

**German Mills Meadow & Natural Habitat Liaison Committee**  
**March 20, 2019**  
**Ontario Room**  
**3:45 p.m.**

<b><u>Committee Members</u></b> Deputy Mayor Jack Heath Councillor Keith Irish Kimberly Seymour Gail Lavery Don Macfarlane Bernard Sze Gail Lavery John Saul Jeffrey Safajou  <b><u>Guests</u></b> Valerie Burke	<b><u>Staff</u></b> Nory Takata, Parks Planner Robert Penner, Manager of Utilities Inspection and Surveys Robert Maritzel, Technical Coordinator David Porretta, Manager of Traffic Engineering Dereje Tafesse, Senior Engineer, Contract Administration and Quality Control Laura Gold, Council/Committee Coordinator
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The German Mills Meadow and Natural Habitat Liaison Committee convened at 3:45 pm with Kimberly Seymour presiding as Chair.

**1. Introductions- Councillor Keith Irish**

Committee welcomed Councillor Keith Irish to the Committee.

**2. Dogs off-Leash- SPCA Patrol During Nesting Season**

Christopher Alexander, Supervisor of Licensing & Standards was in attendance to speak to this item.

The Committee was advised that an Officer will visit the meadow twice a week to educate/ticket dog owners with their dogs' off their leash. Members were advised to contact the City or the OPSCA if they see a dog off its leash or if a resident is fishing in the meadow. They were told not to personally approach residents for these matters.

The Committee suggested that the upper field of the meadow be patrolled the most.

**3. Updates on MUP Pathway-Lake to Lake Trail- lane Markings, Signage for Bikes to Yield to Pedestrians, Wildlife (see enclosed handout)**

David Porretta, Manager of Traffic Engineering and Dereje Tafesse, Senior Engineer were in attendance to answer the Committee's questions regarding the management of pedestrian and cyclist traffic on the Lake to Lake Trail.

Staff advised that in addition to signs that have already been installed along the Lake-to-Lake Route, the following standard signs will be placed along the Trail to help manage pedestrian and cyclist traffic:

- "Steep hill" warning signs
- "Wildlife crossing" warning signs
- "Cyclist yield to pedestrians" signs

The signs were displayed to the Committee. The Committee requested that the City ensure there are clear sight-lines where the signs are erected.

Pavement markings will also be painted on portions of the trail at the north and south entrances to the trail to separate traffic and to establish cyclist and pedestrian behavior for the rest of the trail. The trail will have no speed limit, as it cannot be monitored or enforced. Speed bumps will not be installed, as they can create additional safety issues/concerns.

There was a discussion on whether it was possible to have the pavement markings separating the traffic along the full distance or the majority of the distance of the trail. There are no plans to provide pavement markings along the entire length at this time.

#### **4. Election of Chair and Vice Chair**

The Committee elected Don Macfarlane and Councillor Keith Irish as Co-Chairs of the Committee.

#### **5. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting Aug. 23, 2018**

The Committee approved the August 23, 2018 German Mills Meadow and Natural Habitat Minutes as presented.

#### **6. Update on TRCA Work in the Meadow**

Nory Takata, Parks Planner provided an update on the work the TRCA is doing in the meadow. There will be a fall planting near the stream, which will be largely an infill planting. Many of the plants being planted will be pollinators. The City will also be addressing some of the erosion issues in other areas of meadow in the future.

A Member suggested extending the boundary of the meadow north of John Street.

#### **7. Terms of Reference Update**

The Committee suggested that the composition of the Committee be updated to include an additional Citizen Member.

#### **8. Update on Construction work along western edge of GMMNH-gas header repair, grading-slope 1-5, 10 meters from fence, planting and woodchips and addressing depressions**

Robert Penner, Manager of Utilities Inspection and Surveys advised that construction work along the western edge of the meadow is targeted to be completed by late March or early April 2019.

#### **9. Update on Fill Project for Residents**

The contractor will be coordinating the fill with the residents that chose to participate in the program.

#### **10. Timelines for Northern Edge Gas Header Repair**

The northern edge gas header repair will be completed in the fall of 2019.

It was noted that the re-planting of the trees/ location of where they are re-planted in meadow be considered carefully as the gas lines will need to be re-paired again in the future.

#### **11. Future Monitoring of Subsidence at Boundary and Maintenance Program-Timelines**

The Committee suggested that this be formally looked at every three to five years.

#### **12. Update on Sewer Upgrades at German Mills Creek-If Any**

Nothing planned for 2019. Staff will have a better idea after wastewater sufficiency study is completed in Q3 2019.

#### **13. Gas and environmental Monitoring results**

The gas and environmental monitoring results were all normal.

#### **14. Park Renaissance-Public Notice Board**

Nory Takata advised that the Community Board has been installed. Tanya Lewinberg will reach out to German Mills Residents Association in regards to accessing the Board.

#### **15. Invasive species-Dog Strangling Vine/Japanese Knotwood**

The City continues to try and tackle the invasive species Dog Strangling Vine/Japanese Knotwood. It is releasing moths that eat the Dog Strangling Vine into the park in an attempt to gain more control over the weed. The first attempt/treatment to tackle the weed was a success. The City hopes to have more success with the release of the moths.

#### **16. Garbage/Recycling Receptacles**

The garbage/waste receptacles will be installed this spring.

#### **17. Work Balance for 2019**

The City will add more woodchips to the meadow if it can be done before April 1, 2019.

#### **18. Salmon- No Fishing During Spawning Signs Along Creek**

The Clerk advised that the Committee's resolution regarding no fishing during spawning was brought forward to the General Committee for its consideration. A copy of the meeting extract will be circulated to the Committee for information purposes.

#### **19. Other Business**

The Committee asked when the fencing that was dumped in the meadow will be removed.

## **20. Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 5:16 pm.