

Report of PPPAC Meeting – Thursday, Jan 11, 2007

Present – Tammy Morley, Allan Robertson, Anne West, Kate Greene, Sue Uteck, John Charles, Peter Bigelow.

Regrets – Phil Reid and Gus Reed.

- 1) **Welcome to Kate Greene** – The Committee's newest member, Kate Greene was welcomed. Kate is a planner with Terrain Group Inc., and is very interested in restoration of the Park.
- 2) **Update on consultant contract** – John Charles reported that Council had yet to approve the contract for Ekistics and nip paysages to prepare the Park Master Plan, but that the companies were working on the protocols and recommendations for short term work to begin, hopefully, in March. Sue volunteered to shepherd the issue through Council as soon as the relevant report cleared the CAO's office. Council approval was expected on Tuesday, 23 January.
- 3) **Policy on new monuments in PPP** – Allan Robertson presented a draft policy based on a review of similar policies in Vancouver, Port Angeles, Anchorage, San Diego, and Boulder. It was felt to be appropriate, subject to the following changes:
 - a requirement that all new monuments be fully funded by the entity proposing its placement;
 - reference to the fact that the policy will be part of, and may contain modifications proposed by the authors of, the PPP Master Plan;
 - specification of what body will review the financial provisions for the life-cycle costs of the proposed new monument;
 - a requirement that HRM's Cultural Advisory Committee be part of the review process;
 - inclusion of accessibility provisions rather than mention of Human Rights Legislation;
 - allowing plantings as monuments;
 - allowing PPP-supplied monuments (approved-design plaques, benches, etc.); and
 - a clause to allow the PPPAC or Council to waive any requirement as seen fit.

The revised document (attached) will be sent to Ekistics for their consideration and for input into the Master Plan. Discussion of existing monuments led to a recommendation that rough-faced adhesive strips be placed on the new granite steps leading to the HMCS Bonaventure anchor, as they are particularly slippery in wet weather.

- 4) **Meeting with Police** – It was agreed that the Committee would ask Constable Brian Palmetter to the next meeting to discuss security in the Park, inappropriate vehicular use in the lower parking lot, and the earlier-than-normal closing hours applied to the lower parking lot.
- 5) **Friends in the Park initiative** – The protocols and recommendations for short term work to begin in March will contain volunteer training guidelines for the Friends in the Park, at which time work is expected to begin. The tasks carried out by the volunteers are expected to be relatively simple at first (e.g., applying wood chips on paths), leading to more significant, silvi-cultural tasks over time.
- 6) **Blue Nose Marathon** – Peter Bigelow gave an update on Park use by the marathon planners. On Saturday, 19 May, school children will use part of the Park for probably less than an hour, during which time walkers and dogs will be directed away from the route. On Sunday, 20 May, adult participants will run through part of the Park, and, again, the public will be asked to respect the need for runners to have unimpeded access to the route.
- 7) **Communications planning and next newsletter** – In an effort to increase interest in and readership of the newsletter, Anne West suggested we revisit the layout to make it more striking and appealing. Kate Greene indicated that she handled some aspects of her company's newsletter layout, and volunteered to work with Anne and Kim Borgal (HRM Communications) on layout of the newsletter. Inclusion of the 'old' Point Pleasant Park logo in the newsletter was discussed. Few appeared to be very familiar with the logo and the meaning behind its components. Those dealing

with the newsletter's layout and design would try to update the logo or interpret it in the context of its use in the newsletter. John Charles agreed to facilitate this.

8) Approval of PPPAC Terms of Reference – Peter Bigelow and John Charles advise that the TOR are wending their way along the bureaucratic path towards approval.

9) HRM Off-Leash Strategy – John Charles reported that he has been asked to develop an off-leash policy for dogs with a view to increasing the number of areas in HRM where dogs can be walked off-leash (currently, this is allowed only at PPP and Seaview Memorial Park). He indicated he has surveyed other municipalities, developed a number of suggested criteria for assigning appropriate areas and allowable activities, and has developed reading material for those interested in the topic. He plans a series of three-hour workshops to solicit feedback (participants must pre-register and must complete the required reading material beforehand). They will be announced in a press release and will also be publicized through other channels, including informal networks like PPP users.