

## FoRRP Steering committee Meeting - May 18th, 2016

In attendance: Zac, Jill, Bob, Tim, Barbara, Melana, Christine, Eric

### **Discussion Items**

Film Shoots - We have been receiving notices of film shoots recently. It was expressed at an earlier meeting that we should make contact with them and encourage them to clean up after using park, be mindful of neighbours, and possibly solicit a donation towards the Friends etc. Jill pursued one group but it ended up taking significant time and the filming didn't happen. Group expressed need for some sort of standard reaching out protocol that solicits donations. ACTION: Bob has experience doing this and will reach out to the next film group and solicit a donation for FoRRP. We will also do a post if film shoots are going to last more than a day.

Laneway Puncture - The Laneway puncture construction is underway and should be finished soon. The laneway group is asking FoRRP to do initial watering and to adopt a couple rain barrels to be placed by the garages in the back lane. They also asked if we need any tools, plants, equipment because they have some extra funding for the project. ACTION: FoRRP members to make contact with neighbours along the alley when they can and encourage watering of the green spaces. ACTION: Jill will do a post and a flyer to raise awareness about the greening initiative and continue to liaise with Jode.

Promoting non-FoRRP activities - The issue of promoting non-FoRRP activities in the park came up recently. The group felt uncomfortable promoting any sort of for-profit activities. The exception being when the community bulletin board is installed, which could become a place for people to post for-profit activities. Installation of the bulletin board is expected this Fall. Action: Melana will respond to person who inquired with her.

### **City Update**

Washroom Building - Parks Operations continues to work toward redoing the grading around the washroom building and the roof structure to be added. Parks capital will have a better idea of timeline by mid-June. Goal is to just complete the work as quickly as possible. If work begins in the summer, that is okay. We will get temp washrooms...maybe. Depends on the budget! 90% complete drawings will be shared in late-May for final input before item goes to tender.

Ping Pong Table - Not quite where we wanted the location, but apparently power and water lines are below our originally desired location.

In response to a complaint and request from a neighbour, the group is in favour of installing a dog on leash sign in all three parks. Existing sign about bylaw is too small to be effective. Lots of dogs are off leash, and while many owners maintain control of their pets, a few dog owners do not and allow their dogs to harass people in the parks. Although Fred Hamilton and George Ben tend to be pretty good for dog owners picking up excrement, RRP has more problems with it. A plastic bag dispensary in RRP would be helpful to encourage owners to pick up after their dogs. ACTION: Tim to connect with Cristian about the plastic bag dispensary location. ACTION: Jill to contact Marco/Brian Green about installing signage and bag dispensary.

### **Communications**

Christine and Samantha to have conversation about PayPal on the website.

## **Revitalization**

Our next step for the WaterHarvest project is to fix the pump. Melana met with Roumen and Tom Feeney about it and they will be adjusting the pump and concrete so that it will hold its prime better in the future. We may have to lock pump in the future to prevent overuse and losing the prime. Maybe connect with wading pool staff so that they can monitor the pump regularly. WaterHarvest signage is still to be installed. Group also expressed a desire to have a small sanded area at the bottom of the pump so that children can play there.

The group expressed a desire for a bench in RRP.

## **Playground**

Playground meeting to take place near the end of this month or beginning of next. Discussion will be about new fundraising options for playground equipment and also shading in the playground area.

## **Green**

Christine and Melana are starting a neighbourhood botany club.. They will be planting the rain garden May 26. We will do a post for people who want to participate. The rain garden needs flood and drought resistant plants

We have 4 trees in George Ben that need adopting. We also need a water source in George Ben Park. Keep an eye out for Ossington or Roxton residents that may be interested in adopting a tree. If no one found, Botany Club may adopt.

A small garden in RRP needs some attention. Bellwoods House hasn't jumped on board. Zack and Ashley may be monitoring it, but we are not positive. The botany club may adopt this area next. Action: Melana to follow up with Zack first.

## **Events**

5th Annual Block Party to take place on Saturday August 6th. Enbridge is coming back to bbq. Music is being considered the anchor for the event. We need \$300 for live music and Bob volunteered to donate. It was discussed that we should use the opportunity to fundraise for something specific our park needs rather than general funding. Zac offered to organize a Clothing swap. Ideas for Bocci and or Ping Pong tournaments. Action: Events committee to develop plan for the block party to present e to Directors.

Bob is negotiating t-shirt pricing, currently at \$15 each. The group felt this was too expensive. Bob to go ahead if he can get shirts for \$12 each. Group also expressed that the website address on the sleeve is not necessary.

From previous meeting - ACTION: Bob to get estimate for 12 mens medium, 12 mens large, and inquire about a children's size... or men's small size depending on what is available. Do we need a men's XL size?

## **General Business**

Jill went to the St. Luke and Senhor Santo Cristo Amalgamation Transition Team meeting and discovered that the school will likely be renamed. Jill also learned that they are planning on installing a fence on the southern edge of George Ben. The group discussed this idea and is ex-

tremely opposed to it. Jill has sent a message to the principal expressing our concern and desire that the fence not be installed. If it must for safety reasons, it should at the very least be an aesthetically pleasing addition. FoRRP also expressed a desire to contact Mike Layton about the fence if necessary.

Secretary Update: Our 2nd Annual Return has been submitted.

Treasurer Update: deferred to next meeting

Donation of \$250 in the memory of Matt Riordon from Karen Saenger. ACTION: Christine to add info to donor acknowledgment area on website. FoRRP directors to think about what the donation should go towards.

Next Meeting: July 20, 2016