



MINUTES
RECREATION AND PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, December 10, 2009
6:00 p.m. – City Hall, Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Jim McManaman, Chair
Tom Wiley (Councillor - Georgian Bluffs) Vice Chair
City/County Councillor Arlene Wright
Paul Foster
Gayle Graham
Rachelle Williams

ABSENT/REGRETS: Sharon McKeachnie
Francis Richardson (Mayor – Meaford)
Brent Jeffries
Bob Knapp
Mark Rouse
Ryan Thompson (Councillor - Georgian Bluffs)

STAFF PRESENT: Pam Coulter, Director of Community Services
Glen Henry, Director of Corporate Services
John Howard, Manager of Parks and Open Space
Craig Ruppenthal, Facilities Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER –6:15 P.M.

2. PUBLIC MEETING – KELSO BEACH PARK MASTER PLAN

The Director of Community Services introduced Kim and Richard Allerton, Northwood Landscape Architects Ltd. and provided background regarding the process relating to the Kelso Beach Park Master Plan including two public open houses and the evolution of the plan to date based on public input.

Kim Allerton discussed one-on-one meetings with various interest groups, the visioning session that was held with members of the public and interest groups, and a subsequent public open house. Kim described the park, the size, type of park, and its function and reviewed the project goal.

She then reviewed the structural components and capital plan for those buildings, as well as electrical assessment of the park.

The schematic design of the park master plan was reviewed highlighting features such as a new main entrance, arch and sight line to the water, reorienting parking to the rail trail, pedestrian walkway loop around the perimeter and link to the north and south areas of the park and beyond, lots of smaller paths within the park, a new pedestrian promenade to a point near the south end of the park, as well as adding some material to create interest along the existing marina pier. She reviewed in some detail the fragmites

eradication beginning with flattening, controlled burn and application of herbicide. It is expected the Ministry of Natural Resources will have guidelines for application of herbicide in April, 2010.

Councillor McManaman noted the change in approach regarding fragmites compared to a few years ago. Kim Allerton noted the recognition of shoreline and downstream impact resulting from the fragmites that has occurred in the last few years and the approach that is required.

Other areas looked at are a new picnic shelter, cleaning out sediment from the interior basin, and getting fountain operational. Kim described a balanced approach to shoreline alterations and the need to ensure that gains in habitat are compensated for losses. This will be an important aspect of gaining necessary approvals.

Kim discussed the ongoing maintenance of the reed grass that will be necessary. This will be less costly and extensive after the first year.

Kim described the "One Heart Memorial Garden" which is proposed as part of the truth and reconciliation process for the native community. It is the focus for the park as you enter from the south and pedestrian bridge. There is also a point that has a new picnic pavilion as well as a solid edge with opportunities for canoe and kayak tie-ups.

There was a question regarding the native history of the area. Kim described that this area was a native winter camping area and Mary Miller Park to the north is a known First Nations Burial ground. The park and the changes proposed, in particular in the area of the water, will be subject to interest by First Nations.

The Memories of Summerfolk Circle was described.

Kim Allerton identified priorities including:

- i. eradication of the reed grass
- ii. splash pad & servicing
- iii. steps to investigate changes to the shoreline
- iv. washroom near splash pad
- v. overall critical site maintenance of existing infrastructure
- vi. parking
- vii. renovation to the washrooms
- viii. overall grading
- ix. trails
- x. work along the river.

Committee Chair thanked Kim Allerton for her presentation. The full plan with drawings will be presented at an upcoming meeting. As the weather was poor, there will be additional invitations to this meeting.

3. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

There were none.

4. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF FOR MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES OR LISTED ON THE AGENDA.

There was none.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

a) Regular Meeting – November 12, 2009

Moved by City/County Councillor Wright

“THAT the minutes of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee meeting held on November 12, 2009 be hereby approved.”

Carried unanimously

6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- a) ATV Trail Use – The Director of Community Services advised the Committee that staff are working on signage at key locations where ATV use may be occurring within the City trail system. This is most likely at “transition” points between adjacent municipalities and the City.
- b) Leash Free Park – Pam Coulter indicated that a report is not provided at this meeting as a private individual has come forward who is interested in constructing a dog park as part of an overall development. A meeting is being coordinated with Teri Van Aalst (who had made an earlier deputation to the Committee regarding a Leash Free park) and the other interested individual. An update will be forthcoming to Committee in January.

7. DEPUTATIONS

There were none.

8. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR WHICH DIRECTION OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS REQUIRED.

a) Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration - Call for Nominations for Volunteer Service Awards, June Callwood Outstanding Achievement Award and Ontario Medal for Young Volunteers

Committee discussed the awards and suggested that at the time that the Volunteer and Senior of the Year awards are sent out, that this also be included in this package and be considered at that time. It was recognized that the date may require the submission to be for the subsequent year, however, Committee felt it was best to deal with these in a comprehensive way as opposed to in an ad hoc fashion.

Moved by Paul Foster

That the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration Volunteer Service Awards, June Callwood Outstanding Achievement Award and Ontario Medal for Young Volunteers be included with the City's Volunteer of the Year Award and Senior of the Year award and be dealt with at one time annually."

Carried unanimously

9. REPORTS AND MATTERS TABLED FOR WHICH DIRECTION OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS REQUIRED.

a) Verbal Report from Chair, Steering Committee Re: Regional Recreation Centre

Councillor Jim McManaman provided an update regarding the Regional Recreation Centre and progress of the Steering Committee and City Council. Councillor McManaman indicated a meeting had been held on Friday, December 4th and Council considered the final cost for the project. Council has approved a budget of up to \$8.6 million. Jim indicated that other sites had been evaluated but all sites have issues and Council has reaffirmed its commitment to Victoria Park.

Work on the site plan, servicing and micro-planning is now underway. Meetings are planned in the new year with Georgian Bluffs and Meaford. Council also directed that the City approach our MP Larry Miller to revisit the additional costs of the project as per the agreement for unforeseen circumstances.

b) Report from Manager of Parks and Open space Re: Harrison Park Campground and Kelso Campground 2010 Fees

Mr. Howard reviewed the recommendation for 2010 that campground fees would remain the same. It was questioned whether all the Harrison Park campground sites have services. In response, Mr. Howard indicated that all sites at Harrison Park have electrical and water service. No sites have a sewer hookup, however, a pump-out is provided and included in the cost of the campground fee. Upon a question, Mr. Howard provided some comparison of other campground rates.

Moved by City/County Councillor Arlene Wright

"THAT the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee receive the report form the Manager of parks and Open space dated December 7, 2009 regarding the campground fees for 2010 and recommends the following fee structure for council approval:

THAT Council approve the following fees:

	2008	2009	2010
Harrison Park Campground	\$32.00	\$32.00	\$32.00
Kelso Campground	\$30.00	\$30.00	\$30.00
Firewood (per bag)	\$ 4.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00
ice (per bag/block)	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00
Waste Tank Pump-out (non registered campers)"	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00	\$ 5.00

Carried unanimously

Committee then moved forward item 9. e) at this time.

e) Report from Facilities Manager Re: Facilities 5 Year Capital Plan

Glen Henry, Director of Corporate Services provided an introduction regarding capital items for facilities and that with a recent reorganization, the facilities area is now part of the Corporate Services Department. Mr. Henry described the informal taxonomy that is used for capital budget planning.

The priorities were reviewed for the Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre and City Parks. Committee suggested that the Queen's Park Bandshell and Mausoleum steps both be ranked taxonomy 1 and both be ranked priority 1 for 2010. Committee discussed the various items for improvement at the Bayshore Community Centre including glycol under the floor

Moved by Tom Wiley

"THAT the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee receives the report from the Manager of Facilities regarding the 5 Year Capital Plan for the Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre and City Parks and recommends Council give consideration to the capital budget requirements and the priorities established through Committee."

Carried unanimously

d) Report from Manager of Parks and Open Space Re: Harrison Park Capital Needs Update

John Howard reviewed his report outlining the 10 priorities identified in 2007 regarding Harrison Park and as per the chart (attached), the status of the various projects with items that have been completed and those that remain to be undertaken. Committee noted that significant progress has been made on the high priority items identified for Harrison Park and noted that they support this work.

The Committee discussed the Tot Lot adjacent to the Harrison Park Inn.

Moved by Rachelle Williams

"THAT the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee receive for information the report from the Manager of Parks and Open Space

dated December 7, 2009, which provides an update on the capital needs for Harrison Park and recommends that the items identified be included as high priority items for Council's consideration at 2010 capital budget."

Carried unanimously

Upon question, it was confirmed that the items for Harrison Park were included in the capital budget plan for Parks and Cemeteries.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

10. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED WHICH IS PRESENTED FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

11. ADJOURNMENT

At this time the Committee determined that they would adjourn and move item 9 c) Parks and Open Space Capital Budget to its January meeting. Committee adjourned at 9:00 p.m.