

# URBAN FORESTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

THURSDAY  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2012 START TIME: 5:00PM

CITY HALL: COMMITTEE ROOM 1

MEETING CALLED BY	Mike Anderson
CALL TO ORDER:	5:00pm
FACILITATOR	
TIMEKEEPER	Carleigh Lewis – New Trees Forestry Operations Co-op
ATTENDEES	Gavin Pally, Ron Calvert, John Sheehan, Stephen Homes , Mike Anderson , Peter Howes

## Agenda topics

### 5:05 COMMITTEE APPLICATIONS

DISCUSSION	How will the UFMP group choose a new committee member?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Contact the applicants from before and re post for a position</li><li>Looking for diversity</li></ul>	

### 5:25 JEFF LOUCKS PITCH

DISCUSSION:	What the presentation will involve and present to the UFM committee.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Jeff would like to put together a presentation for information purposes based on the preservation of trees to show different areas in the city and how they compete.</li><li>The presentation will:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>provide help to guide where we should concentrate our resources</li><li>Point out roadblocks</li><li>Use a case based approach (lakeside park)</li><li>Showcase the planning and development side more than forestry</li></ul></li><li>Discussion session at the end of the presentation.</li></ul>	

### 5:40 INVENTORY OF TREES

DISCUSSION	Pricing, companies, various municipalities.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Currently looking at 7-8 items that we want to include within the inventory.</li><li>The tree inventory is for the public safety.</li><li>We care about the size of the trees mainly for the public's safety.</li><li>All trees on boulevards should be recorded regardless of size but if it's in a forest it doesn't really matter if the smaller ones are recorded.</li><li>Every park should be judged / inventoried as a standalone.</li><li>Standalone has a GPS coordinate which means you can locate any tree anywhere and it'll be easier to take care of trees in parks etc. and can be managed better.</li><li>Mike asked several companies in Ontario and one in the United States in regards to costs.</li></ul>	

- Berkdale company in the States uses GPS offered in-house system (This means the company can train any number of people the city wants regardless if they're in the forest industry or not )
- Berkdale's statistics:
  - 100-390 trees recorded a day
  - 200 is the average amount that can be inventoried in a day
  - \$1.07 per tree (not including maintenance cost or software cost)
  - 48 days at 8 hours a day to do 10,000 trees
  - Close to \$100,000 a year.
- Other companies will cost anywhere from \$2.50 - \$5.00 per tree but they are all inclusive which means they will do the inventorying themselves.
- In house is cheaper but a bigger burden on the staff
  - However it might not be cheaper after all the admin costs etc.
- If we use an all-inclusive company, we might get a bigger package.
- Horizon is interested in inventorying the tree
  - We could possibly ask them to reimburse us for doing the tree inspections
  - It's worth checking out for budget reasons alone.
- Money will not hold us back in regards to getting an inventory system.
- Gavin talked to Oakville/Burlington
  - They're all using different versions of the same system to inventory their trees
  - They're all using GPS sampling to get an idea of the urban forest area.
- Gavin will be going to a conference in London with the rest of the municipalities to gather more information in regards to inventory systems, companies etc.
- Overall, we need to get into action or else this tree inventory will keep getting pushed back. The budget is already put in for 2013 so now we're looking at 2014 for the tree inventory.
- We need to know how much money is required for this tree inventory so we can move forward, which will allow us to figure out what exactly is included in the inventory.

#### ACTION ITEMS

- Create a document on needs that we want for the inventory and circulate it between everyone so we can be better prepared for the next meeting.
  - This way we can think of what other needs are involved beside city staff.
  - This will help show the values in the system per person (i.e. staff, citizen etc.)

6:25

#### PRIVATE PROPERTY TREE BY-LAW

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Further moved to a later date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some municipalities have certain staff as to all they do is police tree by-laws</li> <li>• We have to decide who we are protecting the trees from (ie. Developers expanding driveways, or their house etc.)</li> <li>• There will be a liability with a by-law               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The city should include what the liabilities are in the by-law</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Tree size would have to be defined to see if the by-law is worth it.</li> <li>• Other by-laws are compiled – Mike will send this to Ron.</li> </ul>	
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Table this topic for closer to the end of the year.</li> </ul>	

6:40

#### THREAT RESPONSE EVALUATION / EAB

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	The document / report
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- Creating a report on strategies of how we will respond to requests that will be given to the councilors at the end of the year
- Gavin's department will be mainly responsible for the threat response
- Agreement was reached that the person who signs off on the budget needs to state who is responsible for what in the report.
- The development of the EAB plan should be communicated in a proper way and should have several different processes within the document
- The report was sent to councilors on this committee but there was no response.
- Question stated was would this document force the action of EAB response if it goes through councilors? The answer was it should / we would hope so. However, the response won't happen until the trees start to die.
- Oakville was contacted in regards to the EAB response and they figured out their cost easily because of their tree inventory.
- The city will probably give support to inject the trees because it is an even flow of cash, compared to a big amount of money all at once, and then nothing.
- When the response / plan is fully developed, it will be given to Gavin.
- The part that is missing in the report is "Who's the responsible one?"

## 6:50 ROAD

## HARTZEL

### DISCUSSION: THE PLANTING ALONG HARTZEL ROAD

- \$25,000 of regional dollars to plant trees along Hartzel road
- The city will plant trees in all the vacant spots on Hartzel Road from Queenston Street to Oakdale Avenue.
- RCS is still waiting on the second meeting with the councilors for approval.
- Suggestion to remove all ash trees on Hartzel road in 2013 and replace them.
- There is a way of putting water into the trees through alligator bags. Alligator bags are successful just depending on where you put them. Urban areas that are well visited / travelled usually work well with alligator bags.
- This year smaller trees suffered more than larger trees as a result of the drought.
- The minimum amount of rain we received this summer actually snapped trees because they were so brittle.
- This year all bare root trees are being replaced with container trees.
  - 15 Gallon, 35mil. With a two year warranty. They will be double staked.
- The problem with the dying trees is there isn't enough staff to water the trees.
- Other municipalities give out gift certificates to home owners past a certain installation stage which will give them money back on their watering bill. This encourages home owners to water their trees. Something to think about!
- Trees that aren't on main streets tend to do better.
- 10-15% of trees died on boulevards.

## 7:00

## CN ECOCONNECTIONS

### DISCUSSION

Information on CN EcoConnections Grant

- Granted \$20,000 to plant trees along the CN Rails.
- Planting on the CN Spur (Welland to Parnell).
- Planting a couple hundred trees 200-400
- All ash along this trail has been lost.

## 7:10

## COMMITTEE REVIEW – CHAIRPERSON

### DISCUSSION

Finding a new chair person

- Mike cannot be the chair person anymore.
- The chair person cannot be from the city.
- We will wait until we get the other 2 members and then take a vote.

## 7:15

## NEXT MEETING / NEW BUSINESS

### DISCUSSION

What will we be talking about in the next meeting?

- We will need to figure out the line of RCS/ TES.
- Figure out the history of each department and how it can be fixed.
- Jef Loucks will present.

<b>MEETING ADJOURNED:</b>	7:20 PM	
<b>RESOURCE PERSONS</b>		
<b>NEXT MEETING:</b>	November 1 ,2012	