

**THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF ST. THOMAS
THE SECOND MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP
COMMITTEE**

COMMITTEE ROOM #304

MAY 10, 2018

2:00 p.m. The meeting convened with W. Graves, City Manager presiding.

ATTENDANCE

Members

Mayor H. Jackson
Betsy McClure, KCCA
Harald Schraeder
Petrusia Hontar
Carrie O'Brien, St. Thomas-Elgin Homebuilders
Richard Singer

Officials

Melanie Knapp, Corporate Admin. and
Accessibility Clerk
W. Graves, City Manager
J. Lawrence, Director, Env Services
R. Tucker, Director, Parks & Rec
J. Tucker, Arborist

NEW BUSINESS

Overview with Parks and Valleylands, Sensitive Areas

The Director of Parks, Recreation and Property Management gave an overview of the Parks Division including 600 acres, 22 playgrounds and over 5 woodlots.

The City Manager asked about a list of tree species on City owned property.

The Director of Parks, Recreation and Property Management stated that the Environmental Impact Study does identify tree species in the City including the burning dragon tree in Waterworks Park.

The City Manager asked about a list of birds on City owned property.

The Director of Parks, Recreation and Property Management explained that some of the birds are identified in the Environmental Impact Study.

The members also discussed flying squirrels, deer and geese.

Mr. Schraeder asked how the city's natural heritage system was classified, in the City Official Plan for example, so as to distinguish it from features or areas used as recreational parks, so that opportunities for the progressive rehabilitation of the city natural heritage system could be considered more clearly as city growth occurs.

The City Manager stated that the Director of Planning and a member of the Kettle Creek Conservation Authority would attend a future Committee meeting.

Defining the Lake Margaret Area

The City Manager stated that the land transfer had been completed and the City now owned the Lake Margaret area including the lake.

Water Quality Testing

The Director, Environmental Services gave an overview of the Lake Margaret Environmental Monitoring Study that was a partnership between the City and Doug Tarry in 2016.

The members discussed the amount of water quality testing that should be completed, the timing of the testing and public education.

Developing Committee Priorities

The City Manager gave an overview of the Public Parks and Recreation Areas By-law and City by-laws in general including the legality of by-laws and enforcement. He stated that the fines would be updated in the near future for this By-law.

CONFIRMED_____CHAIRMAN

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Mr. Schraeder asked if some municipal fines overlap with provincial fines.

The City Manager explained that some municipal fines do overlap with provincial fines.

The Director, Environmental Services stated that some by-laws overlap between different departments as well.

Correspondence

The members were in receipt of correspondence from David and Barbara Collins, Kara Taylor and Kevin and Janet McLeod.

The City Manager explained that correspondence in a Council meeting was usually referred to a specific department and that the protocol would be similar with this Committee and the items could remain on the agenda as Unfinished Business.

The City Manager stated that \$60,000 was given to the City by the Tarry's to be used for environmental stewardship issues across the City.

The members discussed fishing on City owned property and the rowing club that did use Lake Margaret previously.

Mr. Collins stated that he and his wife purchased their property in the Lake Margaret area in 2010. Many things had changed since then including the removal of the rowing club, certain birds leaving and less fish than previously.

Selection of a Chair

Mayor Jackson was selected to be the Chair of the Committee.

Minutes

Motion by R. Singer – P. Hontar:

THAT: The minutes of the meeting held on April 12, 2018 be confirmed.

Carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING

June 14, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. for a tour of Lake Margaret

ADJOURNMENT

3:07 p.m. The meeting adjourned.

CONFIRMED_____CHAIRMAN