

# URBAN FORESTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

**THURSDAY JULY 18,  
2013**

**START TIME: 5:00PM**

**CITY HALL: COMMITTEE ROOM 1**

<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Elizabeth Chitty
<b>CALL TO ORDER:</b>	5:00pm
<b>COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON</b>	Elizabeth Chitty
<b>MINUTES</b>	Daryl Abbs
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	John Dick Steven Holmes Peter Howe John Sheehan Elizabeth Chitty Michael O'Neill David Stevens John Stevens Bruce Zimmerman Keith Bessy Gavin Pally Ron Calvert Laura Collings – Climate Action Niagara
<b>REGRETS</b>	Councilor Mark Elliott Councilor Bill Phillips Mike Anderson
<b>ABSENT</b>	

## Agenda topics

**5:00 PM**

### **#7. PRESENTATION – LAURA COLLINGS, CLIMATE ACTION NIAGRA**

<b>PRESENTATION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heritage Trees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Designating a heritage tree with the provincial program can be costly and difficult</li> <li>○ Climate Action Niagara wants to designate heritage trees</li> <li>○ Climate Action Niagara would like the committee to help bring awareness to the Heritage Tree Hunt and heritage trees</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Fruit Tree Trail <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Pilot project in St. Catharines and Niagara</li> <li>○ Looking for help with funding</li> <li>○ Elizabeth will write a letter in support of the program that will be emailed to members of the committee for their response</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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**#2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**5:15 PM**

DISCUSSION	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approved</li> </ul>

**#3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 18**

**5:15 PM**

DISCUSSION	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approved by John Stevens and seconded by Peter Howe</li> </ul>

**#5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 24**

**5:20 PM**

DISCUSSION	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Peter Howe noted 2 corrections: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Typo in the date; it was Thursday May 23, 2013</li> <li>Discussion at 6:50PM - #7 poorly worded. Should read: if the City has to remove a regional tree, how do we replace them?</li> <li>Gavin: The City should not take regional trees down and this happening was a rare occurrence.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Motion to accept minutes at 5:30pm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dave Stevens moves to accept and John Stevens seconds</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**#8. REVIEW DEFINITIONS**

**5:35PM**

DISCUSSION	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Definitions were taken from draft by-laws provided by Ron, John and Gavin</li> <li>Peter Howe: We need #18-Highway to be defined</li> <li>#28 – Public Property: Will return to definition. Should have both public property and municipal property definitions in working draft</li> <li>#11 – Dying: John Stevens to research the definition of dying. The 70% of foliage may be incorrect wording</li> <li>#2 – Add word <i>current</i> before International Society of Arboriculture</li> <li>#26 – Pollarding: Return to definition after draft completed. Depending on the content of the draft we may be able to remove it</li> <li>#24 – This may offend. Will return to definition to see if necessary for document</li> <li>Gavin to get public by-law from legal for next meeting</li> </ul>

5:50PM

**#9. INTEGRATED PLANNING AND EDUCATION**

DISCUSSION	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interdepartmental education is very important <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Issues can fall between the cracks</li> <li>○ Issues like; who has jurisdiction over certain matters?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Educate Council and decision makers throughout the City and advocate communication between departments</li> <li>• The people who need the trees do not want or appreciate them</li> <li>• People will spend money to maintain their tree when they understand the exponential increase in property value subject to the survival and growth of the tree</li> <li>• Education about this last point is different in different areas</li> <li>• We don't need to protect trees from these people</li> <li>• Education will help with public support for the by-law</li> <li>• There are conflicting interests in the City. There is an initiative to increase the residences by 30000 which will cause problems for increasing the canopy</li> <li>• Elizabeth: We should inform more departments within the city of our strategies and actions</li> <li>• Bruce: We need to first make the by-law before we worry about how to educate everyone on it</li> <li>• Gavin: There is an interdependence of the 3 documents. It should be noted how the forester and/or arborist are part of the process. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ This should be put into the document</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Bruce: Explicitly state how the forester is part of changes to the by-law and how the forester is involved in conflict resolution between departments</li> <li>• Roles and Responsibilities of the forester should be one section</li> <li>• <b>6:15pm – The UFAC has decided that we want to support interdepartmental roles and responsibilities and a project review process</b></li> <li>• Structure to role is important for when a new forester takes over</li> </ul>

**STRATEGIES AND ACTIONS**

6:20 PM

DISCUSSION	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elizabeth: Should we proceed in a linear way or break off into working groups.</li> <li>• Consensus to move forward as one whole group</li> </ul>

**#10. STRATEGIES**

6:30 PM

DISCUSSION	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategies have to meet our goal from draft 5</li> <li>• Strategy 1 – Change to develop partnerships between the City and property owners</li> <li>• Strategy 2 – Cut out all of the words after “hard surfaces”</li> <li>• Strategy 3 – Pelham has heritage tree by-law for specific trees or groves of trees. Homework needs to be done to get more information on municipal tree designation</li> </ul>

- Maybe strengthen and support heritage tree designations or have our own
- Gavin will get more information on the municipal heritage tree designation; Policy, by-law, legal status and application process
- We will come back to strategy 3
- Strategy 4 – Good the way it is
- Strategy 5 – About whether or not we are going for a penalty or a self-enforcing system
  - Making citizens part of the process will make it easier to pass the by-law.
  - This may be a principle of the by-law which is in the third paragraph of the introduction
  - Bruce: It is important to define this twice
  - Will review the language at another date
- Strategy 6 – The first part may be an action. We will come back to this strategy
- Strategy 7 – Will come back and look at this strategy as well

6:55 PM

DISCUSSION	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decision to move forward as a group – consensus</li> <li>• Consider missing strategies on our own and bring into next discussion</li> <li>• Actions deferred to next meeting</li> </ul>

#### 9. Next Meeting

- Review strategies
- Review Actions
- Next meetings scheduled for August 15<sup>th</sup> and September 19<sup>th</sup>

<b>MEETING ADJOURNED:</b>	7:05pm
<b>NEXT MEETING:</b>	Thursday June 20, 2013 - Atrium