



MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Name:	Recreation Trails Committee Meeting	
Meeting Location:	M/B Council Chambers	
Date / Time:	Mar. 23, 2016	7:00pm – 9:30pm
Minutes Prepared By:	Geoff Patterson	

1. Purpose

Budget related

2. Attendance

Name	Present	Name	Present
Joanne Logan	y	Chantal Duguay-Hyatt	regret
Holly Forrest	y	Geoff Patterson	y
Darcy Wall	Y		

3. Agenda

No.	Subject	Responsible
1	Call to Order/Welcome/Attendance	GP
2	Adoption of Agenda	All
3	Declaration of pecuniary interest	all
4	Delegations – H Lang/A Saindon	
5	Review memo from previous meeting	GP
6	Correspondence- Ec Dev Committee re Clay Bank Park	All
7	Follow-up re: delegation (if needed)	All
8	Action Items/Other Business	All
9	Next meeting/Adjournment	All

4. Action Items:

No	Actions, Decisions and Important Issues	Responsible	Status	Closure Date
1	The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by Rec Director Patterson and attendance was taken.	GP	Open	
2.	Committee member Joanne Logan moved that the agenda be adopted with one change and noted that she wished to add the snowmobilers/trails users meeting summary be addressed by the group. The group wished this to occur and the agenda was approved, moved by Joanne and seconded by Committee member Holly Forrest. CARRIED.	GP	closed	16/3/23
3	The Director invited members to declare items of pecuniary interest and no declarations of pecuniary interest were made by the group.	GP	closed	16/3/23
4.	Committee heard Councillor Heather Lang speak as a delegation this evening and she brought updates from her funding proposal involving her Loggers Way project, which is to take place at Red Pine Bay, near Braeside. Ms Lang has been voluntarily doing countless hours of research on the project and shared highlights of her effort so far with the group. She spoke of the historical significance of the project, due to our local logging heritage and highlighted various aspects of her vision. She elaborated on specifics relating to the details of components of the project and how Logs End has come aboard as a sponsor. The design of the Amphitheatre portion of the project with unique railing and artistic features was discussed. She spoke of satellite stops throughout the Township that link to this project and felt that Clay bank Park would be a key satellite tie-in to the Red Pine Bay project. Signage was discussed and these signs' capacity to be interpreted through i-phone technology. Councillor Scott Brum added that the Clay Bank construction costs could be possibly covered by grant funding from Trans Canada Pipeline and elements of a "butterfly garden" were discussed by he and Ms. Lang. Mr. Brum stated he had walked the site several times and felt that a group doing "chainsaw safety training" with our volunteer Fire Department may be of use at this site or perhaps at others where trail development was being considered. Councillor Lang exited the meeting at 7:30pm	GP	open	
	Recreation Director Patterson invited our next delegation to speak. Alain Saindon, a new resident to the area, was invited by recreation Committee member Teresa Bahm to share with the group his vast experience with trail development and maintenance. He first distributed relevant literature to the group including brochures, pictures and maps of a variety of trails systems in Northern Ontario upon which he worked. He talked about minimum crew size to maintain lengths of trails from 1.2- 11.4 km and went into detail about proper equipment required to do the different maintenance tasks, the importance of having a rotational system that does not allow for excessive overgrowth on the trails, and elaborated on materials used to establish a good base on a trail. Other items discussed were the use of stairs, benches and lookout platforms. The group then had questions for Mr. Saindon, and after being thanked he exited the meeting at 8pm.	GP	closed	16/3/23
	With respect to the added agenda item, Committee member Joanne Logan wished to address the group about the February 9 th public meeting at the Glasgow Fire Hall that invited both snowmobilers and home owners out to discuss options for snowmobile traffic/trails from Campbell Drive to the Town of Arnprior along the McNab/Braeside recreational Trail. She provided an overview of the meeting for the group and discussion eventually evolved into speculation about the future usage of the trail in that part of the Township. Councillor Brum provided feedback that he guaranteed that area of the trail would never be deemed as an exclusive use area for snowmobilers only. Ms Logan was relieved at hearing that but warned of Snowmobile Club's ability to spin propaganda to advance their own agenda and that their power should not be underestimated. Mr. Patterson acknowledged the validity of the concerns but reminded the group that our mandate was to advance the use of non-motorized trails and that we should continue onward with the agenda items.	JL	closed	16/3/23
5	Memo from previous January trails focus group meeting was read by Mr. Patterson and endorsed by group and no questions arose from memo.	GP	closed	16/3/23

