



Carleton Place Urban Forest/River Corridor Advisory Committee

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Minutes of meeting September 25, 2019

7:00 p.m. CP Library Facility

Next Regular Monthly Meeting June 26, 2019 @ 7PM – CP Library Facility

Attendance:

Jim McCready (chair), Dale Moulton, Joanne Woodhouse, Ron Wood, Janet McGinnis

Absent: Andy Kerr-Wilson, Councilor Toby Randell

Environmental Committee Member: Jack Havel

Member of the Public: Mark Smith

Meeting September 25, 2019

Agenda

- 1. Welcome-Approval of the Agenda: Janet and Dale**
- 2. Minutes of June 26 meeting (previously approved)**
- 3. Minutes September 25 meeting approved (Dale/Jim)**
- 4. Business Arising from June 26, 2019 meeting**
 - a) Concern raised about the lights on trees causing potential harm to the trees, specifically tape. Jim informed the committee that the BIA will take the lights down for Trillium Tree Experts to trim the trees and then put the lights back up which will allow the tape to be loosened.
 - b) Check on landscape plan for the property adjacent to the Zion church which has not been carried out. The Town is talking to the developer. Communication between the Town's departments needs to be improved to be able to enforce developer holdbacks.
 - c) Turtle nesting sites – no nesting observed this year, UFRC will ask the town about the need to continue the program next year
 - d) Paula Stewart (Medical Officer of Health for Leeds, Lanark and Grenville) was interested in reviewing development permits so that is aware of the green spaces available to the public. UFRC will recommend that the Town adds her name to the list of reviewers.
- 5. Striking Committee Recommendations update**
 - a) The Town will keep the committees the way they are until the elections in 2022. Committee members will re-submit their applications at the time of election.
 - b) Doreen Donald with the Mississippi Lake Cottage Association will be applying to the UFRC. As she is resigning from the Environment to be on our committee as it is a better fit for her.
 - c) Striking committee will still meet if there are new applications.
- 6. Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority Watershed Plan**
 - a) A public advisory committee (15 people) will oversee the planning committee. Jim McCready has been chosen to represent Forestry.

- b) Public Advisory Committee meeting dates are Oct 24, Nov 15, Dec 15, Jan 24 at 10am. The meetings are open to the public and held at the MVCA office.

7. Planning

DP3 –09-2019- 3 Francis St.- Day Care

- a) The daycare already has the money for the addition. The UFRC should have seen the landscape plan earlier and it should have gone through as a DP3. The Town needs to adhere to the same standards as the developers.
- b) Landscape plan contains errors (e.g. trees on the site plan do not match what has been planted)
- c) UFRC recommends that trees should be moved rather than removed OR plant larger trees to financially compensate for the removal of trees that CP taxpayers have already paid for.
- d) Reduce asphalt surface – is the fire lane required?
- e) If the fire land goes in, can it be permeable?
- f) If the trees cannot be moved, suggest that larger caliber trees get planted elsewhere using the funds from this project.
- g) Could we move the retaining wall out to allow for more trees to be planted?
- h) Suggest planting a tree on either side of the front entrance (2 trees total).

DP3-08-2019 – 29 Costello Drive Revera

- a) Comments on this development were submitted over the summer
- b) Tree preservation plan was in place: Bur Oak in good condition, EIS states it should remain. Due to proximity to swail, it is difficult to retain (Town is removing it), however the tree could assist in uptake of water. UFRC committee would like to see it retained as part of the Town's Green Infrastructure.
- c) Two naturalized areas, should have a professional forester prescribed – developer disputes this requirement
- d) Larger stock is required to have the trees survive, suggest having the larger trees approved by the UFRC prior to implementing the plan
- e) UFRC recognizes that this is an important site and needs to be well planted
- f) The current plan is not inline with the Town's mandate of enhancing forest cover

Cardel-Miller's Crossing

- a) Swail has been planted
- b) Trees have been planted in the Boulevard along McNeely (Honey Locust which don't mind salt)
- c) Jim has gone over it street by street and sent the replies.

