

Minutes for Friends of Trinity Bellwoods Park Summer Meeting

Wednesday, October 29, 2014

7pm – Trinity Bellwoods Rec Centre, Main

Meeting Chaired by Elizabeth Willing

Minutes by Laura Jamer

Total attendees: 15

Attendees (names may be misspelled):

Elizabeth Willing – Greenhouse

Carolyn Wong – Farmers Market

Rino Zan

Susan Atkinson

Dale Martin

Barb Wrona

Laura Jamer – Adopt-a-Tree

Sue Campbell

Brian Green – Park Supervisor

Matthew Church

Norma Dvorsky

Bill Lobb

Marcia Kasstan

Mike Layton – Ward 19 Councillor

Dalton McCarthy

Welcome – Elizabeth

Elizabeth welcomed everyone and launched right into the busy agenda for the meeting.

Adopt a Tree Program – Laura

Laura reported that it was a very busy season with 178 trees in the program, 126 of which were planted this year alone. In 2015, 40 trees will “graduate” out of the program. The remaining 138 trees are made up of 78 trees scattered throughout the park and 60 or more trees lining the dog bowl. Most of the dog bowl trees are unadopted and many are hard to reach. Laura asked anyone interested in adopting a tree to contact her.

Sue asked if the big dead tree in the dog bowl was going to be removed. Brian Green said the dead trees have been marked for work orders.

Gore Vale Concerns Re: Park

A general discussion between residents, Mike Layton and Brian Green was had regarding concerns about the park. Issues raised involved baseball permits, one-time event permits, number of permits, permits to drink liquor in the park, and parking-related matters.

The discussion continued for some time about the role of Trinity Bellwoods Park in facilitating issues around Gore Vale, etc. Carolyn agreed to help some Gore Vale residents to focus their concerns and act as a possible facilitator for them.

Carolyn asked if it would be worthwhile meeting with the baseball permit folks and Brian agreed that it would be worthwhile. Brian mentioned that Fridays to Sundays have seen population increases four-fold in the last few years. He mentioned that the city does not give permits on long weekends. Brian mentioned that Horizons hoodwinked the city this year with the event in the rink by tweeting that there was drinking. Brian said there will not be any more drinking permits issued.

Path Improvements

A question was raised about whether there were any plans to improve the paths in the park. Brian explained that we were promised by transportation that they would improve the paths as part of the bike-way which included many consultations but they pulled the funding. So now there is no plan in place to revive the paths.

Mike Layton mentioned that there could be some local development money but the paths are very expensive to do.

Brian Green mentioned that some of the paths on the south-east corner were redone this summer. He asked everyone to let him and the city know if anyone thinks there is a particular safety issue regarding the paths.

Mike added that there is no current plan but if we can come up with major safety concerns the city will likely pay attention. He encouraged residents to try to make a case for it.

***Brian Green** had to leave at 7:45 and he encouraged anyone to contact him any time. bgreen@toronto.ca is Brian's email and he responds quickly.

Greenhouse - Elizabeth

Elizabeth reported that there will be no hot-house discussion group this year and that there are at least six people interested in using the greenhouse. Care must be taken to avoid pests in the greenhouse come springtime.

Social Media - Carolyn/Laura

Carolyn reported there are over 1,100 followers and Laura reported there are just over 700 facebook followers (up from 630 at the last meeting). The point of our social media is to mention what's going on in the park and to spread TB Park related-news.

***Mike Layton** had to leave at 8pm.

Farmers' Market - Carolyn

Carolyn reported that vendors did well this past season but there weren't as many people when it rained and it was quite rainy this year. Tough year for the farmers to grow as well with all the rain. Oysters came every couple of weeks, even though it's not local, and people liked that. The last two months of the market had the VQA wine at the market. The wineries were happy with it and people thought it was a draw. There is a postcard design contest and the deadline has been extended (Nov. 30th, 2014, 7pm, drop off Tampered Press, info at Friends website) because we didn't think we gave enough time and wanted to encourage more submissions.

Fall Park Day – Norma

Norma reminded everyone that tulip bulb planting and mulching is on Park Day from 1-3 on Sunday, November 2nd and the plan is to plant bulbs on the south end in the "troughs".

Events in the Park – Carolyn

Carolyn read through the events that came through the park this year.

Note: this is an unofficial account and could be missing something:

2014 Special Events in park that were 'permitted' (16)

MEC bike event

I Heart Music Fest - half permitted

Horizons for Youth

Luminato literary picnic

Tree Tour: Urban Wood Utilization

Africycle Bicycle Collection

Toronto Vintage Bike Show

Zong - SummerWorks

PIER - SummerWorks

Family Fun festival - Montrose Children's Place

Bark for Life

Queen West Art Crawl

Tweed Ride

TO walk for farm animals

National Homegrown event/David Suzuki

Nuit Blanche

Misc. rogue events/installations

100in1day intervention (park damage)

Fireworks (huge post mess, safety issues)

Red paper hearts in Sakura trees (we took them down)

tennis court text messages/love bot (artist(s) have not taken down)

FILM SHOOTS

Food Truck Face Off

Commercial -TD back to school

Listener TV series, on line

OTHER fun stuff that goes on:

Bubble soccer!

Carolyn mentioned that she managed to get contributions (solicited) from a handful of the events/film shoots in the park this year for the Friends of Trinity Bellwoods Park. She added that it would be great to ask the softball leagues/tournaments in addition but FoTBP is not in the 'loop' with these permits. Carolyn said she has suggested to the city to get TBPark excluded from a pilot project to allow corporate events in the park. It was not on the 'list', but could be so it was done as a measure.

Other Business

Sue – Art in the Park have left a structure behind. **Carolyn** said that Parks dept. actually clears/stores for them and should be cleaning that up and Sue will email Brian about it.

Sue – could we get a board back on the posts at the top of the dog bowl with key hooks?

Sue – why do the lights get turned off so early in the morning? It is still dark at 6:45am and the lights get turned on. It is a safety concern.

Sue said she would email Brian about the above issues.

Barb – what does the Friends group do with the funds it collects? **Carolyn** mentioned that the money goes to the Adopt-A-Tree program and to maintaining the Greenhouse. There is no continual supply of funds to replenish. The modest amounts collected are only from efforts, it is not obligatory from Sp/Events/shoots. People /organizations contribute willing and without obligation. It's about giving/greening back to the Park that they are utilizing.

Meeting close

Elizabeth closed the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.