4. Action Items:

No	Actions, Decisions and Important Issues	Responsible	Status	Closure Date
6	<p>Committee looked at challenges with Clay bank Park as the Economic Development Committee offered their assistance to the trails group with respect to trail development on that specific site. Committee member Holly Forrest pointed out that as per the delegation's presentation, at Clay Bank there would probably be no extravagant costs associated with Trail development there as the land elevation is pretty consistent with no ridges, cliffs or lookouts to deal with. Ms. Forrest talked of funding sources as she was able to sit down with Renfrew County's Brian Brohart recently and she was able to share resources he cited with the group. The list was comprehensive and Committee member Joanne Logan requested an email from Holly to the group outlining these options so that they may be studied more thoroughly.</p> <p>Ms. Forrest highlighted some funding sources related to trail construction, most notably the Trillium Foundation, who helped fund the Madawaska trail system located near Calabogie which received monies that helped establish Nordic ski trails. Other uses of this trails system she explained included snowshoeing and fat biking, although the snowshoeing trails are independent of the Nordic skiing groomed trails. This type of specific focus she noted required a bit more advancement on what this group wants to do and how we want to accomplish it. Other groups cited by Ms. Forrest included Ottawa Valley Mountain Bike Association, Sport and Recreation Communities fund, Shaw Woods, the Horton Railbed project and the Ontario Trails strategy. Joanne Logan and Councillor Scott Brum added that they thought applying for a grant to the Town of Arnprior would be worthwhile strategy, given that they collect a tidy sum from M/B Township in the form of a user agreement relating to recreation and libraries, but Rec Director Patterson believed that the user agreement dealt strictly with the Nick Smith Centre and would be difficult to associate with a Trails grant. Councillor Brum exited the meeting at 9pm.</p>	GP	open	
7	<p>Follow up from the delegation was not required at this point. Committee member Darcy Wall noted that he had heard the information from Councillor Lang regarding the Loggers Way project before, as she had previously presented it to the Recreation Committee. The group concurred that Mr. Saindon's presentation was of practical use giving the group some "nuts and bolts" background of trail fabrication and it was helpful that Mr. Saindon said he would make himself available, if his schedule permitted, once the group was more prepared to take a step forward with trail construction.</p>	GP	Open	
8	<p>Committee reviewed priorities established at the last meeting led by Rec Director Patterson and the discussion ended up focusing back on Clay Bank Park where they believed a short term win could be developed there as a small trail loop at this site may be a good way of the group "getting their feet wet" with respect to trail development. The infrastructure is there already in place and partners such as the Ec Dev group, the Fish and Game Club and various others would likely come on board to participate in an initial project for the trails group and that some money to help with this cause could be readily available. Joanne Logan wondered if some of this money that may be available should go to an environmental assessment and explained that she had resources in her family that could assist with engineering concerns such as drainage and other environmental factors. Mr. Wall noted that he approached Ducks Unlimited about their involvement but they declined as they said that the Clay Bank parcel was not enough of a wetland to meet their mandate. The group concurred that short accessible trails could be a short-term reality at Clay Bank Park and concluded that a site visit there in the immediate future would be the next logical step as some members members of the Committee have yet to set foot on that parcel of land. The date and time was decided and the group will rendezvous at Clay bank on April 5th at 10:30am.</p>	GP	open	

4. Action Items:

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	<p>New business brought forward by Holly Forrest included an overview of crown land available within Township boundaries. Earlier in the meeting she inquired about the area surrounding the landfill but Councillor Brum cautioned the group to stay away from that topic until April 23rd when new light will be shed upon the Township landfill site. Ms. Forrest subsequently spoke of a significant parcel of Crown land near White Lake and pointed it out on the map for the group and inquired if anyone knew anything about this land. She wondered if this land could play a role in overall Trail development in the Township perhaps as a link to other trails in neighbouring Townships or perhaps a trail system on its' own. The group thought it was a very feasible concept for the future but wished to focus on the future meeting at Claybank in order to take some tangible steps for non-motorized steps in the near future.</p>	GP	open	
9	<p>Committee member Darcy Wall moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm and Committee member Joanne Logan seconded. All were in favor. The next meeting is scheduled for April 27, 2016 starting at the chambers at 7pm. <i>No further action necessary.</i></p>	GP	Closed	16/3/23