

# LEASH-FREE MISSISSAUGA

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## MEETING MINUTES



Wednesday October 05, 2022

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

7:00 PM to 9:00 pm

Board Attendance	Board Member Regrets	Board Member No Regrets/Vacancy	Guests
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Angela Puliyodil – President</li> <li>- Rose Shao - Treasurer</li> <li>- Hugo Reinoso – IT &amp; Webmaster</li> <li>- Catherine Williams – Etobicoke Valley</li> <li>- Margaret Hempstead – Garnetwood</li> <li>- Sue Walsh – Jack Darling</li> <li>-</li> <li>- Kevin Pulis - VP</li> <li>- Carol Mitchell – Parkway Belt</li> <li>- Daniel Scouten – Paul Coffey</li> <li>- Laurie Usypchuk – Quenippenon Meadows</li> <li>- Veronica Cheng – Social Media</li> <li>- Bob Dowling – Totoredaca</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ellen Lockley – Lakeside</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Edison Qu – Finance volunteer</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Jenna Prokop, Community Development Coordinator, Community Services Department   Park Operations, Parks, Forestry, and Environment Division - City of Mississauga</li> <li>- Sharon Martel</li> <li>- Cara Cross</li> </ul>

- ❖ Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:06pm and seconded.
- ❖ Introductions: None.
- ❖ Apologies and Regrets: None
- ❖ Quorum  
There being 9 of 14 or 71% directors present, more than minimum 2/5<sup>th</sup> or 40% directors in attendance, a quorum was declared at 7:07pm.
- ❖ Minutes from August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022, Board Meeting  
Moved (Marg) and seconded (Carol) at 7:07pm that the minutes be approved.
- ❖ Agenda  
Moved (Carol) and seconded (Laurie) at 7:08pm that the agenda be approved.
- ❖ Vacancy
  - Secretary
  - Fundraising and Events Director

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### City of Mississauga – Jenna Prokop:

- Fundraising, events, sponsorship and advertising
  - Sent follow-up email to sponsorship@mississauga.ca, awaiting response. *Jenna and Jaime haven't heard anything back. Wondering what they were asking for? Bob – it was for posting signs within the park. Georgetown parks have banners posted to receive revenue. Angela – Jenna, is there anything that would stop us? Jenna – it would have to go through public space and to make sure there's no conflict. They are a little behind. I deal with rinks and they are trying to go through sponsorships as well. Recommendation to leave the item on agenda and follow up one more time and CC Jenna & Jaime*
- Etobicoke Valley
  - Region of Peel, East Trunk Sanitary Sewer Offline Storage Facility, Project Jenna – *The Region got back to us. There is on-site signage and newspaper ad that closure starts on Oct 17. Katherine – there are a lot of people who are upset since something similar was done five years ago. Advised this is a much larger project in terms of scope and it had to be done. Daniel – I used to go to that dog park; wondering if there could be a piece cordoned off that people visit that could be left open? Katherine – Peel will probably fence off area from creek line to fence line and make sure there's no access to construction area. From that point south, there are trails that people will continue to use. This area is not considered a dog park – it is an unofficial trail at the moment and should only be used with the associated risks in mind. Carol – have they posted alternate dog parks that can be used? Katherine – Just a website link. Carol – there should be a sign for alternate park usage during the closure. Angela – When Toto was closed, there was a sign offering the next closest dog park. Jenna – if you can draft something you might want, I can look into having a sign posted. Send me what you're hoping to speak to, and we can take it from there. Katherine – there is a lot of areas the trees have been cut down and a lot of the area is cordoned off already. Not sure how close people will be able to get in order to see signage; will need to determine a location.*
  - Number 18-2441, planned start date Oct 17, 22 – Spring 2024
  - Katherine - *What's going to happen to the structures? Bulletin board, dog shed, sand box? Started emptying things out of the dog shed and keeping it at the house. Jenna – Will reach out to Dan with the Region and request clarification.*
- Garnetwood
  - Approval received and work order created to move shed away from back gate corner where lawnmower comes in, getting hit and knocked around by lawnmowers, to platform beside willow tree. Is there an update on timeline? Jenna – *created the invoice, staff was assigned and out on site two weeks ago. They are probably grabbing the specs for it. No definitive timeline, but once it's assigned it's on their workload.*
  - Has mulch been delivered to cover of 2 big muddy pools back by the trees? Jenna – *mulch was delivered today. They messaged mulch was dropped off today. Marg – mulch won't help when it rains; it floats away with the water. Jenna – the request said*



