-promotion Mother Earth Day videos. All videos will be posted online and share through social media feeds. Michal Lukac has volunteered to film the remaining Park in the City Committee 2020 fall events. Footage will be utilize to produce a Park in the City Committee information video.

b) **Niagara Falls Summer Trillium Program**

Over 100 properties registered to participate in the program. Without the traditional awards ceremony, the committee saved \$5,000. All awards were hand delivered to participants with positive feedback. It was noted that consideration be given to host an awards ceremony due to the media attention a ceremony brings.

c) **Pollinator Garden Planting**

Committee members were requested to volunteer for the event taking place at the Fairview Cemetery on Wednesday, September 16. Volunteers will be planting 1,500 wildflower plugs to establish a new environmentally friendly pollinator garden.

d) **Firemen's Park Tree Planting**

The committee will be tree planting with partners from Land Care Niagara and the SCVFA on Saturday, October 3 at Firemen's Park. Trees that are being planted were pre-ordered for the postponed Mother Earth Day event. They will also be recognized as part of Earth Day Canada's tree relay.

e) *Curbside Give-A-Way*

Staff have reported that numbers were split between municipalities cancelling and continuing with their curbside give-a-way events for the remainder of the 2020 season. The Committee has agreed to move forward with the October 24 event. Program content has been sent to the Niagara Region for comment prior to promotion being conducted.

3. Transportation & Trails

a) *Millennium Recreational Trail Update*

Section 5 is now complete. The Storywalk boards have been delayed and will be installed by early Spring of 2021. An official opening will take place once all amenities have been installed.

b) *NS & T Trail*

A consultant is being attained to coordinate a feasibility Master Plan for the NS & T Line. Residents will be able to participate in the consultation process at a later date.

4. New Business

a) *Climate Action Plan*

Senior Staff have indicated that this topic now be referred to the Recreation and Culture Strategic Master Plan. Another option is to present the report to Council with a recommendation that Council declares a climate emergency in the City of Niagara Falls and to recognize that everyone has a role to play in stopping climate change.

b) *Tree Inventory*

The committee have requested an update on the tree inventory. Staff are to follow-up with information at the next meeting.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 3:00 pm online Zoom meeting.