

Ottawa Forests and Greenspace Advisory Committee Comité consultatif sur les forêts et les espaces verts d'Ottawa

MINUTES 16 PROCÈS-VERBAL 16

Monday, 28 May 2012, 6:30 p.m. Le lundi 28 mai 2012 18 h 30

Colonel By Room 110 Laurier Avenue West Salle Colonel By, 110, avenue Laurier Ouest

Present / Présents:	H. Hamilton (Chair/présidente), B. Henkelman (Vi Chair/Vice-présidente) J. Garlough, P. Hall, N. Parent, C. Seward, M. Wani	ce-
Regrets/excuses:	R. Alam, L. Donohue, S. Fast	

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST DÉCLARATIONS D'INTÉRÊT

No declarations of interest were received.

Note: 1. Please note that these Minutes are to be considered DRAFT until confirmed by Committee.

2. Please note that any written or verbal submissions (including your name but excluding personal contact information) will form part of the public record and be made available to City Council and the public.

Nota : 1. Veuillez noter que ces procès-verbaux doive être considérés comme étant PRÉLIMINAIRE jusqu'à ce qu'ils soivent confirmés par le Comité.

^{2.} Veuillez noter que toute présentation écrite ou orale (accompagnée de votre nom, mais sans vos coordonnées) sera versée aux dossiers publics et sera mise à la disposition du Conseil municipal et de la population.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES RATIFICATION DU PROCÈS-VERBAL

Minutes 15 from the April 30, 2012 meeting were confirmed.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMUNICATIONS

1. CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS AND CORRESPONDENCE DISCOURS D'OUVERTURE DE LA PRÉSIDENTE ET CORRESPONDANCE

The Chair made note of the following changes to the agenda:

- Item 3 there is no representative from the NCC so she would review what she could of the presentation with the Committee
- Item 4 will be dealt with as the first order of business
- Additional Item 9 PowerPoint presentation on Predatory Controls for Emerald Ash Borer
- Item 7(C) will be deferred until the next meeting
- There will be a short presentation from two residents on concerns related to tree-cutting on a residential lot in Ward 9

PRESENTATIONS PRÉSENTATIONS

2. EMERALD ASH BORER UPDATE LE POINT SUR L'AGRILE DU FRÊNE

Jason Pollard, Senior Forester, Public Works Department spoke to a PowerPoint presentation which provided an update on the Emerald Ash Borer, as presented to the Environment Committee in April. A copy of the presentation is held on file. Through his presentation, he also addressed many of the questions raised in the Chair's inquiry submitted at the last meeting.

In response to a question posed by the Chair, Mr. Pollard agreed to forward to her a recent article regarding the economic impact of EAB on the tree canopy.

<u>Donna DuBreuil, Ottawa Carleton Wildlife Centre</u> posed several questions to staff with regards to the City budgeting for the removal and/or treatment of trees infected with EAB. She also wondered how the City plans to work with individuals who want to inject trees on their own property.

Mr. Pollard advised that this spring staff plan to set up a standing offer for contractors which give residents an opportunity to have trees injected by a

professional. The program is full this year but it may be possible to add others. There is a rate established by the various contractors to inject trees. Ms. DuBreuil encouraged the City to develop a process whereby residents can pay half the price of the injection, rather than having the City pay for the full cost of removing the tree. Mr. Pollard indicated these details would be available on the City's website in a week or so.

<u>Sol Shuster, Greenspace Alliance EAB Working Group</u> indicated his concerns with regards to the issue of injection vs. removal. He believed that removing an infected tree is a waste of money and trees and suggested the City take a second look at how it is progressing and to take into account the science of treatment.

In response to these concerns, Mr. Pollard advised that staff would be reporting to the Environment Committee and Council on a regular basis with regards to how the program is progressing.

<u>Mike Lascelles, Environmental Advisory Committee</u> suggested that if staff knew how EAB disease is spreading across the landscape, it could inform them of where to monitor it and intervene as necessary. Perhaps even innoculating trees that are not yet infected.