- mulch on it. Marg – sent an email that mulch wouldn't work, but would need dirt and gravel. Jenna – can't do gravel, just dirt and/or mulch. Dirt is a quick turn around, and should be there either this week or next week.*
- *Any update on the Back gate that still needs repair? It is falling apart, 311 has been contacted and looped Jenna & Angie into email. Jenna – Back gate should have been completed last week. Marg confirmed it wasn't. Jenna – they advised Garnetwood was done last week – just the gate repair would have been done. Marg – the fence is being pushed down since it's just a garden gate. Kevin – the gate has been installed since I was started going there ten years ago. Jenna – our staff doesn't deal with fencing – that's handled by a contractor. They said they repaired something on the gate. Kevin – they keep putting some kind of wire and tie it together. It's a poor job, and the dogs can still get out of there. I'm meeting with contractors next week for Q Park fencing – will see if we can drive over and check out Garnetwood and get a full quote. This is tentative for now, but ideally hope to get it done. Kevin – if you could give us an idea of when that's going to happen, either Margaret or I can be there to advise what we would like done. Laurie – requested the same for Q Park.*
  - *Is there still long grass along fence lines inside and outside park and around gates? Marg – Garnetwood is good, it's all taken down. Laurie – Q Park still has some in the middle with the chicken wire fence and along the back. Angela – Jenna, while we're on this, because it's still tick season, do you know if the people that are in charge of cutting the grass is supposed to get the long grass along the fence line? Jenna – we ask for it, but it's not a requirement. I keep it on their schedule, but it's not in our standard of cutting for the parks. I have a dog, so I completely understand where you're coming from, but it's not part of the standard. Bob – aren't they city crews? Jenna – Yes. Bob – we've asked them to do it at Toto and they've done it. Jenna – it's not a general standard for dog parks. Bob – why? Jenna – I'm not sure. When we revisit the policies, that would be an issue to bring to the city's attention. Bob – when we had the festival, they trimmed the grass outside, around, down the roadway, but we have to get it done the rest of the year. Jenna – they paid a lot of extra money over and above for that service. Bob – this is done around the baseball fields, and tennis courts but don't do it for leash free zones. Angela – so during the policy review is when we bring this up? Jenna – yes, that's when the standard will be revisited.*
  - **Jack Darling**
    - *Is the entrance gate by the washrooms been fixed? Not closing properly, 311 HP ticket created. Scheduled to be fixed Aug 04; Sue to check Sep 08. Jenna – this was completed*
    - *311 ticket (#5799330) requesting rocks for filling in holes (as opposed to soil). Status update? Jenna – this was completed one to two weeks ago.*
    - *Update re: dogs swimming in the water off leash but requiring them to be on leash after they come out of the water. Jenna advised an update will come today. Jenna – still considered public space where dogs need to be leashed at all times; dogs will need to be on leash even in the water.*
    - *Is there still long grass along fence lines inside and outside park and around gates?*

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- Jenna – mulch should have been delivered, and pruning was done when they filled in the holes. Sue – we got two shipments of mulch instead of one. We had a request that for the area that has the washrooms by the parking lot. When entering from there, if it rains the whole area turns into a slope of slick mud. JD has gravel already so they would like to see it there as well. Not sure what the solution would be, but the area does get very slippery. I can send a photo as well. Jenna – please put in a 311 request and will have a supervisor have staff to check it out.
- Sue – question about the upper elevation. Original sign said until August, but still not open. Jenna – will look into it.
- Lakeside
  - Weeds/Burrs situation update.
  - Volunteers could bring in weedwhackers in conjunction with city permission, with say 1-hour temporary park closure, update Jenna –we can close the park off for one hour, but cannot bring in anything outside of hand tools. Nothing electronic allowed. Rose – would this apply if we hired a contractor? Jenna – need to make sure that they're following city guidelines. Rose – should we find a contractor to send for approval or do you have a pre-approved list that we can choose from? Volunteers might not want to go in with hand tools, and we have money to hire contractors. Jenna – Bob alluded to this for Toto. The organizers opted for an enhanced service – paid for staff time and material. What I can do is find out how far we can go with it internally. Will look into that and report back. If it's an invasive species, our horticulture team would be able to step in. Will check to see if it's on the list. There isn't a definitive timeline for any of this to be done. Will look into it and report back. Laurie – we went in with hand tools and so far we're 2-3 months free of the burrs.
  - Jenna – flagged fencing service request with a supervisor in hopes of getting a response.
- Parkway Belt
  - Is the gate still broken? Jenna – should be completed. Carol – the gate needs to be looked at again. People always slam/bang the gate. Hugo – the person that installs it does it incorrectly – the hinges are unaligned. When the gate is opened, the pressure is uneven. The person that comes needs to do a better job to align the hinges.
  - Is there a status update on the concrete curbs for the parking lot? Jenna – Transportation have been notified; they don't have work orders so it's hard to follow up.
  - Pebbles covering mud between inner and outer gates always get washed out onto pathway during rains by water running out of park; is it possible to use pavers instead? Update for the 311 request Jenna created. Jenna – work order has been assigned. Someone will go out and hopefully come up with some sort of solution. Will update work assignment for a solution regarding slippery terrain
  - Update on faded street signs? Jenna – got escalated to the director. Unsure of who would handle it. Someone higher up said that parks would take on signage and will assess.
  - Is there still long grass along fence lines inside and outside park and around gates?
- Paul Coffey

