

Minutes

Wednesday, July 19, 2017

Burgoyne Woods Room, City Hall at 5:00 pm

Attendance:

Mary Jane Clark, Stephen Holmes, Peter Howes, Robin McDonald, James McWilliam, John Stevens, Dick Thomas, Peter Thompstone

Staff Liaison:

Ilyse Norton, Ray Vachon

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1. **Call meeting to order** (Peter Thompstone) 5:05 pm
 2. **Additions / Deletions to the Agenda:** Nil
 3. **Motion to approve the Agenda:** John Stevens
 4. **Presentations:** Nil
 5. **Motion to adopt minutes from the previous meeting:** As amended: Peter Howes
 6. **Business arising from the minutes:**
 - a. **Tree By-Law:** Ilyse Norton had previously informed GAC members that the staff report on the Public By-Law would be included on the Aug 21 Jul, 2017 Council Agenda and the Private Tree By-Law will be brought forward at a later date. Ilyse Norton advised that Kristen Sullivan would use the additional time to revise the Private By-Law using, in part, input from the GAC. The GAC requested they again receive a copy of the By-Law prior to the report to Council.
 - b. **List of Pollinator Plants for Public Education.** Several members had lists of pollinator plants which could be included either in an educational flyer and/or on a GAC website. After discussion, it was decided the 'Water Bill' flyer should focus on gaining public interest rather than providing a lengthy list of plants. Ilyse Norton offered to have PRCS co-op students design a draft flyer using info from a previous flyer and the aforementioned lists. It was decided the flyer should garner public interest by using 'hooks' such as:
 - "Why are pollinators important?"
 - "Why are bees important"? and
 - "What can I do to help?"The draft would be presented to the GAC for comment either before or at the August GAC meeting. The aim was to have a flyer included with the winter water-wastewater bills.

- c. **Updates on 2016/2017 Projects and Budgets.** Only projects with changes from the last report are included in the updates below.

1: Torosion Park community Garden: This project is considered complete. Any remaining committed but unspent funds are to be returned to the GAC main budget.

2: Glendale Parkette: The 'Interpretative Sign' will be revisited in Nov 2017. Ilyse Norton, James McWilliam and Peter Thompstone will discuss with Sheila Morra to determine sites for the three benches for which Sheila has gained funding. Peter Thompstone and James McWilliam will continue to contact Walker Brothers to determine if we can reactivate their offer of financial assistance.

4: James / Lake / Welland: Ilyse Norton has sent a letter to the "Y" confirming the City's support for the project.

6: Eastchester at Bunting: All agreed this project is becoming frustrating. Peter Howes and Ilyse Norton offered to try to find anyone who might be able to complete the 'Deep Ripping' process.

8: Lincoln Centennial School Community Garden: Ilyse Norton will investigate: once the fence is installed and the receipts submitted, the balance can be paid and the project closed.

10: Eastmont Park Community Garden: This project will be completed later this fall and should remain open until that time.

11: Flower Pot Program: The GAC considered, for future years, that better advertising might provide additional sales. Ilyse Norton offered to have the PRCS co-op students take photographs of existing mass groupings of City Flower Pots (as exhibited in Port Dalhousie for example) and to prepare a 'QR' code citizens could use to access a GAC website. Ray Vachon and Peter Thompstone will discuss a GAC website with the city webmaster.

12: Walker's Creek - Planting Beds: Following a meeting with interested parties, a plan for phase 2 has been agreed. Peter Thompstone and Dick Thomas will lay-out the bed outline and Ilyse will have PRCS prepare the bed for spring planting. The Walker's Creek 'Friends' have requested inclusion of shrubs and trees in this bed.

14: 360 Niagara Arboretum: John Stevens provided an update on the sub-Committee's work which included an existing tree inventory and a start on identifying additional new species to be planted. Mary Jane Clark added the sub-Committee is working on a landscape plan including layout of paths, entrances and signage. Both advised that the sub-Committee would continue its work and would seek PRCS approval. The GAC proposed the theme of the park should be something like "Why are trees important?"

17: Gator Bags: Ilyse Norton advised that Gator Bags would be filled on an 'as required' basis. She explained that Gator Bags for existing trees would be maintained by PRCS staff and for new trees the planting contractor would maintain the bags.

18: Vimy Oaks: The remaining 3 Vimy Oaks have been ordered for Sep 2017 delivery. Robin McDonald offered to order signs for the new Oaks, similar to the signs installed at the site of the first Vimy Oak planted in Memorial Park.

19: Canada 150 - 150 Trees: Ilyse Norton advised that most trees have already been planted and the remainder should be planted by end-July.

20: Club Roma: Club Roma is compiling a list of appropriate native trees and pollinator plants for inclusion in their landscape project.

7. **Business.**

- **Trillium Awards 2017.** Ilyse Norton informed that the 2017 Trillium Awards would be reactivated in a somewhat modified form. She wondered if the GAC would like to sponsor some of the awards. She also invited GAC members to submit award nominations and to join her with award submission judging.

Motion: Moved by Dick Thomas, seconded by Peter Howes, that the GAC provide up to \$500 to fund the 2017 GAC sponsored Trillium Awards.

CARRIED

8. **Correspondence:** Nil.

9. **Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday, August 23, 2017.

10. **Motion to Adjourn:** Mary Jane Clark at 7:10 pm.