

TOWN OF GANANOQUE

Urban Forest and Trails Committee Meeting

Minutes for Meeting Held on Tuesday March 6, 2012

Present - Peter Murray(chair), John MacLeod, Doug Bickerton, John Cornish, Bill Shepherd, Jim Garrah, Sharon Nelson(interested citizen). Absent-Rick Dunn

Meeting called to order at 08:55.

Motion: Moved by Bill Shepherd, Seconded by Jim Garrah; That the minutes of the January 17th, 2012 meeting, as published, be approved. Carried

TRAILS

Outside the "box" discussion.

It was suggested that the committee consider including water trails and cycling as part of our mandate.

Outcomes: Plan a summit/workshop for the fall to include discussions on the economic impact of the outdoor experiences related to canoeing/kayaking, hiking and cycling. Need to determine the key players and ask same to bring their ideas to the workshop - John M. and John C. to explore.

Sue Smith is to be invited to the next meeting regarding the above.

Plan an event such as a canoe/kayak flotilla up the Gananoque River. The Fall would be the most appropriate time.

Trillium application

Peter is to meet with Pam to discuss an application for the July intake.

401 Underpass

John and Doug are to meet with MTO representatives from Ottawa this pm. Fencing is one of the key issues to be discussed because as originally proposed by MTO the fencing would be very expensive. A one metre pathway under the bridge is preferred . From previous contacts with MTO, it is felt the MTO wants the underpass to be completed.

Open Trails(as part of the Open Doors event)

The event will be held Sept 28 and 29. There will be 2 hikes each day on the Lion's Loop. Each hike will require 2 people (Leader and Sweep). There will be a pamphlet highlighting the key features along the route. Peter will provide the information for the key features for the pamphlet and he will ask Pam for help to do the setup.

Frontenac Arch Biosphere Trails Council meeting Feb.16

John Cornish attended the meeting which he felt was poorly attended. There is a need to develop a more cooperative approach as partners rather than as competitors.

Connectivity, marketing and sharing of best practices are good reasons to come together. Getting more participants on the trails will benefit everyone.

New Loop on the property acquired from C and A

The trail is rough cut and now requires root removal etc. This will be another part of the Spring work projects.

Display Banner

The banner is located on the south side of King near the Reporter office.

Spring Clean-up

This will be done in conjunction with the Town cleanup day. Sue will be contacted and May 5 will be suggested as a preferred date. Trail committee members can access grabbers from the Main Trail Office on Charles St. North. All members have security clearance (a key) to access the building.

TREES

Pruning

The work crew has done some areas but there is still much to do. Unfortunately the contract will soon be finished. There is some money in the Gananoque Forestree Advisory Committee account which may be offered to the town to get an extra week or so from the crew. The town would do the payout so that the workers are covered by Workers Compensation etc. Peter to check with Ross.

It is recommended that a pamphlet be given to homeowners prior to pruning taking place. This will forewarn homeowners of the work and also point out that the trees are town owned. If there is an objection to the pruning, the pruning will not be done unless it is critical to the health of the tree.

Planting Schedule

An outline was sent to members via email. A more detailed schedule will be developed in concert with Works Dept.

War of 1812 Bicentennial

Do we wish to promote commemorative planting? There was not a lot of enthusiasm for such a project but a planting on the corner of Brock (because of Sir Isaac) and Adelaide was suggested as a possible location. The waterfront park was also suggested as a possible location.

Arboretum

There will be a spring planting for a number of replacement trees. There will be arrangements to publicize the commemorative trees. Family and press will be invited to attend with the hope that publicity may encourage others to participate.

Trash

The Town is currently advertising for citizens to submit applications to participate on an environmental committee chaired by Councillor Abbott. Cleanliness of our trails and streets may be part of the committee's mandate. There had been a suggestion earlier that various Town committees might be asked to appoint representatives to such a committee.

Next meeting April 24^h 8:30 at the Emergency Services Building.

Minutes by Jim Garrah; March 6, 2012