



## **Carleton Place Urban Forest/River Corridor Advisory Committee**

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**Minutes of meeting November 25, 2020**

**7:00 p.m. Zoom meeting**

**Next Regular Monthly Meeting January 27, 2021 @ 7 - 9PM – Zoom meeting**

### **Attendance:**

Jim McCready (Chair), Jennifer Rogers, Janet McGinnis, Joanne Woodhouse, Doreen Donald, Dale Moulton, Councilor Toby Randell, Jack Havel ( student)

Absent: Andy Kerr-Wilson

1. Welcome - Approval of the Agenda;
2. Minutes of October 28, 2020 meeting (already approved)
3. Minutes of November 25, 2020 approved ( Jennifer, Dale)
4. Business Arising from October 28, 2020 meeting
  - UFRCC Committee website content will be developed in the new year
5. Private Homeowner Planting Program 2021
  - The Town is implementing the suggestions from the committee for the homeowner tree planting program – still planning to be a webinar format, cost to be \$25, two week pickup for trees at the Nursery
6. Wire and Vines on trees.
  - Wires:**
    - Toby talked to Joanne at the Town. Staff checked the wires/cages and no evidence of tampering or beaver activity.
    - Jim has consulted with local expertise and there does not appear to be any problems with beavers. If wire becomes a problem for the health of the trees, it is recommended to remove the wire. However, leave the wire on until it becomes a problem.
  - Vines:**
    - Committee has approval to go out in the spring with the Town staff to try and cut the vines back.
    - OK to keep clippers on walks and clip them if you see them. Clippings can be left on the ground.
    - Tree that were planted at the Arena for national tree day needs to have the wire taken off. Toby will tell Joanne at the Town about this – if there are other trees that need their wires removed, tell Toby and he can pass it on. Supports should be left on the trees for one growing season only.

7. Planning - 400 Franktown Road

### **Feedback on Tree Preservation Plan/Landscape Plan:**

- Jim meet with public works to look at the site. There are 5 town trees on the site only 2 are being retained. There should be no removal of Town trees.

- Trees along Franktown should be maintained in keeping with the rest of the large trees and the Town's character on the entrance to the town
- Tree preservation plan is inadequate – 47 trees and only retaining 5. Larger tree should have been identified to retain especially around the edges of the property
- Emphasis should be on preserving trees in keeping with the neighbourhood's character
- The plan shows the replacement of larger trees with sugar maple, which is discouraged
- Can island be created in the parking lot to preserve the larger tree?
- Committee recommends a re-do of the landscape plan to preserve more trees, preferably the larger trees.

Feedback on storm water management feature:

- Is the surface water management feature considered part of their green space?
- Can the stormwater pond be curved to preserve the trees?
- Does the SWMP need to be that large?

Overall comments on 400 Franktown Road:

- The committee suggests a natural look instead of a manicured look in keeping with the Town's Character and the rest of Franktown road and neighbourhood
- Too much hard surfaces
- Nothing is planned for the property boundary to buffer it for the neighbours and maintain the character of the neighbourhood

Jim will have comments to Planning by December 16<sup>th</sup>

#### 8. Provinces Recommendations for Conservation Authorities- Doreen

- Omnibus bill introduced in the Ontario Legislature– Schedule 6 deals with Conservation Authorities and the public is not getting an opportunity to comment on this
- Overall gist of the proposed changes is that, if it goes through, management structure of the Conservation Authorities will change to a municipal basis
- Conservation Authorities currently manage on a watershed basis which is a science-based approach
- Very serious concerns about the proposed changes
- Developers are supportive, conservation groups are against it and feel they are not getting a chance to comment on it
- A form letter is available requesting that Schedule 6 be removed.
- Doreen will circulate the summary – time is of the essence to provide your feedback
- Schedule 40 – Parks and Conservation Areas – appears that the proposed changes will make it easier for property development in provincial parks
- Council should have a concern as the Town depends on the MVCA for quality of Drinkwater and input into planning especially around flooding.

#### **Statement from the committee on proposed changes to Conservation Authorities in Ontario:**

*On November 5, 2020, the Ontario government tabled omnibus budget measures Bill 229 in the Ontario Legislature. Schedule 6 of this Bill proposes fundamental changes to the Conservation Authorities Act and the role that CAs have in land use planning. Furthermore, using omnibus bill measures severely limits the public's right to comment under the Environmental Bill of Rights.*

*Schedule 6 will not achieve the critical goal of building climate resiliency for Ontario. In fact, the proposed amendments are likely to set back watershed planning and implementation of an ecosystem and science-based watershed management approach by decades.*

*The Carleton Place Urban Forests and River Corridor Advisory Committee supports our Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority and requests that Town Council supports a recommendation that Schedule 6 not be enacted in its present form and be completely withdrawn from Bill 229.*

9. Trees & Climate Change Webinar-Doreen

- Doreen attended the RVCA presentation on what impact climate change is having on trees
- In a lot of respects, they don't know what effects there will be on trees
- Potential for less dense forests and more open areas which will change run off and flooding patterns
- Doreen will circulate the presentation when it is available
- Jim expects the maple syrup industry will be hit first, species moving north would be a slow process

10. Dates for 2021 meetings

- Fourth Wednesday of every month (except July, August and December): Jan 27, Feb 24, March 24, April 28, May 26, June 23, Sept 22, Oct 27, Nov 24

11. Bridge Street make over.

- Jim has had meetings with Dave Young
- Plans are at 90% right now
- 54 trees planned (instead of 59 currently in place)
- Still discussing the tree pits, 400mm opening too small according to the City of Toronto, 600mm is better along with structured soil
- Size of trees and longevity of the trees is increased by using the 600mm opening.
- Construction pushed to 2022 due to construction prices being very elevated
- Better for the BIA to not have the construction back to back with Covid/2020

12. Jim to present at Lanark's Forest and Nature based Solutions- Climate Change Project ( November 26<sup>th</sup>)

- Jim was asked to bring his expertise on Forestry in Lanark County-this covers many aspects.
- 2 Billion tree program from the federal government –Eastern Ontario has been mentioned as a good place to start by professionals-Lanark could be at the top of the list with all the abandoned farmland.

13. Mushroom display

- Former committee member put together a display on Fungi – where could we send it?
- Conservation Authority has one already
- Library is one option for when it opens
- Jim is looking for ideas

14. How we thought Zoom worked

- Went well, no issues hearing
- Better than conference call

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm

**No further meeting dates for 2020.**

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**Homeowner Workshop : May 5, 2021**