



Corporation of the City of St. Catharines
MAYOR'S GRAFFITI COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, September 4, 2012

3:30 to 4:30pm

St. Catharines City Hall, 50 Church Street: Committee Room 1

Meeting Notes

Present: Mayor Brian McMullan, Councillor Greg Washuta
Staff: Stacey Wells (legal), Kristen Sullivan (RCS)
Tisha Polocko, Ben Hannan, Kris Akilie, Ben Wilby, Daniel Frye,
Peter Voulgaridis, Edmund Bruckner

Regrets: Staff: Rick Lane and Jim Benson (RCS)
Dan Trainor, Cam Hathaway, Kim Black, Selby Harris
Stacey Sheehan, Dave Schulz, Paul Jackson

Welcome from Councillor Washuta

Approval of meeting notes from April 17 2012

- Motion to approve, by Ben Hannan
- All in favour
- Carried

1. Greening initiative for QEW sound barriers~ Ben Hannan

- Volunteer planting of vines has been halted due to Health and Safety issues and liability concerns raised by City staff
- Signing a waiver is not an option
- Staff has advised that there are two options: contracting out or staff doing the planting
- Ben Hannan expresses frustration that the volunteers from various committees who invested time, money and expertise from this project's inception cannot take part in the planting and see the project through to its completion

Action: *Kristen Sullivan advises that the planting can be done this fall, given that the scale of the plantings are small and will only require a couple hours of work by RCS staff*

(Mayor McMullan takes over the chair from Councillor Washuta)

2. Joint Mural Task Force ~ Tisha Polocko

- In process of formatting guidelines similar to SCCIP program
- Focusing on differentiation in elements between murals which would be on private vs public property

Action: *Tisha Polocko will report back to the Committee on the progress of the Task Force at the next meeting*

3. Mainstream and request for funding ~ Kris Akilie

- Mainstream has qualified as a city-approved contractor for graffiti removal
- Wipeout Cleaning trained Mainstream to use a hot water pressure treating method for graffiti removal which is much more effective than using cold water
- Utilizing this method will enable Mainstream to work through the winter months removing graffiti

- Mainstream is currently the only city-approved graffiti removal contractor that is located in St. Catharines
- Mainstream is also working on a graffiti removal program with the Downtown Association
- In order to work year round to meet the graffiti removal demand, Mainstream needs to purchase a hot water pressure

(3.1)Moved by Tisha Polocko: *The Graffiti Committee grant \$5,500 from the graffiti budget to Mainstream Services for the purchase of a hot water pressure washer for graffiti removal*

- All in favour
- Carried

4. Mobile apps for graffiti reporting

- The City does not currently have the technical capability for mobile applications
- This would require a significant purchase for IT to set up this portal
- However, graffiti reporting is capable through the City's Facebook account and by texting (@St_Catharines)

Action: *The Mayor will communicate this through his Mayor's Report and also direct Communications to publish this information in the Current Newsletter*

5. NRP Stats ~ Paul Jackson through email

- See appendix (stats)

Action: *Kristen Sullivan to review the sharing of information between the NRP and the City*

Action: *Mayor will review the protocol with the NRP given the changeover of officers*

6. Committee Membership Quorum

- The lack of attendance by some on the Graffiti Committee has posed challenges in achieving quorum (at least 50% of the membership) for meetings
- Need to establish those who are on committee in an *ex officio* capacity and those who were appointed to the committee
- Staff attend in advisory capacity and do not have voting privileges

Action: *Mayor's office to review the constitution of the committee and identify those who were appointed and those who are ex officio in order to determine membership quorum requirements for next meeting*

New Business

7. Graffiti Removal Program

- Kristen Sullivan reports that only one business has taken advantage of the funds available for the Graffiti Removal Program this year

(7.1)Moved by Mayor McMullan: *The Graffiti Committee re-examine the \$300.00 upset limit for the graffiti removal program in the Spring 2013*

- All in favour
- Carried

8. Graffiti reports

- Graffiti on the hoarding around Performing Arts Centre
- Graffiti presented on video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dnn44vZqSLO>

Action: *Kristen Sullivan will investigate and report to RCS Graffiti Hotline*

9. Utility graffiti removal

- Mainstream does not remove graffiti from Bell or Canada Post fixtures as they have their own graffiti removal contractors
- Mainstream submitted an application for funding to Canada Post and was not successful attaining support through their grant program
- Committee consensus that Bell does not remove graffiti promptly

Action: *Kristen Sullivan to provide Bell contact to the Mayor's office for follow up*

10. Community events

- Shoreline Clean-up, Sept 15
- Ghost Walks at Victoria Lawn Cemetery, ongoing
- Stargazing at Cindy Drive Park, Sept 6
- Photographic presentation of Isaac Brock, Grantham Mennonite Church, Sept 11 @ 7:30pm
- Walks in the Parks, Thursdays at 10am each week, thru WCNA

Adjournment: 4:30pm

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 27, 2012

3:30 to 4:30

Committee Room 1