

**TOWN OF GANANOQUE**  
**Trials & Urban Forest Committee Minutes**  
Boardroom @ Town Hall on July 25, 2011 @ 9:00am

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Present: Peter Murray (Chair), Doug Bickerton (Secretary), Jim Garrah, Pam Staples, and John MacLeod.

Minutes of the Meeting of June 24, 2011 have been circulated:

**Motion:** by Jim G, Sec John M: That the minutes of June 24, 2011 be approved as circulated. Carried.

**Trails:**

1. Ontario Tourism Grant: Pam Staples addressed the committee:

Pam needs a letter about the number of people using the Trail, especially tourists, and a history of the Trail. Pam will use this for the Town's grant application. The Gananoque Trail began in 2002 when Peter and Doug took a walk through the northeast section of the Town from the Works yard to the Recreation Centre. Meanwhile, John and Bill Stevens were starting work on a trails project for the Lions Club. The four got together and had a feasibility study done, using a grant. To date about 6000 maps of the Trail have been distributed. We have no idea how many people have actually used the trail, but it is now part of the curriculum for high school track training and both elementary schools' ecology teaching. Pam took notes as we discussed the details of the Trail's development. Pam requested a copy of Kevin Tribble's feasibility study including the part for the trail passage under Highway 401 to the Public Wildlife Area which already has about 20 km of good hiking trails laid out..

2. The Job Creation Program: ``JCP`` John reports that the 4 people for JCP "Indoor" work are fairly sure to be approved. The "Outdoor Crew" of 8 looks very doubtful. There is more likely to be a crew of 2, or maybe 4, with no supervisory position. John feels he could handle that by himself and that we could use two people for tree pruning and trail clearing in Gananoque if Peter and/or Doug could do some of the instruction and organize the order of the work. Duration would be 6 months. Peter and Doug agreed that if we could get two good people for 6 months we'd have a good job done on both the trees and the trail. Two people would not allow us to do much on the 401 underpass, but we could do a good job on the new trail through the Travis Property.

3. Trash Bags: The Trash Bags have arrived. We should now decide how to distribute them. The C of C office is an obvious place to have a reserve because it is open on weekends. We can give a few bags each to the known walkers, with instructions to pass them on to other walkers they meet and to empty the bags for reuse until they are no longer serviceable.

4. Condition of the Trail: Patches of poison ivy still need to be treated, Especially on the Riverside Loop, the Narrows Loop and the area just north of the honeysuckle on the Recreation Centre section.

Trail maintenance in general was discussed.

5. Promotion of the Trail: This was discussed with Pam in item #1.

**Trees:**

1. Conditions: We are currently in drought conditions after a very wet spring. The arboretum needs water as several more trees have died. The Parks and Works Departments have been watering all the new trees.

Tree locations for streets (15) and the Arboretum (30) need to be identified. Peter, Doug and Jim will undertake this on Tuesday afternoon July 26th. Rick Cooper needs the information now to order the trees for mid September delivery.

Plaques in the Arboretum were discussed. Doug has cast one of the new granite plaques in a concrete base that can be buried flat in the grass beside each tree. Each plaque with its base weighs about 75 pounds, so any vandals will have a tough time doing any damage. The plaques are set into the earth so that the lawn mower will be able to go right over them.

2. Memorial Trees: Dedication plaques would involve a slightly larger concrete base, but would look the same, with the dedication plaque below the identification plaque. Jim will send a copy of several wordings for his father's plaque to Doug so we can get prices from Leeder Monuments for small bronze dedication plaques up to about 150 characters of ½" or 3/8" lettering, including spaces.

Next Meeting: (We may not need an August meeting.) At the call of the Chair.

Adjourned: 11:00 am

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Chair

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Secretary