

DATE: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2017

MEETING NO. 05-2017

TIME: 4:06 P.M.

PLACE: MCNAUGHTON ROOM, 3RD FLOOR, CITY HALL

CHAIR: COUNCILLOR I. ANGUS

PRESENT:

Councillor I. Angus
Mr. E. Cameron
Mr. C. Gaudet
Ms. D. Gilhooly
Mayor K. Hobbs
Councillor B. McKinnon
Ms. A. Ostrom
Councillor A. Ruberto
Councillor J. Virdiramo

OFFICIALS:

Ms. K. Marshall, General Manager – Infrastructure & Operations
Mr. M. Smith, General Manager – Development & Emergency Services
Mr. C. Halvorsen, Manager - Parks & Open Spaces
Mr. W. Schwar, Supervisor – Parks & Open Spaces Planning
Ms. L. Chevrette, Coordinator - Crime Prevention Council
Ms. L. Douglas, Committee Coordinator – Office of the City Clerk

GUEST:

Ms. L. McEachern, Director – Planning Services

REGRETS:

Mr. D. Fisk

1.0 CALL TO ORDER & DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. There were no disclosures of interest declared at this time.

2.0 AGENDA APPROVAL

MOVED BY: Ms. D. Gilhooly
SECONDED BY: Mayor K. Hobbs

With respect to Meeting No. 05-2017 of the Waterfront Development Committee held on November 2, 2017, we recommend that the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business, be confirmed.

CARRIED

3.0 PRESENTATION

3.1 Update on the Official Plan

Ms. Leslie McEachern, Director of Planning Services, was in attendance to provide an update on

the status of the Official Plan and respond to questions.

A PowerPoint presentation was used to explain the new Official Plan (OP) for the City of Thunder Bay. The new OP represents years of work and integration of numerous planning initiatives and City strategies. It also includes an extensive consultation process and feedback from the community. The OP is a roadmap for Council to assist them with decisions on land use and expenditures on infrastructure, municipal facilities, etc.

The Plan has been developed using the following three overarching approaches:

- Environment Sustainability Approach
- Climate Adaptation Approach
- Health and Safe Community Approach

Ms. McEachern provided an overview of the structure of the plan, which is divided into sections – each with their own specific icon - to assist readers with navigating through the OP.

Provided an overview of a sampling of the policies connected to the waterfront; with 52 kilometers of shoreline, there are a wide range of land uses.

The waterfront chapter recognizes its overall importance to the City; the waterfront is linked to the City's economy, heritage, and tourism. Included in the OP is the protection of the waterfront.

An overview was provided relative to the implementation of the OP's policies. The OP also reflects Council's strategic goals and other City strategic plans (i.e. Active Transportation, Climate Adaptation, the EarthCare Sustainability Plan, etc.).

Ms. McEachern noted that, if something needs to be integrated into the plan after adoption, amendments will be made to reflect the current direction.

Land use schedules and maps with land use designations are included in OP. Areas for environmental protection are also identified.

There was an overview of the pre-planning consultations /engagements and open houses / workshops held, which generated a significant amount of feedback from the public. Citizens are invited to review the plan at www.thunderbay.ca/officialplan.

Ms. McEachern was asked if the City's industrial heritage (i.e. the elevators and their historical significance) is incorporated into the OP. Ms. McEachern committed to following up on the matter.

Mr. M. Smith, General Manager – Development & Emergency Services, responded to questions about the City's initiative to reclaim residential properties on two islands. The approach remains status quo.

Mr. M. Smith recognized Ms. McEachern and the Planning Division on the amount of work that went into the updates for the Official Plan.

At 4:35 p.m., the presentation ended and Ms. L. McEachern was thanked for appearing before the Waterfront Development Committee.

4.0 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of Meeting No. 04-2017 of the Waterfront Development Committee held on October 10, 2017, to be approved.

The following note will be added to the minutes under Item 5.1 Water Street - Vehicle and Pedestrian Traffic and Parking: Improvements to the aesthetics of the structure will be considered as part of the rehabilitation.

MOVED BY: Councillor B. McKinnon

SECONDED BY: Councillor A. Ruberto

THAT the Minutes of Meeting No. 04-2017 of the Waterfront Development Committee, held on October 10, 2017, be approved as amended.

CARRIED

5.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

5.1 Market Square

At the June 1, 2017 WDC meeting, Ms. A. Ostrom commented that it was her understanding that the market square building would be managed by the developers. She would like the Waterfront Development Committee to consider the value of building that structure and if there is a better use of that space. The matter will be referred to Administration.

