

# The Park in the City Committee

4:30 p.m. - Wednesday, March 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, Audrey Fraser, Pasiley Janvary-Pool, Pat Mascarin, Carly Milani, Councillor Strange, Councillor Pietrangelo, Jeff Guarasci (Staff)

#### Regrets:

None

### 1. Adoption of Minutes

#### a) *February 27, 2019 Meeting Minutes*

**IT WAS MOVED BY John Anstruther, second by Frank Fohr that the minutes of the meeting of February 27, 2019 be approved as written.**

**Motion Carried**

### 2. Business Arising from February 27, 2019 meeting

#### a) *NS & T Line*

Staff elaborated on the proposed 2 stage improvement projects for the trail. All Committee members are invited to walk the NS & T Line trail with Staff on Wednesday, April 17 starting at 3:00pm.

**IT WAS MOVED BY Frank Fohr, second by Michal Lukac that Staff prepare a letter on behalf of the Park in the City Committee for support requesting Council to consider moving the proposed capital projects NS & T Trail Stage 1 and 2 forward in 2019 and beyond.**

**Motion Carried**

#### b) *Library Seed Bank*

The Niagara Falls Public Library requested help with seed selection from the Committee in regard to their Seed Bank project which opens on Saturday, May 17. The community garden project will be pursued in 2020.

#### c) *Niagara Falls Horticultural Society – May 25 Flower Sale*

Janet Hassall and Pat Mascarin will represent the Park in the City Committee at the Niagara Falls Horticultural Society's flower sale on at the Niagara Falls Public Library – Victoria Branch on Saturday, May 25 from 9:00am to 2:00pm.

### 3. Events & Programs

#### a) *Funding*

Staff was able to secure various funds and grants for 2019 as follows: \$25,000(USD) TD Green Spaces Grant, \$7,650 TD Tree Days Grant, \$6,000 Niagara Casinos, \$5,000 NPEI, \$4,000 Niagara Community Foundation Environmental Grant, \$2,500 Rotary Club of Niagara Falls Sunrise, \$1,500 Walker industries, \$1,000 OPG, \$1,000 Niagara Falls Horticultural Society.

#### b) *Committee Spring Assignments*

- Harbour Day: Audrey, Pat, Dan, John B, Frank, Carly, Sheila, Janet, John A. Councillor Strange to MC.
- Tree Seedling Prep: Audrey, John A, Michal
- Tree Seedling Sale: Audrey, Pat, Janet, Michal
- Community Clean Sweep: Michal, Dan, Sheila, John A, Tom, Audrey, John B
- Ride of Silence: Pat, Michal, Dan, Janet, John A, Frank. Councillors Strange and Pietrangelo to Co-MC.

#### c) *Earth Day Events*

- An Earth Day Sub-Committee was formed to develop strategies to highlight Earth Day annually. The Sub-Committee will report to the Park in the City Committee. Michal Lukac will Chair the Earth Day Sub-Committee with members including Pat Mascarin, Janet Hassall, John Anstruther, John Brucato and Frank Fohr.

### 4. Transportation and Trails

#### a) *Active Transportation Niagara Network*

Both Sheila and Tom are interested in participating in the Active Transportation Niagara Network. Staff will join these members at the first scheduled meeting.

### 5. New Business

#### a) *Plastic Straws*

**IT WAS MOVED BY Michal Lukac, second by Frank Fohr, that the Park in the City Committee supports a ban of plastic straws and stir sticks at all City facilities. The committee encourages that staff implement an educational component to compliment the ban.**

**Motion Carried**

#### b) *Tree Canopy*

John B informed the committee of a tree initiative taking place in the City of Mississauga.

**IT WAS MOVED BY John Brucato, second by John Anstruther, that Staff forward information on the One Million Trees website to Municipal Works staff for consideration of adopting a similar program in Niagara Falls.**

**Motion Carried**

**IT WAS MOVED BY Frank Fohr, second by John Anstruther that Staff bring information brought to the next Park in the City Committee meeting in regard to the City's 2019 tree budgets for removal/replacement and any information on value based spending on trees.**

**Motion Carried**

**c) Educational Tools at Events**

Staff are to contact the Niagara Region to acquire any educational materials to be used at the up-coming Community Clean Sweep event.

**d) Memorial Program**

Staff are to find more opportunities to promote the Park in the City Committee Memorial Fund.

**e) Tree of the Week**

Staff are to contact the Niagara Falls Review to inquire about the possibilities of developing a weekly editorial on the "Tree of the Week".

**f) Park in the City Committee Meeting Schedule**

To accommodate all members, the schedule has been altered to reflect the following for 2019 meetings:

- Wednesday, May 15, 4:00 pm at Firemen's Park
- Wednesday, June 12, 4:30 pm at the MacBain Community Centre
- Wednesday, September 11, 4:30 pm at the MacBain Community Centre
- Wednesday, October 9, 4:30 pm at the MacBain Community Centre
- Wednesday, November 13, 4:30 pm at the MacBain Community Centre
- Wednesday, December 11, 6:00 pm at Jeff's house (Christmas Social)

## **6. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

### **Next Meeting:**

Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at 4:00 pm at Firemen's Park, followed by the Ride of Silence Bicycle event.