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- Update on 311 requests to deal with infestation of thorny weeds (possibly thistles), holes to be filled, and concrete chunks to be removed. *Jenna – the thistles should be taken care of this week or next week.*
- Update for 311 requests for Shed and Bulletin Board. Coming in phase 2. Do we have any idea for date ranges for the phases yet? *Jenna – the shed should be installed this week or next week. Temporary sheds are upright*
- Signage to park will be installed as park development progresses *Jenna – PM says nothing to comment yet. Will continue to follow up and upgrade.*
- *Jenna – the concrete mound should be done and holes should be filled. Daniel – they did something with the concrete mound, but nothing has been done about the holes.*
- *Daniel – spoke with Jordan (owner of project) and relayed park users concern over lighting in the winter.*
- Quenippenon
  - Any update on water source work order created? Work order is for staff to plan the project scope around creating water line. May be rolled over into 2023 budget. Note: the park is on land leased from Region. *Jenna – water line for water access. Had a meeting with new supervisor – this has been added to their workload; didn't get a lot of movement with prior supervisor.*
  - Jenna will be meeting with fencing contractor, as no city staff capacity to do fencing, update. *Jenna – meeting next week. Once we get the approval of the quote, should be a quick turnaround time since we have the budget for it. Should be done by EOY.*
  - Planning and recommendation are to remove chicken wire fence line, and add a Small Dog area. Laurie - Thoughts on small dog area for Q park?
  - One entrance gate into vestibule, then a gate into Small Dog area, and another gate into main park *Jenna – when you walk in, one gate will lead to the big dog park, and one will lead to the small dog park. Laurie – there still needs to be a separate gate to the narrow area. Jenna – will send the request to the fencing person and see what they can do.*
  - Separation between North & South sections of the park will be removed.
  - Update on concrete parking curbs to help parking chaos. *Jenna – followed up with the Region a few times and still waiting to hear back. Laurie – Q has a small parking lot, and especially during COVID, the Region was getting angry due to a lack of parking for their employees. Sent an email on Sept 29 and will follow up again.*
  - Update on 311 request requested by Jenna, re: shed sinking into ground. Unable to open during winter months, needs to be raised, and install new hinges. *Jenna – work order has been created, but not assigned to a person yet. Laurie – we had volunteers bring in four wooden palettes, and are willing to lift up shed and put on palettes. Is this something that will happen before winter or should we go ahead with the volunteer work? Jenna – I can't answer that right now due to safety concerns. Will reach out to staff and try to co-ordinate timeline.*
  - Is there still long grass along fence lines inside and outside park and around gates?
  - *Jenna – filling up holes with mulch. Laurie – the north wasn't done, the south was, but the dogs have already removed most of what was there so there are holes once*

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again. Jenna – would you like more mulch? Laurie – yes. How do we ensure that the mulch can be delivered at a place where it's more accessible for our members to spread? Can we request soil? Jenna – soil is very easy to get. We can try and see if we can get a commitment from staff to fill the holes with dirt; would be easier than getting them to commit to a certain drop off location. Paul – if we can get a heads up about when they'll be there, we can help direct.

- Laurie – with regards to city bylaws, having a large issue with children. A family came in with a bunch of young kids with happy meals and scooters. Another incident with 3-year-olds running around with squeaky toys. Third incident of a gentleman coming in with a baby stroller. Dog got a hold of the baby wipes and ingested package. Owner had to pay 400 to get dog's stomach pumped, and the other party (with the stroller) advised everything was okay since he had more baby wipes at home. Having an issue trying to educate public against bringing children to the park. Jenna – would need to get bylaw involved, and let them know there is an issue and have them do drive bys.
- Totoredaca
  - Region of Peel, Planned Watermain Replacement, Project Number 15-1138, planned start late 2022 – update on start date? What's going on the new noticeboard at back gate? Jenna – not sure what their status is.
  - Update on the 10% of trees remaining that need to be cut down in the forested area. Jenna – as per the forestry supervisor, the ones remaining will be a spring time follow through on those.
  - Update for 311 request #5799515 for the north gates in need of repair Jenna – completed two weeks ago
  - Update for 311 request #5783319 Requested 2 yards of fill to fix holes Jenna – completed today.
  - Jenna - For SR58323101 (Metal plate covering electrical) – Made high priority 3 weeks ago and sent to manager of electrical and not sure where that landed
  - Bob – the rear gate has a new spring on it, the latch is turning again. Nuts & bolts are stripped – can't tighten them anymore.
- Sutera
  - What date do the contracts end?
  - If going with another provider, will the parks be required to be closed down if Sutera removes the receptacles? Jenna – issued a new contract. There will not be a disruption to service regardless of who the contract goes to
- Wind / Sun / Rain shelters
  - Update to shelter systems to protect both humans & dogs.
  - Multiple cities surrounding Mississauga has shelter systems.
  - New director of parks started. Update on approach with this topic? Jenna – Jamie provided information of direction meetings starting up again and will bring this up. We haven't forgotten about this item; it's still on the list to be dealt with.
- Leash-Free Policy
  - Update on status of draft. Jenna – it's in progress at management level (final reviewers) prior to opening it up to LFM