Ms. D. Gilhooly would like to know if the City is legally obligated to proceed with the developers on the construction of the Market Square building. Administration will respond at the next WDC meeting.

At the October 10, 2017 WDC meeting, Ms. D. Gilhooly wanted more information on the leasing signs at the train station.

Administration recommended that the Waterfront Development Committee resolves into Closed Session to discuss the business at hand.

MOVED BY: Mayor K. Hobbs

SECONDED BY: Ms. D. Gilhooly

THAT the Waterfront Development Committee resolves into Closed Session in order to receive information that is relative to the security of the property of the municipality or local board, and then revert back to Open Session to continue with the business at hand.

CARRIED

The meeting reconvened in Open Session at 4:55 p.m.

Mr. M. Smith, General Manager – Development & Emergency Services, will follow up on questions relative to property taxes being paid on the Market Square property.

5.2 Overview of Watercourse/River Safety Audits

At the October 10, 2017 WDC meeting, Ms. L. Chevrette, Coordinator - Crime Prevention Council provided an overview of the River Safety Audits and the high risk locations identified as Study Areas.

Another area of concern was the Mouth of McVicar Creek at Lake Superior. A site visit was proposed to view the area and bring back recommendations to the next WDC meeting.

Mr. W. Schwar, Supervisor – Parks & Open Spaces Planning, provided an overview of the True Grit Waterfront Trail Improvement Plan (Phase One), dated March 2014. The plan breaks down the waterfront trail into several segments. In the plan, each segment has its own priority and implementation plan. The highest priority was to connect Prince Arthur's Landing to Lorne Allard Fisherman's Park.

The first step in the implementation plan is to develop wayfinding signs. A wayfinding strategy is being developed and will be presented to City Council for approval.

Discussion was held relative to involving the private sector, the community, and the City's Tourism department with sponsoring completion of sections of the trail.

Ms. D. Gilhooly asked about the status of negotiations with pedestrian access to the Jackknife Bridge. Ms. L. Douglas, Committee Coordinator, will follow up for the next meeting.

Mr. Schwar provided an overview of the on-site visit to the mouth of McVicar Creek on Friday, October 20, 2017.

There is an opportunity to connect the trail under the overpass bridge at Marina Park with wayfinding signage at both ends, and the creation of resting areas, tree planting, etc. If accomplished, it would become an important connection linking the downtown north core to the Waterfront Trail.

Discussion was held relative to other uses in the area to create more activity by the public and

deter illegal activity. A dog park /off leash area in the area east of the train tracks/north of the beach area was suggested by Mr. E. Cameron. Mr. C. Halvorsen, Manager - Parks & Open Spaces Section, will consider the suggestion.

Ms. K. Marshall, General Manager - Infrastructure & Operations, confirmed that there currently is no funding in the 2018 budget for this type of capital project.

MOVED BY: Ms. D. Gilhooly

SECONDED BY: Ms. A. Ostrom

With regard to the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Assessment – Selected Watercourse and River Audits;

AND with regard to the lands adjacent to McVicar Creek, on both sides where the creek flows into Lake Superior, identified as an area of concern in the audit;

THAT the Waterfront Development Committee recommends funding be included in the 2018 Budget to further develop the west side of the area of concern.

WITHDRAWN

The above resolution was withdrawn on the condition that a viable solution for public safety (better access, visibility, and use) in this area of concern is developed.

Councillor J. Virdiramo advised that the Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee is in discussions with the federal and provincial governments relative to the current issues with the Indigenous community in Thunder Bay.

Mr. M. Smith, General Manager – Development & Emergency Services, suggested that Administration comes back to a subsequent meeting to report on current priorities.

Councillor A. Ruberto suggested that the Waterfront Development Committee partners with the Crime Prevention Council on upgrades in the McVicar Creek area of concern, as this area is part of the audit of safety and security issues at selected river areas in Thunder Bay.

MOVED BY: Ms. D. Gilhooly

SECONDED BY: Ms. A. Ostrom

With regard to the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Assessment – Selected Watercourse and River Audits;

AND with regard to the lands adjacent to McVicar Creek, where the creek flows into Lake Superior, and between the railway tracks and Cumberland Street;

AND relative to the Mouth of the McVicar Creek Trail Concept Plan, proposing a network connection to Marina Park, as presented at the November 2, 2017 meeting of the Waterfront Development Committee;

THAT the Waterfront Development Committee recommends that the Mouth of the McVicar Creek Trail Concept Plan be embedded into the overall Waterfront Trail Improvement Plan;

AND THAT funding be considered in a future budget;

AND THAT this area of concern be referred to the Inter-Governmental Affairs Committee for reasons of public safety.

