

Minutes

Wednesday, August 23, 2017

Burgoyne Woods Room, City Hall at 5:00 pm

Attendance:

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

Staff Liaison:

Christine Adams, Ilyse Norton, Kristen Sullivan

Regrets:

Robin McDonald, Ray Vachon, Scott Ritchie

1. **Call meeting to order** (Peter Thompstone) 5:02 pm
2. **Additions / Deletions to the Agenda:**
 - Para 4: Presentations - Public Tree By-Law
 - Para 7: Carlisle/McGuire Raceway proposal
3. **Motion to approve the Agenda:** Peter Howes
4. **Presentations:**
 - **Public Tree By-Law:** Prior to the meeting, Kristen Sullivan, PRCS, had circulated a copy of the Draft By-Law to allow GAC members the opportunity to review the proposed Public Tree By-Law. Kristen gave a short presentation outlining the By-Law and then led a discussion which addressed GAC members' comments and suggestions. The GAC complimented Kristen on her hard work preparing the draft By-Law.

Motion: Moved by Dick Thomas, Seconded by Stephen Holmes:

That the GAC, having reviewed the draft By-Law, provides its full and unanimous support for the proposed Public Tree By-Law as a key element of the overall urban forestry management plan.

CARRIED

5. **Motion to adopt minutes from the previous meeting:** As amended (two amendments): James McWilliam
6. **Business arising from the minutes:**
 - a. **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: Complete / Closed.

2: Glendale Parkette: Although complete (except for the 'Interpretative Sign') from a GAC funding perspective, Peter Thompstone advised the 3 benches, funded by Merritton Community donors have been ordered and will be placed in approximately 6 weeks. In addition, Peter Thompstone and James McWilliam will continue to try to contact Walker Brothers to determine if we can reactivate their offer of financial assistance.

6: Eastchester at Bunting: The project sub-committee met with Dan Cooper, City of St Catharines Supervisor of Forestry, to discuss the project. Following Dan's advice the sub-committee will take hand-augured soil samples to determine what soil conditions are present. Following that, the sub-committee will recommend the next steps needed to complete the project.

8: Lincoln Centennial School Community Garden: Complete / Closed.

10: Eastmount Park Community Garden: Name correction. The project is to be completed later this fall.

11: Flower Pot Program: Ilyse Norton offered to investigate and provide costs for the 2017 program. She also advised that PRCS co-op students had taken pictures in preparation of advertising efforts to increase future Flower Pot sales. To this end, Peter Thompstone advised that Ray Vachon had contacted the City Website Manager so we could publicize future Flower Pot programs. It was also recommended that we pursue additional advertising in local media.

12: Walker's Creek - Planting Beds: Peter Thompstone and Dick Thomas will visit the site to lay-out the outline for the Phase 2 bed. Ilyse Norton will obtain 'locates' and PRCS will prepare the bed for spring planting sometime in September 2017.

14: 360 Niagara Arboretum: Mary Jane Clark advised she had sent the 'path plan' to PRCS for review and approval. Ilyse Norton indicated that Stuart Green, PRCS, had reviewed the plan and had given verbal approval. The GAC requested Ilyse to ask for some form of written approval.

17: Gator Bags: Ilyse Norton advised that 200 Gator Bags had been purchased and placed.

18: Vimy Oaks: Robin McDonald had advised that the signs for the remaining 3 Vimy Oaks had been ordered..

19: Canada 150 - 150 Trees: Ilyse Norton advised that all 150 trees have been planted. The GAC discussed attaching some form of sign or tag to recognize GAC involvement in the planting of the 150 trees. The GAC decided to investigate both a 'tree sign' and/or a larger sign somewhat similar to the GAC relocatable sign.

21: Trillium Awards: Ilyse Norton advised the submissions had been judged and the winners selected. The award process was still undecided.

#22: Pollinator Water Bill Flyer: Ilyse Norton advised the co-op students had started on a possible pollinator flyer. She offered to circulate the flyer and requested GAC input identifying which plants to include in the flyer.

7. **Business.**

- **Carlisle/McGuire Raceway Proposal.** Christine Adams circulated a graphic representation of a Parkette which Stuart Green had prepared. The GAC discussed the proposal and agreed that we should add the project to our list for 2018. The GAC further requested Christine to seek a SWAG estimate of the various costs involved with the project.
- **St Catharines Fall & Winter Leisure Guide.** The GAC complimented PRCS, Ilyse Norton in particular, for the '**Treemendous**' Leisure Guide center-fold which promotes city trees.
- **Community Gardens.** Kristen Sullivan advised that she has been tasked to develop a Community Gardens plan. Since it may involve the GAC, she will be requesting our input.

8. **Correspondence:** Nil.

9. **Date of Next Meeting:** Wednesday, September 20, 2017.

10. **Motion to Adjourn:** Mary Jane Clark at 7:14 pm.