

The Corporation of the Town of



**TREES AND TRAIL ADVISORY PANEL MINUTES**

On July 27, 2017

At Public Works Boardroom – 665 Charles St.

1	<b>CALL MEETING TO ORDER</b>	
	Chair Peter Murray chaired the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 09:02 AM	
<b>COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT</b>		<b>STAFF PRESENT</b>
<b>CHAIR:</b>	Peter Murray	Terry Gilmer, Manager of Parks and Recreation
<b>MEMBER:</b>	Rick Dunn	Krista Pooley, Public Works Administrative Assistant
	Jim Garrah	
	John Cornish	
	Douglas Bickerton	
<b>GUEST:</b>	Carl Woodman	
<b>REGRETS:</b>	Angus Fergusson	
	Dwayne Fletcher	
2	<b>DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST &amp; GENERAL NATURE THEREOF - NONE</b>	
3	<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES (ADOPTION)</b>  <b>Motion No. 2017-09</b> <b>Moved by:</b> Jim Garrah <b>Seconded by:</b> Rick Dunn  Be it resolved that the Trees and Trail Advisory Panel hereby adopt the minutes from their June 22, 2017 meeting.	
	<b>CARRIED</b>	
4	<b>PUBLIC QUESTION/COMMENT - NONE</b>	
5	<b>UNFINISHED BUSINESS – TREES AND TRAILS</b>	
	1. Update of presentation to Council of: “A Compact Urban Forest Management Sustainability Plan for the Town of Gananoque” and “A Compact Sustainability Management Plan for the Trails of Gananoque”	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Manager of Public Works and Manager of Parks and Recreation to prepare a joint report. Both Mangers agree this will likely occur in the fall during budget and planning sessions.</li> </ul>
	<p>2. Service Berry Tree – Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Krista Pooley to coordinate the pick-up and hand-off of the Service Berry tree between Mike Prior and Public Works Crew (pickup) and Doug Bickerton (hand-off supported by Public Works). Krista Pooley to ask for status update from Mike Prior.</li> </ul>
6	<p><b>DISCLOSURE OF ADDITIONAL ITEMS – TREES AND TRAILS</b></p> <p>1. Need more copies made of Town of Gananoque trail brochure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Manager of Parks and Recreation to coordinate ordering 2,000 copies.</li> <li>– Panel agrees to review the brochure and make revisions as needed in the future</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion No. 2017-10</b>  <b>Moved by:</b> Jim Garrah <b>Seconded by:</b> Doug Bickerton</p> <p>Be it resolved that the Trees and Trail Advisory Panel hereby approve ordering 2,000 trail brochures.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>CARRIED</b></p> <p>2. Rick Dunn has reviewed plans made by the Bike Committee in regards to trail system at Grasshopper Park. The plans may come to the attention of the Trees and Trails Panel in the future. This initiative is currently being lead by Paul Scott. The Manager of Parks and Recreation is aware of the plans.</p>
7	<b>DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS – NONE</b>
8	<p><b>CORRESPONDENCE:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Peter Murray received last notice to register for the training program offered by the municipal forestry institute for municipal employees. As agreed in the last meeting, the Town will not be sending any staff at this time.</li> </ul>
9	<p><b>REPORTS/NEW BUSINESS</b></p> <p>Peter Murray proposes starting each meeting with summary reports from himself and Manager of Parks and Recreation.</p> <p>Peter Murray reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– The craft sale display he attended with Jim Garrah. Participation will be reviewed next year to determine if attendance is beneficial.</li> <li>– Pitch Pine brochure has been revised to draw more attention to the title “Official Tree”.</li> <li>– Hazard tree assessment form was reviewed with the Manager of Public Works.</li> </ul> <p>Manager of Parks and Recreation reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Display information about the trees and trails panel would be useful at the arena to help bring awareness to the public</li> </ul>