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- Any date targets for when this will be brought to LFM? Jenna – Sutera – will not see a disruption to service
- People are bringing little fake fire hydrants or benches – because they're not approved by city standards, they need to be removed. If board is aware of these items being put in, please request permission first. Would rather leave them in for others to enjoy, but need to work together in order to make sure all standards are met.
- This is the time of year the sandboxes will come in to help out with winter. Eco-traction. Will be doing it again this year. Make sure to keep it in the park and as close to the fence on the outside as possible. For slip and falls, we don't want claimants to have an issue with the LFM.

### Park Representative Updates

- Etobicoke Valley: Catherine
  - No updates
- Garnetwood: Margaret
  - No updates
- Jack Darling: Sue
  - No updates
- Lakeside: Ellen
- Parkway Belt: Carol
  - No updates
- Paul Coffey: Daniel
  - No updates
- Quenippenon: Laurie
  - There was a regular that usually goes to Toto came to Q park with her two dogs. Was about to leave and leashed her two dogs. There was a "german shepherd coloured dog with floppy ears". Was bit severely in her arm. Owner came and pulled dog away and the dog bit her butt. The only thing the owner said was that they were upset and the dog had their shots. The woman who was bitten left the park. Unknown who the dog, owner, or licence plate is. Following up with a couple of individuals who were at the park at the time. Just wanted to give you a heads up.
- Totoredaca: Bob
  - No updates

### ❖ Board Updates

- President – Angela
  - We lost a few good people on our board, namely Bruce. Reached out to try and see if he would reconsider his decision to resign. Advised his decision was his decision and it was final. Bruce will always be more than welcome to come back if he changes his mind. I'm not going to press too much about business cards. It was more questioning the need for business cards since I wasn't at the previous meeting. Apologized if tone was substandard or off putting in any manner. Apologized.
- Vice President – Kevin



- Catherine referred to someone who's involved in dog parks in Oshawa. They have a naturalized area that's 70 acres (Harmony Valley Park). Could be a nice hiking ground as an alternative to EV.
  - Purina sent two crews on different days to help out at Garnetwood and JD
  - We do have somebody who's interested in taking on the President role. That's Sharon, she's in the meeting.
    - Sharon: I was at the last meeting and I do want to say we've been going to the park for the last 6 months. Basically our second home with Mocha, our GSP. I just feel that being there and seeing how the park is run and I want to be a part of the group. I did want to start as the Events co-ordinator, but what I feel is maybe I could bring a lot to the actually getting some of the things that I feel our residents would like to see in the dog park. Just getting a lot of the amenities that we don't have, and seeing if we can push and try to get some of these put into the parks and I just would really like the opportunity to run. Show you that I can take on this part and hopefully next year we can get much more completed, and that's why I want to run for the president.
    - Thanks, Sharon, for sharing that. It's been a while since we've had an election. That is something that's done at the AGM.
  - Treasurer – Rose
    - Edison and I completed the statements and will need to describe what our priorities are for spending targets for next year.
    - Need some goals in mind next year as to what we want to put towards each of the parks.
    - Donations is dropping; maybe because money isn't being spent on park upgrades.
  - Financial update – Edison
  - Fundraising and Events – vacant
  - Membership and Communications – vacant
  - IT and Website – Hugo
    - Daniel – got a lot of interest in PC, but the list doesn't include PC as a home park. Hugo – with our website, we use a unique tool PHPPro, it's on my list of fixes to have completed. With respect to the 50% going to LFM and 50% going to the park, please let me know where the previous developer put that code so I can go in and change it.
  - Social Media – Veronica
    - Will do best to update new vacant roles.
- ❖ Other Items
- Financial year end is Sep.30/22
  - Plan for Annual General Meeting in November
  - Reviewed latest membership analysis and progress towards goal, need 70 more members to hit 200 goal
    - Post on Facebook groups to sign up for membership
    - Resent the Benefits of Membership slide
    - Possible create new survey to members, mentioned above



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- Possibly advertise on social media to get new members

Next Meeting is the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, November 8 at 7pm.

Meeting adjourned at 9:03pm.

Minutes taken by Angela Puliyodil