

Minutes

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Burgoyne Woods Room, City Hall at 5:00 pm

Attendance: Mary Jane Clark, Stephen Holmes, Peter Howes, Robin McDonald, John Stevens, Dick Thomas, Peter Thompson

Staff Liaison: Ray Vachon

Regrets: James McWilliam, Ilyse Norton

1. **Call meeting to order** 5:04 pm (Peter Thompson)
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:** Robin McDonald
6. **Business arising from the minutes:**
 - **Updates on Projects and Budgets.** Only projects with changes were discussed.

16-12: Walker's Creek Parkette: Dick Thomas advised the recognition plaque had been installed. He also added that the water bib and the 'Ben Hannan' memorial bench were in place.

16-14: 360 Niagara Arboretum: John Stevens advised that he, Peter Howes and Ilyse Norton had affixed 50 of the 51 tree tags. The GAC thanked all three for their ongoing efforts with this project. .

#18-9: Michigan Avenue: Dick Thomas advised that the footprint of the construction project noted in the previous minutes appears to have expanded. Some of the trees may have to be replaced when the Parkette is restored following completion of the private house build project. The GAC again noted the necessity of a Planning representative on the committee.

7. **Business:**
 - a. **Wed, May 17, 2017 GAC Minutes:** Robin McDonald reminded the GAC that at the May 17, 2017 GAC Meeting, as recorded in the minutes of that meeting, he had

reported on his representation at the **May 1, 2017 Public Meeting on Infilling Report**. He had posed two questions at that time, which, paraphrased, were:

- i. Will a Private Tree By-Law be prepared? and
- ii. What expertise will be included on the Design Review Committee to provide knowledgeable design guidance for tree protection?

He indicated that while the Private Tree By-Law was underway, he was unaware if the second question had been addressed. He requested the GAC pursue this question.

- b. **Tree 'Give-Away'**: Stephen Holmes requested that there be a poster and/or other information advertising the Council Meeting (July?) where the Private Tree By-Law would be considered.
 - c. **Private Tree By-Law Update**: Ilyse Norton had prepared an update on the Private Tree By-Law, but unfortunately, she was unable to attend the meeting. A brief summary of her report is attached to the minutes.
 - d. **2019 Projects**. The GAC decided not to review or propose any additional 2019 projects pending installation of new GAC members.
 - e. **Thank You**:
 - i. As Chair, Peter Thompstone thanked all members, both volunteer and staff, for their hard work over the period of the present GAC. He opined that we had accomplished much and that the diversity of the 'team' allowed the Committee to tackle a variety of projects, all for the betterment of our Garden City.
 - ii. The GAC, in turn, thanked Peter Thompstone for his sage guidance to allow the Committee to complete the various works over the term of the Committee.
8. **Correspondence**: Nil
 9. **Date of Next Meeting**: to be determined
 10. **Motion to Adjourn**: Mary Jane Clark at 5:58 pm.

Attachment to 15 May, 2019 GAC Minutes

Private Tree By-Law Update (*provided by Ilyse Norton*)

The Private Tree By-Law is currently set to go back to Council for the end of June meeting. There were approximately 250 online responses to the survey as well as about 100 residents in total who came to the open houses combined. A few were vehemently opposed, while others were opposed but in favour of certain parts of the bylaw as well as focusing on replanting, public education, etc.

Results are looking towards not in favour (about 65-70% are not in favour of the bylaw).