

# **Doors Open Markham 2020 – Event Day Saturday, September 12**

## **ORGANIZING COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**Thursday, November 28, 2019  
Lucullus Café, 169 Enterprise Drive**

**Present:** K. Ng, Chair; A. Fuyarchuk, Vice-Chair; A. McPhee. Staff: G. Duncan.  
Regrets were received from Councillors McAlpine & Keyes, H. Hogan & M. Khan.

### **1. Confirmation of Agenda:**

The agenda was accepted with no changes.

### **2. Minutes of October 6, 2019 and Business Arising from the Minutes**

With respect to page 3 of the Minutes, Item 5, G. Duncan advised the committee that H. Hogan of Corporate Communications is working on the thank-you letters from the Mayor's office to site owners for their participation in the 2019 Doors Open Markham event. Additionally, K. Ng has sent out thank-you emails to site owners, which includes a request for feedback concerning the event and a request to share event day photographs. With this business arising from the minutes of October 6, 2019 noted, the minutes were approved as written.

### **3. Confirmation of 2020 Event Date and Registration with the Ontario Heritage Trust**

Staff has confirmed that the proposed event date of Saturday, September 12, 2020 is acceptable in terms of not conflicting with any holy days. On this basis, staff has completed the Doors Open registration with the Ontario Heritage Trust and has sent a request to the City's Finance Dept. to send the Trust a cheque to cover the registration fee of \$1,695.00.

### **4. Provincial Theme for Doors Open Ontario 2020: Environment**

As shown on the Agenda, the theme for 2020 is "Environment." To re-state the information from the Ontario Heritage Trust for the convenience of the committee members:

*In 2020, the theme of Environment will inspire the Trust's approach to Doors Open Ontario. From natural heritage conservation areas like the Shadow Lake Centre in Whitchurch-Stouffville, to buildings like the LEED Gold-certified GO Transit maintenance facility in Whitby, the 2020 theme will activate sites throughout Ontario that highlight beautiful natural spaces, and highlight buildings that play a role in preserving and protecting the environment.*

## **5. Budget**

The committee asked if H. Hogan can produce a final account of the funds spent on Doors Open 2019 to assist with planning the 2020 budget.

Doors Open Markham is funded through the Celebrate Markham program. An allocation of \$7,500 has been approved, which is consistent with the amount provided over the last several years. At some previous Doors Open Organizing Committee meetings, the committee members have discussed a request for additional funding to further promote the event as it grows. Staff has been advised by Councillor R. McAlpine that he has learned that the overall amount for the Celebrate Markham fund has not been increased, and last year some groups/events did not receive the full amount requested. Based on this situation, an increase in the amount provided to Doors Open Markham will not be increased in the foreseeable future.

The committee has also discussed seeking sponsorships from local businesses as a way of increasing the funds available – for example having a company sponsor the volunteer T-shirts.

## **6. Remington Partnership Evaluation**

H. Hogan was the person most involved in working with Remington in connection with the 2019 Door Open Markham event. Because she was unable to attend this committee meeting, it was decided to defer this item to the next meeting.

## **7. Site Selection: Approach to Site Selection and Preliminary Site Suggestions.**

The committee discussed a “continuity and change” approach to site selection for the 2020 event. The idea is to bring back a selection of the 2019 sites but at the same time add new sites to keep the event fresh. At the next Doors Open Organizing Committee meeting, committee members will be asked to review the 2019 sites to select appropriate ones to repeat in 2020.

The committee is excited about the “Environment” theme for this year’s Doors Open Ontario event. A brain-storming session resulted in the following ideas for potential sites and site programming:

- Rouge National Urban Park
- Toogood Pond, Swan Lake, Patterson Pond
- Community Centres with green walls – Cornell, Angus Glen
- City Hall – green initiatives – other sites with sustainability features
- Hydroponics businesses
- Sheridan Nurseries
- Using sites to host displays by community groups with an environmental focus
- High school class environmental/sustainability projects display – offer of financial support
- Auction of bicycles by York Region Police

- Buildings with green roofs
- Hybrid transit buses

A. McPhee suggested that a re-usable shopping bag be produced instead of volunteer T-shirts for the 2020 event.

## **8. New Business**

Committee member attendance is an issue. The Chair will be contacting committee members who have been consistently not attending the meetings.

The Chair spoke about the idea of moving the Doors Open Markham 2020 event date to some time in the spring based on the environmental theme perhaps being more well-suited to the spring season. This will be discussed at the next committee meeting.

## **9. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Doors Open Committee is planned for Thursday, January 16, 2020, 7:00 p.m., Lucullus Café.

The meeting wrapped up about 8:27 p.m.