

## Minutes

**Wednesday, May 17, 2017**

**Atrium, City Hall at 5:00 pm**

**Attendance:**

Stephen Holmes, Peter Howes, Robin McDonald, John Stevens, Dick Thomas, Peter Thompson

**Staff Liaison:**

Christine Adams, Ilyse Norton, Scott Ritchie, Kristen Sullivan, Ray Vachon

**Regrets:**

Mary Jane Clark, James McWilliam

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1. **Call meeting to order** (Peter Howes) 5:02 pm
  2. **Additions / Deletions to the Agenda:**
    - **Para 7. Business.**
      - Trillium Awards
  3. **Motion to approve the Agenda:** Dick Thomas
  4. **Presentations:** Nil.
  5. **Motion to adopt minutes from the previous meeting:** Stephen Holmes
  6. **Business arising from the minutes:**
    - a. **GAC Assistance to Lock One 'Tow Horses':** Peter Thompson had previously advised that he had tried, unsuccessfully, to contact Ed Smith, but that he would arrange a meeting as soon as practicable.
    - b. **Tree By-Law(s):** Robin McDonald reviewed his presentation to Council during the Mon, 1 May, 2017 **Residential Infill Review Public Meeting**. Following on from this and as requested prior to the meeting, he requested an update on:
      - What 'tree protection' the new 'infilling zoning by-law' would provide; and
      - The progress on the proposed Tree By-Law(s) which were due to be presented to Council in early June 2017.

Scott Ritchie outlined the proposed neighbourhood design guidelines including the inception of a 'Design Review Panel'. He also advised that both PRCS and Planning were actively working on the Tree By-Law(s).

Ilyse Norton provided additional information on the drafting of the Tree By-Law indicating the 'team' had selected the Tree By-Law 'Goal' to be "Protecting the Tree Canopy". Since this was also the goal the GAC had proposed in its previous submission to PRCS and Council, this was considered a positive indicator.

Kristen Sullivan added that the 'team' was preparing two 'By-Laws': a Public and a Private Tree By-Law. Although they would be compiled together, they would remain two distinct By-Laws.

Stephen Holmes suggested the By-Law drafting team could benefit by contacting the Ontario Urban Forest Council (OUFC) as well as other municipalities (which the team was already doing).

**Motion:** That the Tree By-Law 'drafting team' contact the OUFC for advice and input when drafting the new Tree By-Law(s). Moved by Stephen Holmes. **Carried**

Both Scott Ritchie and Kristen Sullivan indicated the original 12 June date for presentation to Council could not be met; so they were optimistically aiming for a 26 June presentation. They further indicated they would provide a copy of their proposed report to GAC members and would seek GAC input prior to making the presentation to Council.

- c. **Updates on 2016/2017 Projects and Budgets** (only new or updated information on 2017 GAC projects was discussed):

**# 4: James / Lake / Welland:**

- Peter Thompstone advised that he had submitted a formal request to the "Y" regarding the use of the "Y" Arch and had been unofficially informed the request would likely be approved. Once approved, a more detailed plan will be prepared to seek possible partners.

**# 6: Eastchester at Bunting:**

- After discussion, Ray Vachon indicated that Engineering would seek an RFQ for the 'Deep Ripping' portion of the project.

**# 11: Flower Pot Program:**

- Ilyse Norton offered to investigate and advise on the success of the 'campaign' to date. She will also review the letter PRCS sent to potential clients.
- Stephen Holmes suggested we should be using local media (radio, newspaper, Cogeco) to make the public aware of this Canada 150 initiative.

**Secretarial Note:** Ilyse advised that 66 (vs 51) pots have been sold and she also provided an updated "Canada 150" Flower Pot letter to be sent to prospective clients.

**# 12: Walker's Creek - Planting Beds:**

- Dick Thomas advised that a team including 'Friends of Walker's Creek' members will be planting bed #1 on Tues, 23 May.
- Peter Thompstone had provided a sketch of bed #2 which was passed to Ilyse for onward transmission to Stuart Green, PRCS Staff, to seek Regional approval.

- Although it was suggested that the bed should be relocated to the north side of the sidewalk (for safety reasons), it was determined that the space between the bed and Lakeshore Road would not create a safety problem for workers since the bed could be serviced from the sidewalk side.

**# 15: Lake Street Armoury:** Ray Vachon provided a plan of the Armoury so Peter Thompsonstone could prepare a project design. Peter also spoke with Scott Ritchie to see if they could produce a '3-D' representation of the proposal.

**# 17: Gator Bags:** Stephen Holmes requested that the 150 new GAC sponsored "Canada 150" trees all receive one of the 200 'Gator Bags' the GAC had purchased (in 2017). He also requested info on the "Best Practice" length of time (number of years) that a Gator Bag would be required for a newly planted tree.

**# 19: Canada 150 - 150 Trees:** Ilyse Norton advised that Parks has let the contract to plant the 150 trees within the next two weeks. The contract specified the location and type of tree to be planted.

## 7. **Business.**

- a. Trillium Awards:** Ilyse Norton advised that the Trillium Awards program was being reviewed. Kristen Sullivan further advised that for 2017, the awards would most likely be done as they were in 2016. For future years, PRCS will be seeking input from previous Trillium Award sponsors to see how the program can be revitalized.
- b. Club Roma Request:** Peter Howes outlined a request for assistance the GAC had received from Club Roma. He pointed out that although Club Roma was a private organization, their proposed project would be open to the public and would be in keeping with our practice to seek partners to accomplish "Greening Initiatives". The GAC considered they did not have enough information on what any possible GAC contribution would realize. Peter Thompsonstone offered to invite a Club Roma representative to our June meeting to clarify their request and answer any GAC concerns.

8. **Correspondence:** Nil.

9. **Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday, June 21, 2017.

10. **Motion to Adjourn:** John Stevens at 6:37 pm.