

FoRRP Revitalization Committee

Meeting #3 Minutes

October 29, 2012

Attended by Melana Janzen, Jill Cuthbertson, Susan Antler, Shani Parsons

1. Brief review of minutes from the last meeting (it was mostly re. our 2012 report).
 - that meeting was focused primarily on producing a report to take the 2013 work forward; Marco/Martin/the City is now looking for more information on those plans (particularly the washroom building)
 - reviewed the dollar figures as we know them; Marco informed us that there is a little bit more park levie money than we had though; the current (guaranteed) fund breakdown was elaborated on at the 07 Nov 2012 meeting as follows (this is written retroactively for our committee notes):
 1. \$125,000 from our capital upgrade fund (this will be used up in the 2013 work)
 2. \$330,000 of park levies currently allocated to our park (there may be more in the future)
 3. it is assumed that the 2013 work will dig into our park levie fund somewhat (early estimates for the paths and central seating area was \$137,000)
 - the Playscape committee is likely to produce some kind of report to the revitalization committee to begin to incorporate

2. Brief review of the plans as they stand.
 - 2013 work is essentially laid out (minus more washroom building info)
 - larger master plan discussed below playground group has gone through intensive brainstorming and solicitation of user opinions; how do we move the playgroup material forward? what is the role of the playgroup in relation to the revitalization going forward (we didn't actually discuss this)?
 - Melana suggested that she bring another student on board to move some of the schematic material forward; there were other suggestions of how that could happen
 1. a competition – Melana to follow up on this idea with the people at Toronto Public Space Initiative
 2. via a university elective class (Ryerson, OCAD, UofT, York, Waterloo); Jill and Shani to talk to potential contacts at OCAD, Melana at Ryerson or Waterloo)

3. Review of larger goals (introduce at the start but discuss at the end):
 - what are we producing? timing? when do we want to go back to the community?
 - all agreed these are important things to discuss, and a schedule is an important thing to work toward – no dates or assumptions were drawn up at this time

4. Movement on the bigger plan
 - once the paths are done (137K) we will have roughly ~~(143K)~~ to work with; how do we strategize our funding (note, more levies will be coming)
 - focus on the water theme that we are all so excited about (that address all of our 4 park principles in seeking grants)
 - moving on from the Live Green grant application – next submissions?
 - possible granting agencies for us include:
 1. TD Environment Fund (Melana has experience with them jumping on board once other funders stepped up)
 2. Toronto Parks and Trees
 3. Blue Water Grant (Ministry of the Environment)
 4. RBC – was there are possible source??
 - climate change action (trees, PAPER idea for George Ben geo-thermal)
 - not discussed

-playscape committee report

-still come support for discreet play equipment on the upper level

-allotments/gardens

-not discussed

5. The 2013 plan:

a. washroom building – update on the results of the food survey.

-Marco is looking for additional info here (we spent a large part of the meeting on this item); how exactly does the kitchen function – as a small prep kitchen or a larger commercial style – all agreed it should be the smaller of the two

-it was agreed we need more information – the survey was a good start to feel the community out but we need to talk to the possible partners on this venture; the work of contacting various parties was divided up as follows:

1. Justine – contact various potential non-for-profit partners (St. Christopher House; For York Food Bank, etc.); Justine to also contact Sorauren Park to see how they arrange their affairs (or plan to?)
2. Jill – Shamez from La Palette; the BIAs (College Promenade on Dec 11, Little Portugal __; Little Italy perhaps)
3. Susan – to speak with Foodshare – how they might be interested in our park (the kitchen potential, but also beyond); any other offerings of advice welcome
4. Melana – local coffee shops (Nicole at LIT; ___ at the Tampered Press); find out the process and legals of how Dufferin Grove runs – Utta Mason (eg. why don't they have a commercial kitchen)
5. Shani – Not-Far-From-The-Tree – how we might partner with that organization

-Shani and/or Melana discussed putting together a letter/text that we can all use to begin our conversation with the various parties we approach for opinions and possible partnering for the kitchen

-Justine, in a subsequent meeting, the 07 Nov 2012 FoRRP meeting, agreed to find a sample legal contract or how we might arrange our relationship with a non-profit operating a 'café' in the park

-note that at the previous meeting Melana agreed to contact Dave Harvey for input about how to move the food piece forward for our park

b. The small brick building – ideas thus far.

-we did not discuss

c. The central gathering space (news of the waterlines).

-Jill pointed out the waterline location on the map – Melana to add to the digital map

6. Return to #3.

7. Next Meeting (how often should we meet).

List of Outstanding Work from Prior Meetings:

1. *Pinterest is still up and running for dialogue purposes.*
2. *Field House Building is still in question.*
3. *Possibility of a Compost Council paid summer intern for the park gardening needs.*
4. *AODA funds for a path through Roxton Parkette for 2013.*
5. *PAPER loans – for a bigger renewable energy project – Melana to dialog with Mike Layton.*
6. *Solomon Boye at the city – the go-to-it person for soil testing – we need this to pursue the allotment garden piece.*

7. *Volunteers required for writing letters (to Mike Layton, others) regarding the connection of the larger pathways within our parks reach:*
 - i. *across Ossington Avenue between George Ben Park and Ossington Old Orchard Public School – looking for solutions along this stretch – it is a real problem during school drop-off and pick-up especially*
 - ii. *through Roxton Parkette – ideally extending the pathway through Trinity Bellwoods, diagonally through Bellwoods House and Roxton Parkette, and onto Roxton for northbound cyclists (they are going the wrong way up Shaw*
8. *See if Martin will allow us to review the RFPs put out for our park – we would ideally like input at that early stage.*