

FoRRP Steering Committee Meeting July 16th, 2014

In attendance: Jill, Zac, Aidan, Melana, Marco, Tim, Jennifer Gagne, Jennifer Gordon, Ben, Christine, Kim, Bob, Meg

City Update

Moving through the bidding process for the washroom building renovations. Expect middle August before the tendering phase is complete. If the estimate is higher than what we have budgeted for, we will have to cut back, fundraise, or maybe reallocate from somewhere else (George Ben/RRP 2014 funds). We can now post the washroom building drawings onto the blog. ACTION: Marco will contact park supervisor about making Ferpac pick up construction garbage left in park. Broken Muskoka chairs are to be removed.

Treasurer's Report

Samantha was absent, report deferred until next meeting. Jill asked us to start thinking of goals we should fundraise for and your budget needs for 2015.

History

There are a few calendars left, \$10 each. Planning to do another calendar next year. Still looking into history of area and people. ACTION: Kim to contact Susan Antler about acquiring her photographs from Fred Hamilton's albums. Talked about writing up more bios for the blog about George Ben and some of the people trees and benches have been dedicated to.

Events and Programming

The Third Annual Block Party will take place on Saturday August 23rd. We have received a \$250 donation from Downtown Lumber for the event in which we are going to use to purchase a BBQ for FoRRP. We can store it in the field house. Tim is making contact with the band Culture Reject to perform, as well as open mic, and other musical guests. Posters and flyers will be distributed and there will be a blog post to raise awareness and recruit volunteers/participants. Renting tables for garage sale again, \$20 to rent. It was brought up that people could bring a blanket or a table to set up with a contribution to a pay-what-you-can box. Need someone to coordinate Bake Table and solicit baked donations. Suggestion to approach Cumbraes & Yamchops re: BBQ foods. Bob will be the contact person for the event. Pat, Jake, and Dillon are going to operate the BBQ. ACTION: Tim could connect with local BIAs via Twitter.

Revitalization

Rain garden group to meet with City about cisterns. Hopefully start installing this project next Spring. We should put up some info on the blog. ACTION: Meg to contact and Christine and put up info/graphics on the blog.

Melana noted that the hose bib has been added to the drawings for building renovation.

Will set up the playground taskforce soon, after next Revitalization meeting.
College Montrose Childcare wants to do some planting in the community garden.
ACTION: Aidan to contact Susan Antler about the kids plantings.

Kitchen Task Force

Waiting on Kitchen construction. Ben will circulate the proposed ideas on googledocs.

Green Task Force

Soil tests on Fred Hamilton and George Ben have been completed. Waiting for full report, but our soil is free of heavy metals and it is okay to eat food grown from it. We could improve the nutritional content of soil. ACTION: Aidan to contact Susan Antler about compost.

Zack and Ashley made contact with St. Lukes Catholic School about the Community Orchard and Learning Gardens. Teachers are supportive of the project. Concept is trees around perimeter of George Ben Park with series of raised beds inside that perimeter to separate from soccer and baseball fields ACTION: Zack and Melana are going to draw up some designs. Will bring project to Revitalization Committee and then the parent group when school starts again. Could use Treemobile for plantings in spring 2015. Cost is \$30 per tree. Aidan will ask Susan Posner about the \$4,000 grant that is available.

Tree management plan

They are in the 2nd year of compiling information for the tree inventory. They have 11 volunteers going around the area. Want us to do the trees in our park. Jennifer Gagne will make a date(s) and try to rally volunteers to get our parks inventoried. Takes 5-20min per tree maybe link with August event. Plan for 3 hour sessions. Canadian Institute of Forestry will be mentioning our project in their newsletter and want us to have a profile at upcoming event. We suggested possibility of linking with FoRRP Aug 23 event.

Adopt-A-Tree-Program

32 recently planted trees part of AAT and on Google maps including 1 new dedicated tree
18 adopters incl: individuals, couples, families, and a school

5 trees haven't survived and will be replaced this year by Forestry Dept (4) & Parks Dept (1)

2 trees still need adopters

1 adopter awaiting a new planting. Action: Jill to connect with Jennifer Gordon on possibilities.

Communications

We have a new email address for queries. It is friends@roxtonroadparks.com. Jason has been helping with IT issues and hopefully retrieving our old email account and mailing list. Ben and Christine working on MailChimp list for large scale mailing. ACTION:

Marco to send contact info collected from raffle. When collecting new emails, we now need to get people's consent to receive mail. Corinna has offered design help to FoRRP/

Other Business

July 9th at 10 a.m. will be planting of Canoe number 9 in North Stanley Park.

July 26th is the DSF Pizza cookout at Christie Pits.

August 9-10 will be the DSF Camp out Jamboree at Fort York.

October 5th is the DSF Park Crawl will happen. George Ben may be our only park not under construction. It will finish at Trinity Bellwoods Park.

A group called Sprout Guerilla is doing Green Makeovers of drab areas in the City. Tim has proposed the wall of the Metro building. Please go to <https://projexity.com/greenmakeover> and vote if you think we need a green wall on the Metro building.

Next meeting is September 17th 2014.