

The Park in the City Committee

3:00 p.m. – Wednesday, May 12, 2021

Virtual Online Meeting

Minutes of Meeting

Present:

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

Regrets:

Janet Hassall, Tom Mingle, Dan Cicchino

1. Adoption of Minutes

a) April 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes

IT WAS MOVED BY Sheila Deluca, second by John Brucato that the minutes of the April 14, 2021 Park in the City Committee meeting be approved as written.

Motion Carried

2. Events & Programs

a) Community Clean Sweep Recap

In total, there were 75 registrations completed with 121 people registered. \$5 Tim Horton gift cards will be circulated to all participants once the Ontario lockdown restrictions are lifted.

b) Green Movement Recap

221 people participated completing 1,800 challenges/tasks by utilizing the Goose Chase online app. 571 of those challenges were completed by high school students. Stamford Collegiate Secondary School were the winners of the Green Movement High School Challenge. Sponsors included Norwex, Zappis, Goodwill and Land Care Niagara. Social media posts and advertisements reached 44,000 engagements with the highest demographic being women aged 25 plus.

c) Summer Trillium Awards Update

The link to the program registration page will be posted online by June 1. The roll out of the program will be identical to the previous year due to the existing restrictions. In lieu of an awards ceremony, sub-committee members will deliver the awards to each participating property.

3. Transportation and Trails

a) Millennium Recreational Trail Updates

Storywalk boards will be installed along the Rotary Storywalk Pathway by July 1 with a grand opening to follow sometime in the summer.

Construction for section 1 (south of McLeod Road) is pending this year on a 1.4 million PRIP government grant. Public consultation on the build is now closed.

The bridge installation that will connect the Niagara River Recreational Trail to the Lions Legacy Pathway is scheduled for completion by the end of June.

4. New Business

a) Millennium Recreational Trail Tree Planting

Staff have acquired a \$5,000 grant to plant trees on municipal land. A plan is being developed to plant native flowering trees and pollinator gardens along all sections of the Millennium Recreational Trail. Tree and plant installs will include identification markers. The goal is to complete all plantings within 5 years. The first install will be completed this fall along the Lions Legacy Pathway.

b) 2 Billion Tree Initiative

The Federal government is launching a 2 billion tree planting initiative. Locally, the Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority is taking the lead in applying for funding with partnering Niagara Region municipalities. The project will be completed in 10 years.

c) Land Care Niagara Tree Initiative

The organization has requested to partner with the City of Niagara Falls to plant 5,000 trees on municipal lands in 2021. The plan is to utilize land east of Mewburn Road and south of the Laura Secord Commemorative Trail to conduct the planting.

d) Gold Box Program Update

The Niagara Region has responded to a request explore the Gold Box Program for “Super-Recyclers” and report back on any incentive program. Regional Staff responded with a letter to Council that indicated that since 2012 they have been administering a similar program called the Gold Star Program. Since 2012, 4,300 households have been audited for their recycling efforts. Educational material is left with each participating household to help enhance recycling efforts.

e) Tick Signage Update

Over 200 tick information signs have been ordered and will be installed throughout municipal trails and parks during the coming weeks.

f) Park in the City Committee Memorial Program

Staff are to follow-up with local funeral homes to inquire about options on how to enhance the Park in the City Committee Memorial Program. Staff will report back to the Committee at the June meeting.

g) Green New Deal – Council of Canadians

Frank Fohr addressed the committee on the Council of Canadian report that includes information on climate change and how municipalities can engage the crisis.

IT WAS MOVED BY Frank Fohr, second by Michal Lukac that Staff consider placing priority on solar and geo thermal options when building new facilities and when considering retro-fits to existing facilities.

Motion Carried

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 3:00 pm online Zoom meeting.