

Minutes of PPPAC Meeting – Thursday, May 25, 2006

Present – Anne West, Gus Reed, Phil Read, Vivek Tomar, Allan Robertson, Peter Bigelow, Stewart MacMillan.

Regrets – Janet Kitz and Tammy Morley.

Absent – Mayor Peter Kelly and Councillor Sue Uteck.

- 1) **Discussion on Committee membership** – Peter Bigelow indicated that Peter Herschorn and Joe O'Brien would not become members of the Committee. This leaves six 'citizen' members, two members of Council, one honorary member, and staff members. A quorum is five (one-half of the sum of the six 'citizen' members and the two members of Council, plus one).
- 2) **Selection of Chair** – Allan Robertson was selected as Committee Chair.
- 3) **Establishment of meeting times** – The second Thursday of each month was chosen for regular meetings, with other meetings to be called by the Chair as necessary.
- 4) **Report on progress of preparation of the PPP Master Plan** – Peter Bigelow indicated that, in February, Council had requested Staff to reduce budgets substantially. In addition, the International Design Competition Manager (a contract position) applied for and was awarded a full-time position in another department. The result is that nothing substantial has been done to carry forward any element of PPP planning because of a lack of human resources. Peter reported that the (currently unfilled) position of PPP Project Manager would become a permanent position, and that a senior planner, John Charles, would be appointed to the position for a three-month period, beginning in mid-July, pending advertisement and hiring of a permanent employee. After discussion, it was agreed a letter to the Mayor would be prepared to report our concerns about the loss of momentum in restoring PPP.
- 5) **Direction from the Mayor and Councillor** – At a Committee meeting on May 4th at which only four members were present, it was recommended that the Committee meet formally with Mayor Kelly and Councillor Uteck to confirm the Committee's mandate, to convey the Committee's serious commitment, and to determine Council's expectation of the Committee. Because the four members did not constitute a quorum, the issue was raised again at the May 25th meeting. Allan was asked to check with Sue Uteck about an appropriate approach.
- 6) **Confirmation of Terms of Reference** – It was agreed that the Committee's Terms of Reference were ready for submission to HRM for approval. Peter Bigelow pointed out that they must conform to the standard HRM format; he provided two such examples. A subcommittee (Gus Reed and Allan Robertson) was asked to prepare them in the appropriate format.
- 7) **Short-term replanting plans** – Discussion of this agenda item was precluded by the discussion on preparation of the PPP Master Plan (Item 4 above).
- 8) **Consultants' Terms of Reference, deliverables, and schedule** – Discussion of this agenda item was precluded by the discussion on preparation of the PPP Master Plan (Item 4 above).
- 9) **Access to Harbour Solutions plant** – There was discussion about the access road to the new Harbour Solution building at the foot of Chain Rock Drive (size of the road, lack of drainage, extent of gravelling, erosion of gravel, likely extent of use by trucks, method of access by trucks, etc.). This led to a more general discussion about members' dissatisfaction with the type and extent of maintenance throughout PPP. It was agreed that a letter should be prepared to management (addressee as yet undetermined) outlining the Committee's concerns.