

The Park in the City Committee

4:00 p.m. - Wednesday, March 29, 2017

MacBain Community Centre Boardroom

Minutes of Meeting

Present:

John Anstruther, Audrey Fraser, Pat Mascarin, Paisley January-Pool, Elizabeth Manker, Michal Lukac, Corey Barkman, Kenneth Groves, Janet Hassall, Curtis Thompson, Jeff Guarasci (Staff)

Regrets:

Councillor Mike Strange, Councillor Victor Pietrangelo, Frank Fohr

1. Adoption of Minutes

The Park in the City Committee minutes from January 11, 2017.

IT WAS MOVED BY John Anstruther, second by Kenneth Groves, that the minutes of the meeting of January 11, 2017 be approved as written. Motion Carried.

2. Events & Programs

Spring Events Participation

- April 10. DSBN ICE Presentation – John, Corey, Pat, Janet, Audrey
- April 28. Arbour Day – Frank, John, Janet, Kenneth, Pat, Audrey
- April 29. Tree Seedling Sales – Frank, Mike, Janet, Audrey
- May 6. Clean Sweep – Frank, John, Pat, Janet, Elizabeth, Audrey, Paisley
- May 17. Ride of Silence – Mike, Paisley, Audrey
- May 27. Niagara Falls Horticultural Society Plant Sale – Pat, Janet, Audrey

3. Tree Programs, Projects

Memorial Planting

Family members for Chester Murawski have notified staff that a preferred date to conduct a memorial tree planting in honour of Chester is Saturday, September 2 at Greendale Public School. A request has been sent to DSBN officials for approval to plant a tree on the school property.

IT WAS MOVED BY Mike Lukac, second by Kenneth Groves that the committee recommends staff consider utilizing the wood from a fallen significant tree in the City of Niagara Falls for the purpose of either creating a bench or artwork structure to be place at the site of the fallen significant tree. Motion Carried.

4. Transportation and Trails

a) Regional Committee Update

Curtis Thompson indicated that the ATTN Committee is looking for more volunteers to join. Interested committee members are to follow-up with staff.

b) Millennium Recreational Trail Update

Section 6 of the Millennium Recreation Trail is scheduled to commence construction on April 15, weather permitting with a target date of June 1 for completion. Preliminary discussions are underway with MTO on a proposed design of a bike track along the Dorchester Bridge that leads to another future section of the trail. Capital funding has been approved for the design of Section 5 that is located from Dorchester Road to Morrison Street. Public information sessions will be conducted in the summer.

5. Awards and Grants

The Niagara Community Foundation grant for \$4,000 has been approved for tree planting along the Warren Woods Trail. A planting date is set for Friday, October 20. Saint Michael Catholic High School has confirmed participation.

The TD "Tree To Nature" Canada 150 Grant for \$5,000 was denied. However, TD Friends of the Environment is giving the Park in the City Committee \$1,600 in support of City's Canada 150 greening effort.

6. New Business

a) Drummond Road EA

Staff is to report back at the next meeting on the tree replacement plan for the Drummond Road improvement project between Valley Way and Morrison Street.

b) Playground Replacement

The committee was made aware of the public engagement plan that will take place throughout the summer in regard to the 10 park/playground improvement project. The committee is in support of helping with public engagement.

c) Summer Trillium Canada 150 Award

The committee supports adding the Canada 150 logo to all of the trillium award plaques for 2017. The Summer Trillium Sub-Committee is to meet to discuss a one-time 2017 "Canada 150" award that has a focus on red and white annuals. Pat Mascarin will report on the Trillium Sub-Committee at the next Park in the City Committee meeting.

d) Healthy Kids Theme 3

A new community garden/outdoor teaching centre will be constructed at Westlane Secondary School as part of the Healthy Kids Community Challenge Theme 3 *Choose Veggies and Fruits*. Partners in the project include DSBN, City of Niagara Falls, Project SHARE, NFCHC and Learning of Greener Living. The project is scheduled for a late Spring opening. Details are currently being finalized.

e) *Fireworks*

Committee members brought forward the topic of fireworks and their negative effect on the environment. The committee agreed that an alternative entertainment source appropriate to replace the fireworks shows would need to be researched before further action is discussed.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at 4:00 pm at the Niagara Falls History Museum. Ride of Silence event to follow.

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