

Minutes

Wednesday, June 17, 2015

City Hall Atrium at 5:00 – 7:00 pm

Attendance:

Dick Thomas, Peter Thompstone, Peter Howes, Mary Jane Clark, James McWilliam, Stephen Holmes, Councillor Sal Sorrento, Councillor David Haywood

Absent:

Vanessa Aykroyd, Lana Phan

Staff Liaison:

Mike Anderson, Kristen Sullivan, Emma Lahay, Dave Wood,

1. **Call meeting to order (Chair)**
5:01 pm
2. **Additions/Deletions to the Agenda**
 - No additions/deletions to the agenda
3. **Introductions**
4. **Terms of Reference**
5. **Appointments**
 - Secretary – A city employee will take minutes at all meetings (Emma or other staff member)
 - Chairperson – Peter Thompstone (nominated by Dick Thomas)
 - Vice Chairperson – Peter Howes (self-nominated)
6. **Motion to approve the agenda**
Agenda Approved
7. **Motion to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting**
No previous minutes to approve
8. **Presentations (invited guests)**

No presentation

9. **Business arising from the minutes**

No business

10. **Business**

10.1 Green Committee Outstanding Projects Updates

- List of tentative projects from 2014 was sent to all members of Green Advisory Committee
- In regards to this list, new committee is looking for direction of which projects they would like to see completed and which projects that can be removed from 2015 agenda moving forward with the budget available
- Updates provided by Kristen Sullivan
- Carryover from 2014 is \$57,648, additional \$20,000 in 2015 budget for a total of \$77,648 available funds
- **Geneva- 406 Naturalization Planting - \$1,000 carryover**
 - Naturalization was previously planned by the committee. These funds were set aside to remove dead material and plant wildflower seed
 - There is the need for further discussion to see if this committee would like to follow through with the project
- **Graffiti Project - \$1,773 carryover**
 - A total of \$3,773 (additional \$2000 from the Graffiti Committee) available to complete this project.
 - Kristen Sullivan provided an update of the vines that were planted a few years ago – most of which are not doing well
 - No one had picked up the 2014 tender to complete the project
 - There is the need for further discussion to see if this committee would like to follow through with the project
- **Hydro One Corridor - \$2,500 carryover**
 - Waiting for approval from Hydro One to complete this project on Pelham Road
 - There is the need for further discussion to see if this committee would like to follow through with the project
- **Windows to the Lake - \$7,514 carryover**
 - Previous committee was interested in improving road ends and allowances in Port Dalhousie by cleaning up overgrown bushes and trees to provide better viewing for the public
 - Question asked if there could be interaction and possible funds through the Smith Group.

- There is the need for further discussion to see if this committee would like to follow through with the project
- **Pearson Park Arboretum**
 - Update provided: some of the trees have been identified with the help of Don Papple from Niagara College.
 - There is the need for further discussion to see if the committee would like to follow through with this project
 - Question asked if the Greenhouse was currently in use. Council David Haywood spoke that there is currently proposals for use of the Greenhouse but could not discuss the matter further.
- **Hannelore Headley Chess Park – Carryover \$0**
 - There is no carryover to complete plantings for 2015.
 - Peter Howes said he thought that City Parks would be fixing up this park. The committee can choose if they would like to fund this project to replace plantings.
 - There is the need for further discussion to see if the committee would like to budget funds for this project
- **Club Roma Ash Tree Replacement – Committed \$3,500**
 - Green Committee committed \$3500 to Club Roma for the replacement of Ash Trees removed from the property. Committee would be recognized on signage
 - Committee was advised that removing this project from the list would bring hardship as the funds have already been committed to a third party (Club Roma)
- **Torosian Park Community Gardens – Committed \$3,500**
 - Money would be used for expansion of gardens to provide additional plots for Community Care and Niagara Regional Housing clients
 - Committee was advised that removing this project from the list would bring hardship as the funds have already been committed to a third party (Community Care/ Niagara Regional Housing)
- **327 Glendale Ave Parkette – Carryover \$32,691**
 - Kristen Sullivan spoke on the behalf of Christine Adams to provide an update
 - The City has developed a plan for this site to be completed in three phases, information was provided to all members. Details included cost and design of Parkette. A tender went out in the Spring of 2015, this tender will expire in early July.
 - Phase one costs came in at \$61,500. This includes grading, prep work, and tree planting. Fill had been brought from another site and can be used in the project. \$32,691 has been carried over from last year for

phase one completion. Currently the committee is short \$28,809.

Funding options include

- Fundraising and donations from third parties. David Haywood spoke that he has the ability to approach a number of people for donations to this project in the Merritton Ward.
 - Funds available from list of carry-over projects.
 - Funds available from 2015 Budget (\$17,900)
 - Dick Thomas asked if the Green Advisory commits the funds to see the project be started and then a donation comes through, the Green Advisory Committee's money would be used for other projects to be completed. This was agreed upon.
- It was a unanimous decision by committee members that 327 Glendale is an important project to see-through with and further information is needed of how the project will be completed. It was brought up that the tender's expire in early July (before the next Green Advisory Committee meeting.)
 - It was asked by members if the tender could be extended until a decision was made. Christine Adams would be responsible to see if this was possible. The danger with retendering was spoken about including tarnishing relationships with contractors, and costs rising.
 - Interest in the historical "Johansson's Bar" was brought up as a part of the future in this project. Kristen spoke that much research has been done into the history of "the bar," but ultimately could not confirm that "the bar" was used in the construction of the Welland Canal. More information is needed in regards to signage.
 - \$5,000 donation from the Horticulture Society for plant material in phase two. The Horticulture society would like to see credit/appreciation for this project as they felt they did not receive acknowledgement after James Street Plantings in the past.
 - The Chair asked to have another meeting to make this project a priority. Members agreed that it was important to meet onsite before tenders expire. A meeting date of June 24th on location at 327 Glendale Avenue was agreed upon. This meetings purpose is to give members time to understand the details fully before committing funds. Mike Anderson would be responsible for sending out further details and meeting information.

10.2 Urban Forestry Advisory Committee Update

- Update provided by Mike Anderson
- **Development of Private Property Tree By-law**

- The previous Urban Forestry Committee has spent 18 months doing research and held 2 public meeting looking into creating a private property tree bylaw. The City of St. Catharines is one of the few municipalities that does not have a bylaw in place protecting trees on private property being removed. A significant tree species list has been created by City staff and previous committee members, the trees on this list constitute for less than 10% of the St. Catharines urban forest canopy. It is felt that more can be done into the protection of trees in the City. This project should be a forestry related item that has top priority. Mike Anderson said that he would like to see a more in-depth proposal go to council in Fall 2015.
- There is a need for further discussion in the next Green Advisory Committee meeting.
- **Threat Assessment of Asian Longhorn Beetle**
- **Community stewardship and education program**

10.3 Creation of Sub Committee

- Mike Anderson suggested that a sub-committee could be implemented to help assist as to how the Green Advisory Committee would approach new and existing projects.
- The committee would consist of one previous member of the Green Committee, one previous member of the Urban Forestry Committee, and one new member that has not been on a either.
- This committee would choose decide the priority of each project and the timeline to which it would follow.

10.4 Parking

- It was brought up that members have to pay for parking downtown before 6 pm, they would like to be given reimbursement. City staff to look into this matter.

11. **Date of next meeting**
 Wednesday, July 15, 2015
 5:00 – 7:00pm

12. **Motion to Adjourn**

- Motion adjourned – 6:50 pm