**TRAILS:**

**1. Summary of trail condition – discussion and solutions**

- MacLean Loop- Found patches of poison ivy on this trail. Jim Garrah and John Cornish will work together to put some educational signage in place. Woods chips need to be placed behind Baldree's.
- Rogers Loop-Old bridge and town bench have been removed
- River Loop- Need volunteers to spread wood chips conditions are still wet in this area.
- Herbert St Hill- Needs directional sign and two hiker signs, these signs were up but have been removed. Manager of Parks and Recreation to look into this.
- Dump/James A. Brennan Trail Area- Needs trimming.
- Queen/Rail bed Area (behind Running's Auto)- Needs trimming (bridge is overgrown with weeds), signage is needed at the bridge, when gravel is replaced it should be more manageable for bikes/wheelchairs/strollers to move through.
- Narrows Loop- Small garbage bins there need to have holes drilled in the bottom for water to drain. John Cornish will removed bags for this year. This will need to be discussed next year to find a new volunteer. Wood chips are thinned out will need to be replaced next year.
- Overall- it is important to keep trails trimmed back and to promote tick awareness as much as possible.

**2. Volunteer chip spreading:**

- Panel members needed for chip spreading.

**3. Manager of Parks and Recreation to explore parking options for families wishing to park behind Running's Auto to access trail system.**

- Currently parking is available only on Queen St.

**TREES:**

**1. Doug Bickerton – Ash tree EAB identification and removal, Town and private, who?**

- Doug will be evaluating ash trees around town and marking them with a pink "X" if they are infected with Emerald Ash Borer and need to be removed.
- If a tree is on a street it is managed by Public Works and if it is in a park it is managed by Parks and Recreation.

## **2. Take action to purchase Vimy Oak Tree? Establishment and nurture?**

- Peter Murray confirmed it is still possible to purchase the trees he is in the process of gathering all of the information required to fill out the forms and payment request information.
- Panel is concerned about maintenance required to ensure success of seedlings (if obtained). The seedlings would require significant maintenance (nursery conditions for an additional 5 years: watering, pruning, and staking).
- Peter Murray proposes the immature trees be planted in their proposed permanent locations with tree guards for protection in accessible areas for maintenance.
- There are at least half a dozen tree guards available at the Public Works Yard.
- It may be of interest to the Legion to “sponsor” a Vimy Oak Tree to replace some walnut trees that were removed.

## **3. Lions Park/Beer Store, planting policy EAB etc.**


- Peter Murray received an email from Paul Scott about having trees planted in the new Lions Park. Rick Dunn will propose to the Lions Club that they “sponsor” the trees (about \$500-\$600 each).
- Sponsorship should help move along planting of new trees in the park.

## **4. 2017 Planting Schedule and Site Locations**

- Peter Murray and Doug Bickerton will take plans to plant 15-20 trees to the Manager of Parks and Recreation and the Public Works Foreman for implementation.
- They will adjust the plan to reflect that the new trees to be planted on Victoria Ave will come from the capital projects budget.
- Must get quotes and order the trees in the next few days.
- Locates must be re-done before pitch pines can be planted.

## **5. Steel Workers Park Development Plan**

- More soil is needed in various areas.
- Soil must be placed prior to any recreational development and before any trees are replaced.
- The Manager of Parks and Recreation believes it will be 1-1.5 years before this may happen.

10	<p><b>DISCUSSION OF COMBINED/ADDITIONAL ITEMS:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Rick Dunn would like the shrubs that are impeding the waterfront view at Steelworkers Park to be trimmed back. The Manager of Parks and Recreation suggests working with the CRCA on that as the conservation authority prefers vegetation along the banks to impede goose activity.</li> <li>2. John Cornish will be delivering the Trees and Trails string whipper to Parks and Recreation Department for trail use.</li> <li>3. Fall tree pruning- Peter Murray and Doug Bickerton would like to train a Parks and Recreation staff member to do this work. Manager of Parks and Recreation suggests contracting the work out, or possibly having Public Works staff do it. It would take about one week for two people to complete.</li> </ol>
11	<p><b>NEXT MEETING</b></p>
	<p>The Panel members agreed to meet monthly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month. The next meeting will be held August 24, 2017, 9:00AM at the Public Works Boardroom.</p>
12	<p><b>ADJOURNMENT</b></p>
	<p>Meeting adjourned at 11:07 AM.</p>
	
Chair, Peter Murray	Secretary, Krista Pooley