

MINUTES
Leash Free Mississauga Board Meeting
Mississauga Valley Community Centre
Wednesday January 7, 2015
(Approved March 3, 2015)
7:00 to 9:00 pm

Attendance:

Dave Carty President (Toto rep)
Karen Forrest, Vice President (JD rep)
Debra Buckler, Treasurer
Barbara Hanson, Secretary
Gayle Laws - Treasurer
Marc LeBlanc-IT Director
Anne McGiven,-Director and JD member
Carol Mitchell- Parkway Belt
Jack Clarke- Lakeside
Leslie Jamiseon- Garnetwood
Vacant--Q Park Rep
Vacant- Etobicoke Valley

Regrets: Michael Wood

Guests:

Carol Watson, Denise McLean, Kira Wilkinson, Anil Sheth

1. **Confirmation of Agenda.** Moved by Debra Buckler seconded by Leslie Jamieson approval of the agenda. It was agreed to add to the agenda the calendar update as part of the financial report. CARRIED

Members were reminded to submit items for the agenda two Sundays before the monthly meeting to Barbara.

2. Added item **re inclement weather and possible meeting cancelation:** the President or designate will send out an email by 4 pm if there is inclement weather and the meeting has to be cancelled.

3. **Code of Conduct for Board Members** – Dave Carty. It is important to remember that our conduct as Board members is reflective of LFM and of the city. When decisions are made at the Board meeting, we need to accept those decisions and support them. It serves no purpose to keep rehashing decisions made and voted upon. We need to be respectful to each other. An introduction was done by everyone in attendance. Dave reminded everyone that the Board has accepted the city's respectful workplace policy governing conduct.

4. Reports:

- a) Hazel McColl, City Representative. The city is looking at adding a LFM park in the city centre. Currently three sites are being looked at. One of the sites would be temporary at this time pending condo development. The city has a resource to assist LFM with developing a workplan for 2015. She could attend a LFM meeting to assist with setting priorities and is available for the February meeting. LFM incorporation has been updated with Barbara's name, and the four other officer names are in the process of being added. Corporate report on dog walkers and children in the zones will be forthcoming February 18 to be approved by Council February 25, with or without amendments. The staff report suggests that children will be permitted to be in the zone but LFM needs to educate people on acceptable behaviour of children in the zones. It is proposed that dog walkers will be levied a fee to use the parks.

Response to city report on children in the zones. Moved by Dave , seconded by Karen, that the secretary write to the City outlining the results of our members' meeting on the subject on children in leashfree zones and our commitment to developing education guidelines. LFM is committed to promoting these guidelines to users and members. CARRIED

Hazel noted that If there is threat of violence in the park or belligerent behaviour, contact the City's Security and Enforcement , but we can also call Peel Regional Police.

Dave will give Hazel the list of park reps to forward to the city maintenance staff, and the park reps can deal directly with them.

Moved by Karen, seconded by Debra to have the city representative assist LFM with our strategic plan at the February Board meeting. CARRIED

- b) Jack Darling – Barbara/Karen: Over 30 people and dogs (in Christmas Bling) dropped by the tent set up by Global Pet Foods - Port Credit ably staffed by Andie, Brian, and Chris. Visitors were happy to receive treats and samples. Karen Forrest, our newly elected LFM Vice President, and Debra Buckler, LFM Treasurer were on hand to sell many calendars, promote memberships, and collect donations.

At the urging of Karen Forrest, Denise Mclean and Joan Christensen, the tennis court lights are now being turned on after dark by members so that people can walk more safely at

night in that area. We are hoping the new lighting at the front of the Zone will be installed by the

end of January 2015. Rick Moore “Berlin-Harrison” has added modifications to the member’s

side of the bulletin board that make it easier to open and close in the cold weather. The BYOB

(Bring Your Own Bags) program continues to be a success. The holders are usually all filled with the bags and we have a healthy surplus in the bin under the bulletin board.

New

signs are up thanking members and users and encouraging them to keep up the good work.

Karen Forrest was elected to be the new Jack Darling Zone Representative on January 3,

2015. We are happy to welcome her many skills and enthusiasm she has already shown by

organizing a “Husky Huddle” and becoming LFM Vice President.

