

Toronto Islands Advisory Committee Meeting

May 12th, 2016 – 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm
 City Hall, 2nd Floor, Committee Room 4

Minutes

Present:

Person	Title	Department/Organization
Pam McConnell	Deputy Mayor, Councillor Ward 28	Councillor McConnell's Office
Tom Davidson	Senior Advisor, Planning and Projects	
Warren Hoselton	Supervisor, Waterfront Parks District	Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Carol Jolly	Executive Director	Waterfront BIA
Don Connolly		Recreation boat user group
Lorraine Filyer		Toronto Island Community Association
Susan Roy		
Bill Beasley		Centreville Amusement Park

Regrets:

Person	Title	Department/Organization
Scott Woolford	Principal	Island Public Natural Science School
Ed Hore		York Quay Neighbourhood Association
Fran Ford		Jack Layton Ferry Terminal Working Group
James Dann	Manager, Waterfront Parks District	Parks, Forestry and Recreation

Guests and Observers

Person
Mary Partridge- Ward's Dock Initiative
Pam Mazza

Item	Notes	Action
1. Review of Agenda		
	Councillor Pam McConnell <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lorraine Filyer noted matters arising from previous meeting- That a discussion of Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) is to be put on the agenda of a meeting of TIAC James Dann is to report on the review process for Ward's dock ice mitigation options. The Agenda was approved on consent. 	
2. Approval of Minutes		
	Councillor McConnell – The Minutes of the meeting of December 17, 2015 were approved on consent.	

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3. New Ferries procurement and design update		
	<p>Councillor McConnell provided an update from Richard Ubbens, Director of PF&R</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 bids were submitted to the City in response to the tender call for new ferry design • City staff are evaluating the bids and will award the tender by end of May. • The consultants will prepare a public consultation plan with Parks staff that will be conducted through the summer • Detailed drawings of new design will be prepared • Tender and procurement of the new ferries will proceed by end of year. • Procurement of 2 ferries being considered subject to budgeting and cost efficiencies analysis • Q- Will the consultation be extended if needed as it is going to happen in the summer when people are away at times. A- Councillor McConnell- We can monitor levels of feedback, but it is important to get this design process underway as quickly as possible 	<p>Bill B. and Carol W. offered to circulate any information on consultation meetings or surveys to their customers/members.</p>
4. Follow up on additional TTC bus for alternative ferry service		
	<p>Warren Hoselton</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TTC has offered to sell a second bus to Parks for use during ferry diversions but bus maintenance responsibilities have been raised between Parks and TTC and need to be resolved. 	<p>Councillor McConnell- Will speak to Andy Byford (CEO TTC) and Janie Romoff (GM Parks) to address.</p> <p>Warren H- to follow up on update at next meeting</p>
5. Jack Layton Ferry Terminal Master Plan and Phase I program		
	<p>Councillor McConnell</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The design consultants have prepared a phasing cost outline of each element of the Master Plan- Ferry Terminal, Harbour Square Park. • The Ferry Terminal structure is a significant portion of the budget. • Some initial funding options from the 1 Yonge Pinnacle development have been allocated to other precinct requirements - community centre, affordable housing, and new park development. • Councillor McConnell is organizing a meeting of Waterfront Toronto, City Staff, design consultants to develop a funding plan for the improvements • The JLFT has been identified as a priority project in Waterfront 2.0- the next phase of waterfront revitalization. A Waterfront Toronto project can secure infrastructure funding. • It will be important to discuss funding with the local federal Member of Parliament at some point. • Lorraine F- Harbour Castle Hotel is being sold. What do we know about any future redevelopment plans and their impact on the Master Plan? A- Any new development, such as a 3rd tower, would be subject to City planning approvals evaluated through planning policy for the site. At this 	

