

German Mills Meadow & Natural Habitat Liaison Committee
August 23, 2018
York Room
3:30 p.m.

<p><u>Committee Members</u> Deputy Mayor Jack Heath Councillor Valerie Burke Kimberly Seymour Gail Lavery Don Macfarlane</p> <p>Regrets Bernard Sze Gail Lavery John Saul Jeffrey Safajou Morgan Jones, Director, Operations</p>	<p><u>Staff</u> Nory Takata, Parks Planner Robert Penner, Manager of Utilities Inspection and Surveys Robert Marinzal, Technical Coordinator Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator</p>
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The German Mills Meadow and Natural Habitat Liaison Committee convened at 3:35 pm with Kimberly Seymour presiding as Chair.

1. Approval of the Minutes

Moved by Bernard Sze
Seconded by Gail Lavery

The Minutes from the April 5, 2018, German Mills Meadow and Natural Habitat Liaison Committee were approved as presented.

Carried

2. Sanitary Sewer Infrastructure Protection

Phil Wolfram, Project Manager, TRCA provided a presentation entitled “Sanitary Sewer Infrastructure Protection”. A copy of the presentation was circulated to the Committee after the meeting.

The Committee inquired if TRCA removes debris from the Meadow/ East Don River. Mr. Wolfram advised that the debris is left in place unless there is a risk to public infrastructure or life, as the debris becomes part of the natural habitat.

It was also noted that the tree on an angle will be left alone.

3. Gas and Environmental Monitoring

There were no abnormal results from the gas test taken in the August 2018. The results from the spring environmental tests were consistent with data from 2017.

4. Update on Gas Collection System Repair

The process of awarding the work for the gas collection system repair is underway. Work is anticipated to start in September 2018.

5. Update on Fill for Homeowners

The cost per cubic yard of topsoil/fill came in higher than anticipated. The actual cost is \$195 per cubic yard, increasing the purchasing cost of the topsoil/fill for the homeowners.

Kimberly Seymour will contact G and L Contracting to see if she can get a better price for the fill, as the cost may be higher as the tender was issued as part of a larger project.

Committee discussed the logistics of bringing the fill/topsoil to the homeowners. It was determined that the fill should be brought to the front of the homes.

The next step is to meet with the homeowners to present the cost of the topsoil/fill. It was suggested that the meeting be held on October 3, 2018, and that the invitations be sent out through Councillor Burke.

Post Meeting Update: In lieu of holding a meeting, letters were sent out to the thirteen relevant residences describing the tender pricing, providing options and asking for a response to be submitted to the City. The letters are attached.

6. Lake to Lake Cycling Trail

An update on the Lake to Lake Cycling Trail was provided.

The Committee provided the following suggestions:

- Time the new pedestrian crossing with traffic;
- Paint a cycling lane on the multiuse pathway to separate cycling and pedestrian traffic.

Moved by Councillor Valerie Burke

Seconded by Gail Lavery

That the Committee is very concerned about the safety of pedestrians along the Lake to Lake trail in Markham due its shared use with pedestrians and cyclists; and,

That options be provided to mitigate the concerns; and,

That the Committee's concerns be forwarded to CPAC

Carried

7. Dogs off Leash During Nesting Season – SPCA Patrol

The Committee noted that there are still lots of dogs off their leashes in the Meadow.

Nory Takata advised that a request was made in the spring to increase the Ontario Society of Prevention & Cruelty (OSPCA) patrol of the Meadow.

Christopher Alexander, Supervisor of Licensing & Standards has inquired about the OSPCA patrol of the Meadow, but is still waiting for a response. It was recommended that a representative from By-Laws be asked to attend the next meeting to address some of the Committee's by-law concerns.

The Committee was encouraged to email or call the Contact Centre when they see a violation. It was noted that any complaints received by the City regarding a dog off leash are confidential.

8. Park Renaissance – Public Notice Board

The concrete pad for the public notice board has been installed and the notice will be installed sometime between mid-September and October.

9. Updates on Garbage Receptacles

An update on the garbage receptacles will be provided at the next meeting.

10. Woodchips

The woodchips will be put in the meadow when the breeding season is over.

11. Committee Under New Council

The Staff Liaison and Committee Chair were asked to complete a survey regarding the Committee. The information will be used to make recommendations for the next Term of Council.

12. New Business

Promoting the Clean-up of the Meadow

Councillor Burke agreed to promote the clean-up of the Meadow on her Facebook page.

Fishing Laws

The resolution the Committee passed at the last meeting requesting staff to prepare a report on fishing laws impacting Markham will be pulled and placed on the next General Committee Agenda for Council's consideration.

13. Adjournment

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Page **4** of **4**

The German Mills Meadow and Natural Habitat Liaison Committee adjourned at 4:58 pm.