



Corporation of the City of St. Catharines
MAYOR'S GRAFFITI COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, Mar 26, 2013

3:00 to 4:00pm

St. Catharines City Hall, 50 Church Street: Committee Room 1

Meeting Notes

Present: Mayor Brian McMullan
Staff: Stacey Wells (Legal), Kristen Sullivan (RCS)
Tisha Polocko, Ben Hannan, Ben Wilby, Cam Hathaway, Daniel
Frye, Paul Jackson

Regrets: Councillor Jeff Burch
Dan Trainor, Kris Akilie, Selby Harris, Edmund Bruckner, Holly Washuta
Stacey Sheehan, Dave Schulz, Peter Voulgaridis,

Welcome from Mayor McMullan

No quorum at this time (Ben arrived late)

All agenda items were discussed with further consultation to be taken by email

Approval of meeting notes from January 15, 2013

- No action taken

1. Civic Mural progress ~ Tisha Polocko

- 3 city sites identified as possible mural locations
- Murals would be stand-alone structures to be mounted on buildings with potential to relocate if required
- Mayor notes that a couple of those accessory buildings have been identified by TES for reburishment/replacement in future years
- Theme of mural RFP would be complimentary to location with artists to submit their interpretations with their bid

Motion to be circulated by email:

That the Graffiti Committee dedicates \$20,000, over time, from their budget toward the civic mural program which has identified the following three city sites for pilot project:

- Lakeside Park, concession stand/washrooms
- Russell Avenue, maintenance building
- Pearson Park, washrooms

2. Mainstream graffiti removal program ~ Kristen Sullivan

- Committee approved \$15,000 as upset limit for this season
- There is flexibility, within the agreement with Mainstream, that will allow for additional city amenities to be cleaned of graffiti
- If that upset limit is exceeded, there is opportunity to come back to the Committee and request additional funding for the program for the season
- Mainstream is also working with the St. Catharines Downtown Association doing graffiti removal for downtown businesses

3. Pitch in Day ~ Tisha Polocko

- Saturday, April 27, City Hall, 10am to 12pm
- There are four designated sites:
 - 406 & Glendale
 - Glendale & Glen Morris
 - Lancaster Park
 - Downtown
 - Any other site a group is interested in cleaning up
- Flagraising is April 22nd at 6pm, prior to Council
- Mayor's Clean Sweep is April 24 at St Denis School
- Clean City Committee is also kicking off public awareness campaign "Don't Flick It", to deter those who litter their cigarette butts
- Under city's nuisance by law, disposing of cigarette butts improperly is considered littering
- Region is currently proposing by law prohibiting no smoking in public spaces where children gather

4. Meeting time change & frequency of meetings ~ Mayor McMullan

- Given the difficulty obtaining quorum lately, discussion ensued on meeting less frequently and meeting later in day so as to not interfere with working hours

Action:

Committee members will be polled by email for their input by Julie

5. Evaluation forms for Graffiti Assistance Program recipients ~ Ben Hannan

- Given low participation in program, perhaps there is dissatisfaction with the program or contractors, which we could learn through feedback

Action:

Ben to work with Kristen Sullivan on potential questions to be asked. Kristen to revise Graffiti Assistance application form to add a notice of consent which would allow staff to follow up by phone with the questionnaire

6. City legalities and volunteers ~ Stacey Wells

- There is no city-wide policy on using volunteers for any programs/initiatives
- Currently, city insurance would not cover a volunteer for injury/accident who is acting on/facilitating a city project
- City Solicitor is referring to Senior Management Team for further discussion
- Unfortunately, the necessary training of volunteers is at times more costly than using trained staff members (e.g. planting of vines)
- Levels of supervision must be determined for each activity
- Need investigation as to whether a waiver can be signed in each situation
- Ben suggests that volunteer input be included in the drafting of a policy and also warns that the volunteer spirit could be deterred by hindering volunteer involvement
- When a policy is drafted, there would be a reference document which each volunteer activity would be vetted through (possibly thru HR)

Next meeting: July

Meeting adjourned: 4:00pm