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	<p>time no proposals have come forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lorraine F- What is the ownership of the lane running n/s along the east side of Harbour Castle Hotel? A- Lane along the hotel is City owned. Ports Toronto owns the dockwall and slip. • Bill Beasley noted the dockwall area is to be leased by Ports Toronto for 3 years, potentially to water taxi companies. • Councillor McConnell- the installation of children's play area is a priority that is being delivered through the Master Plan. A new play structure at Rees Street Parkette is also helping address this area need. • Phase 1 implementation- A portion of the promenade from Queens Quay to the Terminal- is to be built in fall 2016. • The Jack Layton Ferry Terminal Working Group will be recalled to provide guidance to the implementation of the Master Plan. 	
6. Second Ferry Terminal proposal and City response		
	<p>Ed Hore- YQNA letter proposing second Island ferry terminal at former Rochester Ferry or Ontario Place</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of the item was deferred in order to allow Ed Hore to speak to it at the next meeting. 	
7. Bird Sanctuary Designation		
	<p>Ed Hore</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion of the item was deferred in order to allow Ed Hore to speak to it at the next meeting. 	
8. Cultural Heritage Landscape designation		
	<p>Tom Davidson</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary MacDonald, Manager of Preservation Services, reported she is now ready to meet with a subcommittee for the CHL. The meeting will outline the process the City will undertake to develop a CHL implementation policy, and how the Toronto Islands can be used as a first study. • Mary MacDonald, Community Planning staff, and Parks staff will attend the meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tom – Organize the CHL discussion meeting with a subcommittee through Pam Mazza.
9. Ward's Dock Renewal Initiative		
	<p>Mary Partridge, Ward's Dock Renewal Initiative ad hoc group, presented-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A complete backgrounder on the initiative is posted on this website: http://wardsdock.weebly.com • In 2013 an Island group produced a visitor's brochure for the Islands. This process had led to further thinking about how visitors experience the gateway to the Islands at Ward's Dock • An ad hoc group formed this year to address the deficiencies in the visitor and residence experience at Ward's dock. • Ward's Dock is an important gateway to the Islands, and for over half the year all ferries go to Ward's • The number of visitors to the Islands has steadily increased. It is Toronto's #1 place to visit on TripAdvisor. 	<p>Warren H.- Will circulate link to Parks survey of visitors to the Islands.</p> <p>Councillor McConnell will follow up with Parks Partnership office to accept the Ward's Dock Initiative as a project.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In February 2016, the group had identified Planning Criteria, Objectives and 6 Issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The appearance of the dock is unwelcoming ➤ Facilities for visitors are minimal ➤ Information for visitors is lacking ➤ Pedestrian, Cycling and Vehicle circulation and conflicts ➤ Parking lot use is excessive ➤ Bike storage facilities are insufficient • On May 7th, the group hosted a Design Brainstorming session attended by 45 people from the Islands and city side to get feedback on the Issues and solicit ideas for improvement. A report on that session is available on the website: http://wardsdock.weebly.com/design-brainstorming-session.html • The group met with several City staff to solicit support - Rob Richardson, Parks Business Services, Jo-Ann Pym, Economic Development Cultural Assets, Jeanette Harvey, Parks Forestry Recreation- Natural Environments, Toronto Parks and Trees Foundation. • The group made application to the Parks Partnership Office to initiate a project for Ward's Dock improvement. Parks Business Services responded that they did not have staff resources to allocate to this project at this time. • Councillor McConnell advised that Parks staff are considering development of a Master Plan for the Toronto Islands Park. This Plan would address many of the issues identified by the Ward's Dock group, but on a comprehensive Island-wide basis. • Carol Jolly- The BIA could support the improvement project through a Façade Improvement program that offers a \$25,000 grant. • Warren Hoselton- Some improvements have been made to the Dock area but more are necessary. Can share the results of a Parks directed visitor survey with TIAC. • Bill Beasley- We must create a unified feel to all the docks at the JLFT, Ward's, Centre, and Hanlan's. The Master Plan may need to be done before substantial changes to Ward's dock. • Lorraine Filyer- Observed that some of the Islands docks are in better condition than others. Wards is a hodgepodge and is the only one used for more than half the year. • Mary Partridge- Expressed concern that waiting for completion of a Master Plan would delay improvements to Ward's Dock that could be made sooner. • Councillor McConnell stated the Ward's Dock Initiative should dovetail with development of an Islands Master Plan, and that Ward's Dock should be an early priority for improvement. <p>At the request of Mary Partridge, Councillor McConnell proposed the following motion that was adopted on consent by the Committee:</p> <p>That the Toronto Island Advisory Committee endorse the Ward's Dock Renewal Initiative and use its resources to help move the project forward, in tandem with and to help inform a potential Master Plan for Toronto Island Park.</p>	

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10. Parking on Islands		
	<p>Lorraine Filyer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the winter and shoulder seasons, there are too many cars parked on the lot at Ward's Dock, 25 or more, even on the roadway. • While a permit is needed to get on the Island, and out the gates to the city, there is no tracking mechanism for how long a vehicle is on the Islands • The appearance of the lot at the Dock is problematic, and the lack of oversight of vehicle storage on the Islands points to a problem with limiting car use. • An agreement to allow vehicles on Ward's Ferry in exchange for more frequent service was apparently made in the past. Island Transportation Committee may have a record. • Warren H. Stated staff needs a tracking system to manage vehicle storage. James Dann, Corporate Security, Ferry Dock staff need to coordinate to control time limits on the Islands. • The redevelopment of the 1 Yonge site may have implications on permit parking on Freeland Street. • The Lower Yonge Transportation Master Plan EA will determine how the road network in the area, including Freeland and Cooper Streets, will be reconfigured. A public meeting on the recommendations will be held on June 23rd, 4:30pm-8pm at Waterfront Neighbourhood Centre (fmr Harbourfront Community Centre). Further discussion can happen once those recommendations come forward. 	<p>TICA Transportation Committee -will find any protocol related to vehicle transportation through Ward's dock.</p> <p>Warren H. will follow up with help from Tom on requesting a review of vehicle tracking system.</p>
11. New Business		
	No new business was added to the agenda	
12. Next Meeting		
	<p>A meeting will be held in July. Lorraine F. will chair.</p> <p>Agenda items on Gibraltar Point Erosion control, Water Taxi use, and ESAs proposed in addition to follow up items.</p>	<p>Tom to schedule and book staff</p>