119 Bell St.

- a) This is the 2nd time the UFRC has seen the plan
- b) The plan is to remove 7 trees and planting 4. UFRC recommends planting 3 additional trees (potentially along the western boundary – keep shrubs and plant trees) to replace the 7.
- c) Where is the list of variances?
- d) Monoculture is proposed – need to have different types of trees planted
- e) Rear yard landscaping is reduced to 7% from 20% This is too much for an established neighbour hood with a Heritage building next door.
- f) Building is too large for the site, over 65% of lot will be building, asphalt and walkways (hard surfaces) which is too much – DP states coverage max should be 60%
- g) Proximity to the river – is this a concern?
- h) Approval of the development should consider that this is a residential area, it has the heritage character, and it will result in increased vehicle traffic which is especially concerning since it is next to a park.

8. Public works

Injectations

- a) 3 trees injected this year, more identified for next year
- b) Other elms have been lost

- c) Emerald Ash Borer Injections had a 82 % injection success
- d) Some Ash trees will come down in the fall, each one will be replaced by another tree
- e) The ash in front of the Hospital will come down. It is suggested that the wood be used for a structure of a commemorative plaque within the hospital. The tree will come down in late November

2017 National Tree Day planting

- a) 3 of 10 maples and 2 Tamaracks survived in total 26 survived of the 50 that were planted
- b) Milk weed was also flagged in that park
- c) Recreation and Parks are now looking for Milk Weed and will avoid cutting it

Inspections with staff

- a) Jim has been out a number of times over the summer
- b) Eleanor Antonakos on High Street has 3 maple trees that need to come down. Three trees will be planted to replace the ones that have to come down. This has been discussed with Eleanor

Species for 2020 homeowners planting program.

- a) Maple went well, Oak didn't and Hackberry didn't. In 2020, more service berry and apple should be added to accommodate homeowners with smaller lots
- b) May 6th, 2020 is the date of the workshop. As there was standing room only at the 2019 workshop we will be moving to upstairs room
- c) Some people have requested Gingko

9. Hackberry seed source.

- a) There is not a good seed source this year
- b) It is a cyclical (3 – 5 years) occurrence to get good seeds
- c) Talked to Ferguson Forest Centre in Kemptville, seed collectors are not seeing a good crop this year

10. Discussions on increasing Forest Canopy

- a) Suggestion that town would agree to plant and maintain trees on private property
- b) UFRC recommends first finding planting spots owned by the town that need trees
- c) Plant public lands (on streetscapes and in Parks) until it gets full

11. Inspections with By-law

- a) Jim has been out quite often
- b) Complaint on 97 Charlotte St. – two trees that are on a lot owned by the Bank of Nova Scotia
- c) Four ash trees identified to come down (some are at risk of blocking streets or hitting houses if they were to fail and come down)
- d) Town will issue order, if they don't come down, the Town will come take it down and put the charge onto the tax bill

12. Wire mesh around trees.

- a) Riverside Park: mesh needs to be cut and some have been fixed with black plastic ties
- b) Previously the Environmental class helped with loosening the mesh (High School students are often looking for volunteer hours)
- c) Someone should be selected to loosen mesh, and cut vines
- d) Some also on the river walk need some attention
- e) For the volunteers, if something happens to someone – are the volunteers covered under the Town's insurance? Is the committee covered?

13. National Tree Day September 25, 2019

- a) How to increase attendance? Wider public notice, add snacks/coffee, add to CP scoop, get communications involved, more social media, activities for small children, invite a class (public or high school) Civics and Careers class would be a good one to mention it to, potentially hold it on a weekend

14. Other

- a) Jack spoke of the Environment Committee looking at a Tree Cutting By-law. UFAC recommends there would be a need for three by-laws
 1. There is a Lanark County By-law that is for 2 hectare and over. This is what we feel the Environment Committee is concerned about have large areas cleared. The problem is having such areas cleared before developers apply for permits. The \$10,000 fine is more for the rural areas and does not help the urban settings, as it is a cost of doing business for developers.
UFAC recommends Lanark County's bylaw be amended to have fines in urban settings (Carleton Place, Perth and Almonte) to \$100,000 for corporations as set out in the Municipal Act.
 2. Have a by-law for trees on Town's Property. UFAC would be prepared to look at this with the aid of Ottawa and Kingston's by-law. However there does not appear to be an issue at the moment.
 3. A by-law for private properties. UFAC does not recommend such a bylaw at this time.
"Educate before you Regulate". Ottawa has such a bylaw and it is administratively time consuming. Toronto at one time wished they had the money going into education instead of enforcement as it was costing them a fortune in court.

Meeting Adjourned 9:10 PM

Upcoming Items:
None

Meeting Dates for 2019

DATES:

- Oct 23rd, Nov 27th