

**UPTON FARM TRUST
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING UPTON ROOM
WEST ROYALTY CENTRE
7 pm. JUNE 4th, 2019.**

Present: Heidi Hyndman (Chair), Scott Burke, Beth Hoar, Grant Johnson, Marie Ann Bowden, Nancy Pierce, Susan Frizzell,

Missing: Todd Dupuis

Guests: Ernie Morello, Shawn Murphy (West Royalty Trail Project), MLA Gord McNeely
(15 members present)

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the membership and introduced the Board and our guests.

2. Approval of the Agenda

It was agreed that the Agenda be accepted.

3. Approval of the 2018 Minutes

In the absence of changes, the Minutes were accepted.

4. West Royalty Trail Project- presented by Ernie Morello

- Ernie spoke of the history of the development of trails within the city linking private and public land to the Confederation Trail

- this project is a continuation of this product in the western end of the City

- Beach Grove system is well developed
- the idea is to connect Beach Grove through Upton out to the Confederation Trail
- None of the Upton trails are on city maps
- Multiple loops east of Upton, if established, may serve to connect the trails through Upton back to various southern points in the system connecting through parks and public lands thus ending the isolation between properties.
- either an overpass or an underpass would be necessary over the Trans Canada Highway to connect the north and south properties
- An underpass presents security concerns. The disadvantage of an overpass is that you are subject to the weather
- questions and comments followed regarding cost, water table, and the interaction between dog walkers and other users including bicycles and snowmobilers
- Since the proposal was is at such a preliminary stage the issues raised were noted as important considerations as we move forward

5. Report by the Chair - presented by Heidi Hyndman

a. Cornwall Bypass Settlement

- last year we discussed the side issues related to the bypass settlement
- this year we were able to reach an agreement with the province regarding land valuation based on fair market value for land which cannot be developed (according to the terms of the trust)
- after protracted negotiations, we received \$22k for the approx 3 acre parcel from the province
- the province was transferred land adjacent to the TC Highway up the north side of the hill and slightly around the corner onto Upton Road
- the remaining land is now added to the NAPA lands
- we also received \$3600 in lieu of benches offered by the province and \$5400 for a well
- the 'well' monies will be used toward the installation of a dog/human fountain, including a connection to city water infrastructure on Regis Duffy

b. Off-leash Zone

- we are trying to improve the off-leash trail area before we install the fence
- we were not able to put up fences last fall
- trail work will begin this weekend
- under the terms of the trust and NAPA, 20 acres max is assigned to off leash area

c. Infrastructure

- we await the City who have promised to do work on the Regis Duffy Parking lot

d. Option to Purchase

- there is a long-standing, renewable option to purchase a two-acre parcel adjacent to the Prince Edward home
- it has been renewed by the province twice and is up for renegotiation
- we are seeking assurances from the province that they will assume the taxes on the property- both provincial and municipal when the option is renewed (as the property is not within NAPA)

e. Dumping, Property Damage, and Aggressive Animals

- we continue to have issues with dumping and parking on the property
- new signage should assist with the problem
- no individual should be making trails or impacting the vegetation in any way
- please inform the Board if you see anyone engaging in these activities

- the Board has the right to bar individuals and their animals from the property if there is aggressive animal behaviour or other violation of property rules

f. Website

- we now updated our site by changing platforms (courtesy of Grant)
- although functional, we will continue updating the site-including adding PayPal for memberships donations etc

g. Trees

- 380 trees were planted under the supervisions of Beth with the assistance of McPhail's Woods staff and the support of 5 corporations
- the provincial Forestry Enhancement Program will add to this number with all costs being borne by the province

h. Bike Path

- Josh Underhay approached the Board several months ago regarding a Bike path on the south side of the property
- we continue investigating the project and are in discussion with Josh's widow

It was moved by Melissa and seconded by Kathy that the Report be accepted.
Carried

5. Treasurer's Report - presented by Susan Frizzell (Attached)

- last year we did no grass cutting last year so that presented a cost-saving
- income this year was from memberships and the provincial payment as a result of the land settlement
- We presently boast a \$37,000 Surplus
- Expenses associated with the infrastructure (trails, fences, benches, etc) will be coming in the near future and paid for with funds from the Bypass settlement

It was moved by Melissa and seconded by Jennifer that the Report be accepted.
Carried

6. Infrastructure Committee Report - presented by Heidi Hyndman

- sitting benches are being manufactured by Betts Wood Mill
- there will be 5 steel/wood benches with earth anchors installed at a cost of \$3000
- the signs are done for the boundaries, the dog rules, parking, etc
- DNS is installing the off-lease area fence
- they are designed to simply delineate the areas are not intended to keep uncontrolled animals contained
- we await the repair of the parking lot and have been told we are "on the list"

- Albert Flavel will do the trails in three stages: on-leash area, north side, and south property
- 8 volunteers are needed this Saturday: work boots, safety glasses, and gloves needed- please sign up
-

It was moved by Melissa and seconded by Jennifer that the Report be accepted.

Carried

7. The nomination of New Board Members

Grant, Susan,(2 years) Scott (1 year) were elected by acclamation.

The nominations were moved by Melissa and seconded by Jennifer.

Carried

QUESTION AND ANSWER

Hanging trees will be removed this weekend

Metal will be removed as we work through the site

The City will be removing the garbage more frequently

There is a trailer parked in the Regis Duffy parking lot - we will contact the police department

It was moved by Melissa and seconded by Jennifer that the meeting be adjourned.

Carried