

MEETING MINUTES



Wednesday September 6, 2017

Mississauga Valley Community Centre, Program Room 2 from 7-9 pm

Board Attendance	Board Member Regrets	Board Member No Regrets/Vacancy	Guests
Gayle Laws- President Irene Hill- Secretary Karen Forrest, Treasurer Jennifer Reid-Kuess – Etob Valley Kevin Pulis – Garnetwood Carol Mitchell- Parkway Belt Kim Miedema – Toto Elaine Theriault – Q Park	Leslie Peres- JD	Cathy Hunt – Lakeside -Resigned Dave Carty – Past President	Hazel McColl – City Liaison Alex Izzo Chris Pyke, City of Mississauga

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00.
 The agenda was amended to include a guest speaker from the City of Mississauga.
 Moved by Kevin and seconded by Kim moved that the agenda as amended be approved.
 Carried.
2. The minutes from May 3, 2017 were reviewed.
 Moved by Kevin and seconded by Carol, that the minutes be approved and posted on the website. Carried
3. REPORTS:
 - a) Guest Speaker, Chris Pyke, Waste management Supervisor, City of Miss.
 Mr. Pyke brought to the Board’s attention about the city’s intention to divert dog waste from dog parks from landfill to being disposed into large underground storage tanks. This is going to be a pilot project. The dog waste will be collected from one of three proposed locations during the pilot project, emptied every 1 – 2 months and taken to a ‘Biodigester’ facility in Elmira to be processed into methane gas. This gas would then be turned into electric energy, and ultimately be added into a power grid. This biodigester project is proposed to use 10 locations in Toronto region.

Board supported this project and invited Mr. Pyke to speak at our AGM on November 8, 2017

The city has encountered on-going issues where dog owners are not disposing dog waste into proper trash containers. When dog waste was put into the blue Recycle containers, all the contents in the container were contaminated and then went to landfill.

Irene noted that the garbage containers inside parks are not being positioned with labels placed forward for viewing which made the differentiation useless. Hazel will send correction to proper dept.

- b) City: Hazel reported that there is no capital budget specifically for dog parks and the only parks will be built into newly developed parks.

Discussions are underway to create a park in North Mississauga (Ward 11), south of 401 on Creditview. The next public survey will be distributed in late October.

Erin Senior will be speaking at the next meeting about standards in the draft policy. The Management Operation Agreement (MOA), which includes garbage, grass cutting, and security, as examples, is still in draft form.

- c) Financial: LFM's year end is September 31, 2017. Karen will prepare the annual financial report for the Annual General Meeting. Karen reported that problems exist with her receiving the necessary information. Paypal email alerts show payments but no park designation. That problem was fixed last spring but apparently it needs to be addressed for accurate reporting.

LFM's internal accounting breaks down the funds allocated to each park—from membership fees to fundraisers and expenses. Five of the seven parks report a deficit which result from enhancements, such as fencing, from many years ago. It seems unlikely that parks will raise funds to cover these "deficits". Now that the City has taken over operating costs, the value of erasing these deficits was discussed.

- d) Membership and Communications

The current membership is 167. This number is considerably low, despite many efforts to encourage membership. Alex Izzo suggested posting the names of members on the bulletin boards in parks to increase motivation. Although this has been done in the past, reviving this idea might be beneficial. Gayle requested the webmaster to provide park membership lists during the summer but the format submitted was not useful. LFM posts the first name of the owner, the dog name and breed. Other personal information is not posted.

- e) IT and Website

The webmaster gave notice last Spring that she would no longer be available after August 30, 2017, and that LFM needs to find another webmaster. A volunteer has come forward and Gayle will meet with her. She is experienced in WordPress. Gayle will meet with her and will report back to the Board.

4. Zone Updates:

- a) Etobicoke Valley: Jennifer reports that new trees have been planted.

- b) Lakeside Park: Cathy Hunt has resigned. The Board appointed Alex Izzo to be the Lakeside Representative. w is a professional dog walker and was advised, as per conflict of interest guidelines, she will not be able to vote on any matters that involve dog walkers or would have an impact on dog walkers.
- c) Garnetwood: Kevin reported the back gate is damaged.
- d) Jack Darling: Leslie was not in attendance.
- e) Parkway Belt: Hazel reports that the cost for the wind shelter has increased another \$1,000 to make it approximately \$6000. This project has been discussed for over two years, and is deemed a pilot project, to protect dog owners against blistery cold winds. The Board is not pleased about the delay in this project and the increase in price. The Board agreed to pay this increased cost, and Gayle will relay this to Hazel, asking that it be done this Fall, before the winter arrives.
- f) Q Park: Elaine said more wood chips have been ordered. The latch on front gate has been broken since spring and the display board is still broken since last year. Kim offered to check out the display board and advise what needs to be done.
- g) Toto: Kim states that a new park election is necessary. Kevin agreed to hold the election. However LFM must obtain a current membership list from the data in the website before an election can be held.

5. Action items:

- Motion for new metal signs as per Kevin's proposal, moved by Jennifer & Carol. The intention of the simple signs is to refer park users to the LFM website and hopefully attract membership and volunteers. Motion was passed 20 signs, \$723.00. EV. – 2; Garnet – 4; JD – 4; Lake – 2; PB – 3; Q – 2; Toto – 3 = 20 signs
- Irene presented a discussion paper about the purpose of membership fees, and an idea that to increase the number of members, the fee be dropped and LFM can focus on donations and fundraisers to financially support LFM. A discussion was held and no decision was made to drop the membership fee.

Next meeting Wednesday, October 4, 2017 @ 7:00 PM

Minutes taken by Irene Hill, Secretary