

**UPTON FARM TRUST
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
UPTON ROOM - WEST ROYALTY CENTRE
JUNE 5th, 2018, 7pm.**

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

Absent: Nancy Pierce, Todd Dupuis, Susan Frizzell,

(18 members present)

1. Welcome

The Chair welcomed the membership and introduced the Board

2. Approval of the Agenda

It was agreed that the Agenda be accepted.

3. Approval of the 2017 Minutes

In the absence of changes the Minutes were accepted.

4. Report by the Chair - presented by Heidi Hyndman

HIGHLIGHTS:

charitable status:

- the Upton Farm Trust recently received achieved charitable
- the tax advantages of donations were briefly outlined
- rolling out a charitable donation strategy will become a priority in the fall

on-leash on the south side property :

- the south Field was originally going to be a no dog area
- on a one year trial basis we are converting this area to ON LEASH area
- this is in keeping with the City parks policy.
- we are conscious of our neighbours and other park users and hope that the Membership will support and help ensure the success of this new policy

board membership:

- two board members resigned during the course of this year
- since it was during their terms, pursuant to the bylaws the Board sought replacements to complete those terms which will run another year from now
- Grant Johnson and Susan Frizzell have joined the Board
- the Board extends their thanks to Ken Lecky and Doug MacDonald for their service to the Trust

signage:

- we are still awaiting signs.
- unfortunately there is almost 6 month lag time to get the signs
- the Chair showed some examples of the chosen signage

off leash area:

- in accordance with the Master Plan for Upton we have maxed the off leash area to the 20 acres permitted under the agreement
- the Trust is also looking forward to new users enjoying the property
- Heidi reminded people to not take their off leash dogs off the property: this could result in issues with our neighbors and the province, who own land to the north of Upton.
- a sign should be erected so walkers are aware of where the property ends

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

Carried

5. Treasurer's Report - presented by Scott Burke

(Attached)

- the Trust has 2 sources of income: membership fees and assistance for operating expenses from the province
- expenses were explained including the missing cheque (it was in last year's budget) as of April 1, 2018
- In response to queries:
 - > The city provides garbage pickup for free.
 - > The rough state of the new parking lot entry (off Regis Duffy) will be looked into by the Board

It was moved by Tammy Phinney and seconded by Jennifer Perry that the Report be accepted.

Carried

6. Infrastructure Committee Report - presented by Heidi

Water :

- as part of the bypass agreement with the province we investigated digging a well and providing a drinking fountain (for both humans and dogs) by the Regis Duffy parking lot
- there were issues with water availability and the cost of a hand pump- we are grateful for the input and expertise of Moores Well Digging
- it is clearly most economical to run a line in from the city water service in the Biocommons to the edge of the walking area.
- this could be shut off seasonally

Benches:

- the Trust negotiated two benches similar to those at Bonshaw as part of the bypass agreement
- in lieu of the benches we asked for for credit which amounts to \$3200, so we can purchase benches better suited to our needs

Bush hogging:

- bush hogging was done last fall which is allowed under NAPA (meadow management) to protect the meadow and preserve vistas
- coupled with that was realignment of the north field path in a hope to avoid the marsh area
- we will do some work on this path to eliminate the stumps that were created
- the plan is to move the trail slightly uphill

Signage and fencing:

- (as stated above) we are waiting for the signs to be produced
- all fenced off area entries will be wheelchair accessible
- fences will be constructed of wood posts and livestock "page" wire
- there will also be two easement gates installed to permit the City access

In response to a query:

- > the Board will look at possible orange tape or something similar to mark the fence to protect dogs from running into it

Parking lots:

- we will install a gate at the edge of the upper parking lot by the trans Canada along with large rocks to prevent vehicles accessing the Trust lands and to deter dumping
- there is now a third parking lot by the Mountie Barracks on the south side of the property

Trees:

- 360 trees were planted in May this year in the Business Tree Planting Challenge by 9 businesses
- there was also a TD tree planting last fall involving several area schools
- finally there was hedgerow planting by the province in two lines on the north between the Trust and BioCommons properties

It was moved by Cory Miclef and seconded by Kathy Kennedy that the Report be accepted.

Carried

7. **Nomination of New Board Members**

Heidi Hyndman's term is up but she is willing to serve again.

Heidi Hyndman was nominated for the position by Corey Miclef and seconded by Kathy Kennedy.

Carried

- there was some discussion regarding the makeup of the board.
- the Board proposed that to ensure continuity the position of Past President should be reintroduced in the bylaws.
- it was not possible to bring this forward this year due to notice requirements for bylaw change
- the bylaw change will therefore be moved next year

8. **New Business**

9. **Questions/Comments**

Could the "parking for Upton" near the Nissan dealership sign come down or be redirected?

There are people crossing Upton Road to get the corner parking lot. People are also coming from the south side to the north across the roundabout. Could a crosswalk be installed.

-> This is clearly a safety issue of concern to all park users. We will pass the concern on to the province who carry the responsibility provincial for the corner

Are there not wells already on the property which could be used for the fountain?

-> There may be, but running a line from the city lines is the easiest solution.

Where is the park advertised ?

-> Nowhere officially in provincial materials. Beth believes it is on the City website. A lot of word of mouth. Googling.

What is the "time sensitive issue" mentioned by the Chair which has to be dealt with?

-> Heidi explained the current discussions with the province over the Trans Canada expansion and land acquisition. We are presently in negotiations to settle the matter with the province

Is Albert Flavel available for trail building?

-> Todd is aware we would like to take advantage of Alberts expertise. We are hoping to get some in kind help at some point this year

Kudos to the city workers who come on the land to empty the barrels. The membership asked Beth to pass along our thanks for their thoughtfulness, good humour and efficiency.

10. **Adjournment**

It was moved by Tammy Phinney and seconded by Melissa Belvadi that the meeting be adjourned.

Carried