



Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, November 20, 2024

| In-Person - Called to order at 7:06 pm

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| Board Attendance | Nicole Frankovic, <i>President</i> Martina Filipic, <i>Board Secretary</i> Debbie Neal, <i>Fundraising, Events, Membership & Communications Director</i> Daniel Scouten, <i>Park Rep - Paul Coffey</i> Dan Harrington, <i>Park Rep - Jack Darling</i> Catherine Williams, <i>Park Rep - Etobicoke Valley</i> Ellen Lockley, <i>Park Rep - Lakeside</i> Carol Mitchell, <i>Park Rep - Parkway Belt</i> Robert Dowling, <i>Park Rep - Totoredaca</i> |
| Board Member Regrets & Vacancies | Jennifer Agombar, <i>Park Rep - Quineppenon</i> Linda Shang, <i>Treasurer</i> <hr/> Director at Large (2) Membership & Communication, Fundraising & Events Director Park Representative, Etobicoke Valley Park Representative, Garnetwood Vice-President Webmaster |
| Guests | Alvin Tedjo, <i>City Councillor Ward 2</i> Jamie Ferguson, <i>Manager, Parks Services at the City Of Mississauga</i> Diane Lapointe, <i>Consultant (via Zoom)</i> |

Minutes

- 1. Call to Order:** Moved by Carol, seconded by Ellen
- 2. Approval of 2024 AGM Agenda:** Moved (Dan H) seconded (Janet M.)
- 3. Approval of minutes from November 29, 2023 Annual General Meeting:**
Approved (Caitlyn S.) seconded (Janet M.)
- 4. City of Mississauga Update (Jamie Ferguson)**

- a. City's [Future Directions](#) Plan was approved this year by council, recommending areas for new LFZ based on demand - improving accessibility to an 8km drive from any area. ([pages 103-105](#)). A new classification system of parks has made it easier to create smaller, more accessible dog parks that residents can walk to based on demand and population density (Community level, Neighbourhood level, Destination level).
- b. City is going to take on the capital/operating costs of all new parks - park entrances will be paved, double gates will be kept, accessibility is the focus. Servicing will be made easier via double wide service gates, Sutera underground dog waste units to be installed at all future parks.
- c. Submit all LFZ requests through 311

5. Questions from Members for City of Mississauga: During the Q&A session, Jamie, addressed the following topics raised by members:

- a. **Potential New Leash-Free Zones:**
 - i. Mississauga Dump Site: Jamie will explore its suitability as a future leash-free zone.
 - ii. City Center Location: Limited flexibility due to minimal city-owned land in this area.
- b. **Dog Waste Management (Sutera Units):**
 - i. Waste is converted to energy rather than sent to landfills.
 - ii. Occasional contamination (e.g., coffee cups) is manageable, but household waste poses processing issues.
- c. **Park Maintenance and Upgrades:**
 - i. Paved Park Entrances: Improvements will occur as budgets allow, following lifecycle planning.
 - ii. Parkway Belt Gates: Jamie will have the Parks & Development Team review gate placement to address erosion and rocky conditions.
- d. **Fencing and General Park Conditions:**
 - i. Fencing issues have persisted due to contractor availability and budget constraints. A new contractor is now in place, and some concerns (e.g., Jack Darling Park) can be addressed.
 - ii. Jamie will obtain lifecycle refurbishment dates for all parks and follow up.
- e. **Dog Walking Permits:**
 - i. Current permits lack proper identification and have fragile plastic casings.
 - ii. Jamie acknowledged design issues with this year's stopgap solution and confirmed that stickers will be distributed.
- f. **Lakeside Park Safety:**
 - i. Concerns about tennis ball-related incidents (e.g., dog injuries and deaths) were discussed.
 - ii. Jamie noted enforcement challenges with bans but suggested a social media awareness campaign to explain the risks associated with tennis balls.
- g. **Water and Lighting Improvements:**
 - i. Water access will be added where feasible.
 - ii. Lighting upgrades are more complex due to environmental safety considerations and will be reviewed case by case.

6. [Alvin Tedjo](#) - City Councillor Ward 2 Councillor Tedjo addressed the following questions and topics during the session:

- a. **Leash-Free Zones (LFZ):**
 - i. City staff have been tasked with identifying more potential areas for LFZs.
 - ii. Historical resistance to LFZs existed and current restrictions (e.g., parking, space, small vs. large dog accommodations) remain significant challenges.
 - iii. A report has been requested to analyze existing parks for improvements to make them more community-friendly rather than destination parks like Jack Darling.
 - iv. Two new LFZs are planned for the Clarkson area: **White Oaks Park** and **Sandgate Park**.
- b. **Support from Other Councilors:**
 - i. While most councilors generally favor LFZs, it is unclear whether they prioritize them in their own wards due to budget and other considerations. Residents are encouraged to reach out to their respective councilors to express support for LFZs.
- c. **E-Bikes and E-Scooters:**
 - i. Public e-bike and e-scooter programs have restrictions in place, but governance of privately owned devices remains a challenge.
- d. **Children Under 12 in LFZs:**
 - i. The City plans to hire 33 new bylaw officers to help enforce rules, though it is acknowledged that more resources are needed.
- e. **Role of Leash-Free Mississauga (LFM) in New Parks:**
 - i. Members can send requests for new LFZs to their councilors and are encouraged to advocate actively by emailing councilors and attending council meetings to highlight dog park issues.
 - ii. A stronger push and sense of urgency are needed to prioritize dog parks in municipal planning.

7. Presentation and Adoption of 2024 Annual Financial Report

- a. 2024 Financial Statements
 - i. Down 4% from last year due to webmaster/IT expenses, and decrease in donations
 - ii. Approved (Carol M.) Seconded (Jeff S.)

8. Presentation of Annual Reports

- a. President's Report
 - i. Treasurer and Secretary brought on, Diane brought on for Human Resource and Board Development
 - ii. 2025 goal - solidify core board and strengthen the volunteer pool
 - iii. Review mission/vision/mandate with the City - approximately 100-200 active members currently

9. Approval of Slate of Directors

- a. See slate of officers - Approved (Caitlin S.) Seconded (Dan H)
- b. Open positions
 - i. Vice-President
 - ii. Director at Large x 2

- iii. Membership, Communication, Fundraising & Events Director
- iv. Garnetwood Park Representative
- v. Etobicoke Valley Park Representative
- vi. Quineppenon Park Rep
- c. Open positions filled during 2024 AGM:
 - i. Webmaster - Dare Olufadeji nominated by the board and approval accepted during AGM
 - ii. Paul Coffey Park Representative - Daniel Scouten rejoining

10. Notices of Motion or Special Resolutions - None brought forth

11. Open Q&A Period

- a. Question re: memberships renewals. Previously members were able to see their renewal dates/receive emails about. Dare to be asked

12. Leash-Free Mississauga - Board of Directors 2024-2025

Slate of Officers - approved unanimously

Robert Dowling, Park Representative Totoredeca
 Martina Filipic, Secretary
 Nicole Frankovic, President
 Ellen Lockley, Park Representative Lakeside
 Carol Mitchell, Park Representative Parkway Belt
 Dare Olufadeji - Webmaster
 Linda Shang, Treasurer
 Daniel Scouten, Park Representative, Paul Coffey

13. Open Positions

- a. Director at Large
 - Membership & Communication, Fundraising & Events Director
 - Park Representative, Etobicoke Valley
 - Park Representative, Garnetwood
 - Park Representative, Quinippenon Park
 - Vice-President

14. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 pm. Moved by Caitlin S., seconded by Jeff S..

Minutes taken by Martina Filipic