

**Amherstburg Parks Advisory Committee  
February 4, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT**

Diane Pouget - Councillor  
Dante Pagliaroli - Chair  
Maxine Iler  
Annette Zahaluk - Administration

**ABSENT**

Paulette Drouillard  
Bart DiPasquale - Councillor  
Rosa White

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dante Pagliaroli, Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

Moved by Diane  
Seconded by Maxine

**That the required changes to the agenda be accepted as presented, adding Item #1 to New Business – Hanging Basket Discussion**

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Moved by Maxine  
Seconded by Diane

**That the minutes of the meeting of the APAC held on November 5, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. be adopted as printed and circulated.**

**ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**1. Presentation to Council**

Discussed putting together a presentation to council to present ideas for enhancement projects, but all agreed to wait until the Town's budget process and financial situation are in a more settled state.

## **2. Meetings dates for 2014**

Committee agreed that meeting every two months would be sufficient going forward. If something comes up either thru Residents questions or thru Council a meeting can be called to discuss the issues.

## **3. Enhancing recycle program in Parks**

Most of the busier parks in Town are equipped with receptacles for Recycling, but it was brought up that Kings Navy Yard Park has bins brought in for special events, but should be equipped on a daily basis.

Parks Manager is in the process of getting prices for some decorative receptacles to keep in line with the look of the black garbage cans already in place at the Parkette. Depending on pricing, will look at purchasing a few each year.

## **4. Committee goals for 2014**

Continue to audit Parks every year to make sure standards are being kept up. Would like to continue adding to the Trail system to encourage residents and visitors to walk and bike as safely as possible thru the Town.

Will take another look at whether putting in the stencils on the roadways is feasible thru PW Roads Dept.

Approach ERCA and see if there are any opportunities to partner with them on adding to the trails.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **1. Planters at the high school**

Would like to repurpose a few of the black planters from out front of the High School and place on Richmond street to help update that stretch in the downtown core since black benches were installed last year and would have a more cohesive look.

Parks Manager recently met with Roads Manager, and it was agreed that there will still be a stretch of planters left there to make sure cars don't stop to let people out.

### **2. Grant research**

Discussion as to whether there is a staff member designated to researching grant opportunities and was confirmed that there is.

### **3. Labeling trees/plants at KNYP**

Parks Manager will look into costs to start labeling the trees at KNYP, as well as identifying the annual bed designs that are installed. Staff on site has found that residents and visitors are constantly asking what the names of the plant material are to purchase for their own house or just inquiring, would be nice to be able to get that information even when staff is not on site.

The Hosta garden is a great example that people like to spend time reading the labels, and seeing what is available.

#### **4. Big Creek Lookout**

Parks Manager met with PW Roads Manager to look into creating a small pull off area at the South End of Big Creek Road to enjoy the scenery and wildlife. Almost every day cars and cyclists are in a spot where the shoulder is already quite wide, but would be nice to have a simple set up like a bike rack, and perhaps a story board describing what might be in front of them in regards to birds or native plant materials. It was suggested that ERCA be approached to see if something can be put together at that location.

Parks Manager to report back on this proposed project.

#### **5. Website**

Committee was wondering who updated the Town's website, in regards to updating the photos.

The Tourism Department has just revamped the website, and has changed and added some pictures. Dante has volunteered to work with the Department to take new pictures and work them in to keep the website fresh.

Also, all the houses that were recognized thru the 2013 Card Program are downloaded in the Photo Album section of the Town's Facebook page, and will continue into 2014.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

In keeping with lowering the budget, there was a discussion about cutting back on the hanging basket program for a year or two and just concentrating on the downtown core area to try and save some money.

Dollars can be saved in both product and student man hours for the time being. Another area that was trimmed was a round of turf fertilizing at municipal sites.

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#### **NEXT MEETING DATE**

Next meeting is set for Tuesday April 1, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. Town Hall.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Diane

Seconded by Maxine

**That the meeting adjourns at 5:05 p.m.**