Mr. Pollard advised that what they have seen is a natural spread (insect migration) on its own, in addition to the movement of wood that is infected. He was not aware of any community-based monitoring programs in Canada, but noted there are some in the United States.

<u>Iola Price</u> followed on one of the slides shown during the staff presentation, which illustrated the difference to one particular street (Claude Street) in the east end of the City. She wondered if it would be possible to approach the residents of that street, where many trees were removed as a result of EAB, and, using calculations from Hydro and Enbridge, get the heating and cooling costs before and after the trees were removed. She felt this would provide good information with regard to the value of trees on a street in terms of energy costs.

Mr. Pollard agreed it was a good idea and staff had worked with a researcher in 2010 who had done similar studies in Michigan. However, the funding for that work fell through. He offered that the new smart meters provide a level of information.

The Chair indicated that she looked forward to fulsome answers to the Committee's questions posed in its inquiry at the last meeting and she hoped to put that information on the OFGAC website.

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3. NATIONAL CAPITAL COMMISSION EMERALD ASH BORER PROGRAM PROGRAMME DE LUTTE CONTRE L'AGRILE DU FRÊNE DE LA COMMISSION DE LA CAPITALE NATIONALE

The Chair briefly reviewed a few slides from the NCC PowerPoint presentation entitled "Urban Lands and Transportation – Vegetation Management – Invasive Species Control Program". A copy of the presentation is held on file.

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4. RURAL CLEAN WATER PROGRAM PROGRAMME D'ASSAINISSEMENT DE L'EAU EN MILIEU RURAL

Sami Rehman, Planner II, Environmental Services Department spoke to a PowerPoint presentation which provided an update on the Rural Clean Water Grants Program 2011 Annual Report. A copy of the presentation is held on file.

In response to questions raised by Committee members, Mr. Rehman agreed to investigate the following:

- Does the City monitor the long-term assessment of this program?
- Is there a legal requirement for the property owner to make a long term commitment to maintaining the works done as part of the grants program?

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INFORMATION ITEMS POINTS D'INFORMATION

5. CITY OPERATIONS - FORESTRY SERVICES MONTHLY UPDATE OPÉRATIONS MUNICIPALES – SERVICES FORESTIERS RAPPORT MENSUEL

Jason Pollard, Senior Forester provided the following highlights

- Staff are busy with the tree planting program, including street tree planting, community tree planting and tree planting in response to EAB
- Recent weather events saw crews cleaning up fallen trees and broken branches; damage was fairly localized

<u>James O'Grady</u> stated that when trees are removed (diseased, storm damaged, etc), there are usually only five species of trees selected from for replacement. He felt that for specific forests, the City may wish to consider replacing them with native species and offered the white pine as a good choice.

4

Mr. Pollard agreed that the number of tree species is something that can be addressed.

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6. PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE MONTHLY UPDATE URBANISME ET INFRASTRUCTURE – RAPPORT MENSUEL

Nick Stow, Planner III provided the following highlights:

- Final hearing on OPA 76 Urban Boundary (to determine which parcels will and will not come into the urban boundary)
- Staff have sent around information pertaining to amendments to designate Lester Wetland and Kizell Wetlands in the OP, as well as Cardinal Creek Karst
- Early in June there will be Open Houses on the new Schedule L in the OP to meet the direction of the OMB to designate the natural heritage systems
- Cardinal Creek Sub watershed Study meetings to be held with property owners whose lands are affected; there will be an Open House later this summer/fall with the study to be finalized after that
- EIS Guidelines will go to Council soon
- Wildlife Strategy recommendations will be going to Committee and Council (probably September); he intends to send the report to the Wildlife Strategy Working Group (OFGAC is a member) once he has received approval from the Deputy City Manager; he intends to include with the Wildlife Strategy Report a document with comments and recommendations from the Working Group members
- The City is moving forward with seven Beaver Deceiver demonstration sites this spring
- Staff have completed a site-alteration draft bylaw, but are consulting with the City's Legal Department about including vegetation removal.

