

Minutes

Wednesday, August 10, 2016

Atrium – City Hall at 5:00 pm

Attendance:

Peter Howes, John Stevens, Dick Thomas, Peter Thompstone, Stephen Holmes, James McWilliam

Staff Liaison:

Christine Adams, Mike Anderson, Meagan Gloor

Regrets:

Mary Jane Clark, Lana Phan

1. **Call Meeting to Order** (Peter Thompstone) 5:02 pm
2. **Presentations:** Rick Vanderkuip, Karen Sabzali and Elizabeth Fritshaw attended on behalf of the Canada's 150th Task Force to present their greening related project ideas and potential partnership with the Green Committee. The committee will discuss how they want to proceed at the September meeting.
3. **Motion to Adopt minutes from the previous meeting** Peter Howes
 - **Discussion arising from the minutes:** It was agreed that the descriptor for project # 13 should read "Community Gardens: Eastmount Park" vs. "Community Gardens".
4. **Additions / Deletions to the Agenda**
 - The agenda item numbering was corrected to remove two #3's: following the first #3, items were renumbered from #4 to #10 (vs. #3 to #9).
5. **Motion to Approve the Agenda** (as renumbered and amended) Stephen Holmes
6. **Business arising from the minutes:**
 - **Water Rates:** John Stevens prepared a draft letter regarding recommendations made at the last meeting about the water rates in the city. After the GAC discussed the letter, John Stevens and Stephen Holmes agreed to work together to modify the letter and bring it back to the committee at the next meeting. **Action:** John Stevens and Stephen Holmes.

- **Response to Tree By-Laws:** The GAC is still awaiting a reply from the PRCS department. Peter Thompstone will follow up before the next Environmental Sustainability Meeting (October 5th, 2016).
- **Updates on 2016 Projects and Budgets:**

Project # 1 - 327 Glendale Parkette. Mike Anderson gave an update on the progress of this project. Since the last meeting, the flower beds along Mountain Road have been put in and Treegator Slow Release Watering Bags have been placed on all trees in the parkette. James McWilliam will look into gathering information for the interpretive sign. A potential donor has come forwards for this site; several committee members will meet with them to discuss the project. **Action:** James McWilliam, Peter Thompstone and Mike Anderson.

Project # 2 - Windows on the Pond. As the NPCA is currently determining their budget for the 2017 year, James McWilliam and Mike Anderson will meet with them regarding the plans for this project in 2017. **Action:** James McWilliam and Mike Anderson.

Project # 3 - James/Lake/Welland: Peter Thompstone suggested a water feature for this site and possibly an archway for the entrance. He will continue looking into possible design ideas for this site. **Action:** Peter Thompstone.

Project # 4 - St Paul at Carlisle: Project cancelled.

Project # 5 - Pedestrian Bridge to Meridian Centre: Deferred to next year.

Project # 6 - Ontario Street perimeter planting: No action. Will be discussed again at the end of summer.

Project # 7 - Eastchester at Bunting: Peter Thompstone is awaiting reply from Gauld Nursery for a quote to move the purchased and donated trees. **Action:** Peter Thompstone.

Project # 8 - Increased Natural spaces: No cost. No change

Project # 9 - Grow select native trees: No cost. No change

Project # 10 - 'Links to Greener School Yards': Lincoln Centennial Garden is currently working on building a permanent fence to complete this project.

Project # 11 - Student Intern: No cost. No change

Project # 12 - Movable Sign for GAC Projects in Progress: Peter Howes will continue to work on sign. **Action:** Peter Howes.

Project # 13 - Community Gardens: Eastmount Park: No cost. No change.

Project # 14 - Co-ord with non-profits: No cost. No change

Project # 15 - Assistance to BIAs with Flower Pot Program: No cost. No change.

Project # 16 - Trillium Awards: No cost. No change.

Project # 17 - Councillor's Projects: No cost. No change.

Project # 18 - Walker's Creek: Cindy Road Park Entrance: The park sign has been moved to its new location, across the pathway. Mike Anderson has ordered the armour stone, it is to be put in during the month of September. **Action:** Mike Anderson.

Project # 19 - Centennial Gardens Revitalization: No change.

Project # 20 - Green Roofing: Christine Adams advised that the roof of City Hall is not a feasible option for the GAC's plans. Lana will look into other possible locations around the city, such as the addition to the mausoleum at Victoria Lawn Cemetery. James McWilliam will look into using one of the new buildings at Lakeside Park. The GAC recommends that the city look into green roofs as they go forward with new construction on city owned buildings. **Action:** Lana Phan.

Project # 21 - Port Dalhousie Beautification: No cost. No change.

Project # 22 - BME Church Revitalization: Peter Thompstone and Mike Anderson received quotes to place irrigation at this site. The GAC approved the quote for \$1650 plus HST. Mike Anderson will confirm with the contractor (the GAC commitment remains \$1K with the St Catharines Horticultural Society covering the rest). **Action:** Mike Anderson.

Project # 23 - Arboretum: 360 Niagara Street: Mike Anderson confirmed that the fence is no longer required. Mike Anderson will receive a quote for the cost to remove the chain link fence. John Stevens and Mike Anderson will look into trees to be placed at this location, along with their respective prices. **Action:** Mike Anderson and John Stevens.

Project # 24 - Lake Street Armoury planting: Peter Thompstone will continue to investigate options for this project. **Action:** Peter Thompstone.

Project # 25 - Admin Budget: No change.

7. **Business:**

- **Tree Water Bags:** Peter Thompstone has been researching treegator watering bags, which the City of St. Catharines has been purchasing to reverse the effects of the drought. **Motion:** Stephen Holmes moved that the GAC should purchase 200 treegator bags to help with this effort. The treegator bags will be placed on newly planted trees in parks that have no irrigation and no park attendants. **Carried. Action:** Mike Anderson.
- **Tree Replacement at Sir Casimir Gzowski Park:** Members of the GAC have noticed that the cherry trees at the park have died. It was recommended that these trees be removed and replaced with a variety of trees. Mike Anderson will look into the removal and possible replacement of these trees. **Action:** Mike Anderson.
- **Permeable Pavers:** Citizens have been looking into using permeable pavers – a green way to extend driveway space as it is against city bylaw to park on the grass. However, they have been told that these systems are not allowed. Dick Thomas and Christine Adams will follow up on the bylaws and report back to the committee. **Action:** Dick Thomas and Christine Adams.

- **Secord Woods: Secord Woods:** The GAC was informed that trees and shrubs had been cut down at this location. The Committee wondered if there should be a consultative process before trees are cut down in city parks.
8. **Correspondence:**
 - **Request from Archie Reynolds of Walker Industries to meet with GAC:**
Walker Industries would like to meet with the GAC regarding making a donation to the 327 Glendale project. Mike Anderson will arrange a meeting between Walker Industries and any GAC members that would like to attend. **Action:** Mike Anderson.
 9. **Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday, September 14, 2016
 10. **Motion to Adjourn:** Peter Howes at 7:13 pm