We are thrilled that Jack Darling Leash-Free Zone has been selected by Global Pet Foods

Port Credit as the recipient of funds they will collect from their customers in February during

their “Show us your Hearts Campaign”. When a person makes a \$1 donation at Global it is

matched by Natural Balance and Global Pet Foods. If a person makes a \$5 donation they receive 10 bonus Air Miles and another \$1 is donated by Global Pet Foods and Natural Balance. This is a unique opportunity for our members to support the JD Zone and have their donations matched. We are grateful to Brian and Vanessa Knights and the Global staff for making this happen as well as the Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween Party, and Christmas Cheer Events they organized for us

- c) Garnet wood—Leslie Jamieson. Display board is installed. There was a dog attack in the park. No injuries but problematic. Leslie is trying to determine who is involved. A sign was posted to advise users.
- d) Parkway Belt- Carol Mitchell. Mulch was delivered. The park really needs a new display board with a lock because of the wind. Display board will be provided in the spring when the ground is ready. Carol needs to email Cliff, the city maintenance contact, to fix the space in the fence.

- e) Lakeside- Jack Clarke. Mulch spread just before Christmas with 15 volunteers to spread it.
- f) Quenippenon Meadows-
Moved by Leslie and seconded by Carol, that Jack will be the temporary rep at Quenippenon until such time as Q park elects their own park rep.
CARRIED with one abstention.

Jack reported that the park has deteriorated. Jack and Dave spent many hours cleaning up debris. There is a fence that divides it. A meeting with the city has confirmed that the fence can be taken down.

- g) Totoredaca- Dave Carty. Christmas party was successful. A problem with one individual who does not adhere to city by laws. Need a plan to address this. Many users are from outside Mississauga—many from Milton, Georgetown, Toronto, Brampton. Hazel will arrange for a site visit to the park with the new park supervisor.

5. **Goals and Work Plan.** Barbara submitted with the agenda the status of work to date done on various initiatives. This document will be provided to Hazel. Gayle wrote and distributed a draft workplan template. It was agreed that Hazel will share this with Karen, the city staff facilitator to use it as a starting point for the strategic planning in February. When the Board agrees on policies and practices, we can incorporate them into regular Board business and later incorporate into the constitution at the AGM.

6. **Membership drive.** Gayle emphasised the membership drive this year. She will report on individual park members at Board meetings. Ideas are part of the draft workplan to increase membership such as improved communications plan (ie article in the Mississauga News, placing an ad, email distribution)

ACTION: Submit ideas to increase membership to Gayle. She will update the draft workplan and provide to Hazel who will give it to the staff facilitator.

Idea raised to email Board meetings notifications to members. It is noted that Board meeting dates are on the website.

7. Need for park rep for Etobicoke Valley and Quenippenon. Will be discussed at the next meeting.

8. **Attendance of Board Meetings.** It is critical that Board members attend the meetings for quorum and to advance Board business. The constitution states

that if a Board member does not attend three consecutive meetings without notice, it can be viewed as a resignation. It is recommended that Board members attend a minimum of 8 out of 10 meetings and advise when they are unable to attend.

Moved by Dave and seconded by Debra, that Board members are expected to attend a minimum 80% of Board meetings within the calendar year. CARRIED

9. **Financial report** by Debra Buckler. Purina has given the donation of \$2000, down from \$5000 from previous years. Carol from Parkway Belt will find the contact with Purina and subsequent contact will be made to request to have the full grant reinstated.

Calendar sales reported to date as \$6180. With net sponsorship money, the funds raised to date is estimated to be \$7524. Thanks to Jack for spearheading this successful fundraising project. To date, 282 calendars are outstanding—170 calendars have been spoken for. 112 calendars are available to be sold.

The financial statements were presented.

Moved by Leslie seconded by Marc to accept the financial statements as presented by the Treasurer. CARRIED.

10. Minutes from December 3, 2014.

Moved by Leslie seconded by Marc, approval minutes as amended. Marc will post them on the website.

Minutes taken by Gayle Laws