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ACTION ITEMS POINTS PRIORITAIRES

- 7. PROJECT FILE UPDATES MISES À JOUR SUR LES DOSSIERS DE PROJETS
 - A) 2011 Draft Annual Report / Rapport annuel préliminaire de 2011

Member Parent referred to the draft report she circulated to Committee members for comment. The Committee supported the report as

presented and she indicated she would finalize it and submit it to the Coordinator for submission to Committee and Council.

CARRIED

 B) Report on NCC Invasive Species Workshop Compte rendu de l'atelier sur les espèces envahissantes de la Commission de la capitale nationale

Volunteer, Iola Price, gave a brief verbal update on the workshop she had attended on 10 May 2012. She indicated that a copy of her report was provided to the Chair. The more salient points noted were:

- The workshop focused on how the NCC should address the issue of invasive plants on their landscape
- They excluded the Gatineau Park, but are looking at urban lands and the Greenbelt
- She has a list of 'who said what' that she could circulate.

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C) Update on 1566 Stagecoach Road Development and OMB Appeal (Volunteer Beltzner) / Le point sur l'aménagement du 1566, chemin Stagecoach et l'appel à la CAMO

DEFERRED to June 25

8. FORWARD AGENDA ITEMS POINTS À L'ORDRE DU JOUR DE LA PROCHAINE REUNION

- Environment Strategy / Stratégie environnementale
- Water Environment Strategy / Stratégie sur le milieu aquatique
- Rural Review / questions rurales

6

ADDITIONAL ITEMS POINTS ADDITIONEL

Moved by B. Henkelman

That the Ottawa Forests and Greenspace Advisory Committee approve the addition of the following item for consideration by the Committee at today's meeting, pursuant to Section 20(3) of the Advisory Committee Procedure By-law:

• Presentation from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada re Predatory Controls for Emerald Ash Borer

CARRIED

9. PRESENTATION FROM AGRICULTURE AND AGRI-FOOD CANADA RE PREDATORY CONTROLS FOR EMERALD ASH BORER

Dr. Bruce Gill, Research Scientist in the Entomology Unit, Ottawa Plant Laboratory, Canadian Food Inspection Agency, spoke to a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Wasps to the Rescue! Biosurveillance and Biocontrol Agents Battle the Emerald Ash Borer". A copy of his PowerPoint presentation is held on file.

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OTHER BUSINESS AUTRES QUESTIONS

Tree Cutting at 5 Briggs Avenue

Agnes Warda and Gavin King spoke about their concerns with regards to a number of trees that were cleared from 5 Briggs Avenue in Ward 9, to make way for a development. While the clearing without a permit had upset them, a large white pine on the property had appeared to have been spared. However, it too was soon removed to make room for a pool, which was part of the development. Residents were especially concerned that the tree removal permit issued by the City for this and the requirement to have it displayed, was waived. They felt that the white pine, which was more than 100 feet tall and healthy, could have been saved and incorporated into the development plan.

They submitted the following recommendations for consideration:

1. Review the permits' rationale for development (those trees could be left standing if the architect took time to revise and produce the plan that included trees). No tools or incentives are seemingly available to steer the

developer toward environment- friendly plans that include trees. And the penalties are too small.

2. Ensure that the community is notified prior to the permit issuance, it will avoid confrontations but it would also allow for intervention if the permit was not obtained as it was in our case.

8

A copy of their detailed submission is held on file.

In response to questions posed by the Chair about the permit, Mr. Pollard advised that this matter is under investigation as a by-law infraction.

ADJOURNMENT LEVÉE DE LA SÉANCE

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Original signed by Rosemary Theriault

Heather Hamilton

Committee Coordinator

Chair