CARRIED

6.0 RECOMMENDATION FOR 2018 BUDGET

At the October 10, 2017 WDC meeting, discussion was held relative to the status of the Waterfront Recreation Trail. Councillor A. Ruberto noted that this project was a No. 1 priority for the Waterfront Development Committee. Ms. K. Marshall noted that there no funding for the trail at this time. Discussion followed about various avenues for funding, including contributions/sponsorships from the private sector.

Administration was asked to bring back recommendations on how the first stage of the project or certain sections of the project could be started.

Discussion was held under Agenda Item.5.2 relative to making a recommendation from the Waterfront Development Committee to City Council to include funding for a portion of the Waterfront Recreation Trail in the 2018 Budget.

7.0 TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Terms of Reference are to be reviewed by the Committee on an annual basis. The last updates were presented to Committee of the Whole in 2012.

At the October 10, 2017 WDC meeting, proposed changes to the current Terms of Reference were provided. At the November 2nd WDC meeting, copies of the proposed changes incorporated into the current Terms of Reference were provided for information.

Matter deferred to 2018.

8.0 DONATION OF TAI CHI STATUES

In September, 2017, the Mayor and City Officials of Jiaozuo City, China presented the visiting City of Thunder Bay delegation with a gift of three large (7') statues to have installed at the Tai

Chi Park at Prince Arthur's Landing in Thunder Bay. They can be seen in the pictures below in Chen Village, the birthplace of Tai Chi. Grand Master Chen, one of only 10 Grand Masters in the world of Tai Chi, said that Thunder Bay is now known as the second birthplace of Tai Chi.



At the October 10, 2017 WDC meeting, Councillor J. Virdiramo provided an overview of the donation of the above statues to the waterfront. Administration was asked to review this matter and bring back recommendations to the November 2nd meeting for consideration by the WDC members.

Matter deferred to 2018.

9.0 MEMBERSHIP

The term for Mr. Darren Fisk will expire on November 30, 2017, or as soon after as a replacement has been appointed. Mr. Fisk is welcome to reapply through the public application process, which is coordinated through the Office of the City Clerk. There is no limit on the number of terms a member may hold consecutively.

An invitation to apply for a position on the Waterfront Development Committee was placed in in the Chronicle Journal on Saturday, October 28, 2017. The Selection Committee will be reviewing the applications and making a recommendation to City Council for their consideration.

10.0 2018 MEETING DATES

WDC members to determine if meetings of the WDC will continue to be scheduled on the first Thursday of every second month, except in July and August, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

The following meeting dates were proposed in 2018*:

- Thursday, February 1, 2018
- Thursday, April 5, 2018

- Thursday, June 7, 2018
- Thursday, September 6, 2018
- November 1, 2018

* **Please note** that some of the above dates may be cancelled due to the 2018 Municipal Election. (The Office of the City Clerk may not be able to provide support for some of the above meeting dates.)

MOVED BY: Councillor J. Virdiramo
SECONDED BY: Councillor B. McKinnon

THAT the regularly scheduled meetings of the Waterfront Development Committee for the year 2018 be held on the first Thursday of every second month, except in July and August, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. in the McNaughton Room, 3rd Floor of City Hall, as presented at the November 2, 2017 meeting of the Waterfront Development Committee, unless otherwise notified.

CARRIED

11.0 NEW BUSINESS

Prince Arthur's Landing

A brief discussion was held relative to if Prince Arthur's Landing is an appropriate name in light of recent concerns by the Indigenous community with names of government officials associated with residential schools and colonization.

North Harbour Area of Concern

Representatives from the North Harbour Remedial Action Plan (RAP) will be invited to the next WDC meeting to make a presentation on the clean-up of the North Harbour.

12.0 NEXT MEETING

Meetings of the WDC are scheduled on the first Thursday of every second month, except in July and August, from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. in the McNaughton Room, 3rd Floor of City Hall (unless otherwise notified), as follows:

- Thursday, February 1, 2018
- Thursday, April 5, 2018
- Thursday, June 7, 2018
- Thursday, September 6, 2018
- November 1, 2018

13.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:03 p.m.