

FoRRP Steering Minutes - October 23rd, 2018

In Attendance: Jill, Zac, Melana, Christine, Bob, Don Baker, Dave Lichacz (Acting Parks Supervisor), Julie, Eric
Regrets: Barbara, Marco
City Update Postponed.

Parks Ambassador program
The Parks Ambassador program is a resource for local residents when they see disturbances in the park, but don't need Police/911 attention. If individuals are disruptive or negatively impacting the experience of others in the park, the park ambassadors will visit the park and connect those individuals in need of City resources (shelter, mental health care etc). We can call 311 or our Park Supervisor, who will then make contact with the park ambassador. If program seems successful, we can talk to councillor about expanding program. Other options for reducing anti-social behaviour in the park could include trimming Hemlock and gardens, securing park benches by chaining together by City Staff and by communicating with Metro grocery store the consequences of serving beer to these individuals in the park. It was agreed that we should keep track of the various incidents that happen in the park because of drunkenness.

History Committee
The History committee has finished the 2019 FoRRP calendar and it will be available mid November at Tampered Press and Ziggy's At Home. Should also be available for purchase on the blog. Action: Christine to ensure online sales are possible; Kim & Barb to write blog posts; Zac, Jill and Bob to help distribute flyer for 2019 calendar to boost sales. The 2018 calendar had a \$70 profit. Don volunteered to help with the calendar production. ACTION: Zac forward contact info to Kim

WaterHarvest Completion(To-do)

-Excavate eavestrough trench

-Excavate and repair cistern

-Annual Maintenance (clean filter, empty rain barrel, divert downspout)

ACO will come for the repair of the cistern, but we need the City to commit to a date for excavation, tentatively sometime in November. The water in the parks have been shut off, and the washrooms are closed for the season. Jeff McCormick will send a cheque for the remainder of the LiveGreen grant to cover our expenses.

ACTION: Jill & Melana to post on WaterHarvest completion on blog including posting report in Documents Library

ACTION: Jill to find dates with City for excavation

Events

Kids Halloween Event will be on Saturday October 27th from 10am to noon. There will be free pumpkins, loot bags, spooky games, and a costume contest.

Another book swap and coffee event on Tuesday 13th or Tuesday 20th. To be decided by Jill and Bob. Extra books will be dropped off at the Meeting Place on Queen and Bathurst.

Tree and Garden Update

There are 46 trees in our three parks that are being cared for under the adopt-a-tree program. We still need some adopters though. In 2018, 83 trees were pruned and 3 removed over three weeks by Davey Tree, contracted by City. No current plans for more tree planting, but we should start thinking about where trees can go for the 2020 planting season.

ACTION: The gardens need to be put to bed for the Winter.

Other Business

Bob proposed producing a Friend's cookbook. Group was supportive. Look at forming a committee at AGM in January.

Eric brought up street cleaning along Shaw Street becoming a problem with parking blocking regular cleaning. Ask Marco about street cleaning maintenance.

Bob brought up the snow shovelling issue. Many houses still do not shovel their front walks, creating mobility problems for people. It was agreed that we should flyer Shaw Street to remind people of their obligation to shovel the sidewalk. We should also make more 311 calls complaining about non-compliance. The by-law officers will not enforce unless sufficient volume

of complaints are received. Another avenue is to hire or find volunteers to do shovelling along Shaw Street.

FoRRP would like to know about upcoming sidewalk repairs bordering our parks, so that we can let our neighbours know. Action: Marco to find out what process for this might be.

Next Meeting is Tuesday, January 15th, 2019 and will be our AGM