

Cates Hill Community Garden Initiative

Planning Group Meeting 14 January 2010

These are not formal minutes of the meeting, but informal notes. I have also included other information that I have obtained after the meeting, or that is relevant to one of the discussion topics.

Nicola Murray kindly hosted the meeting at her house.

Attendees: Brett Dowler, Joanne Fallow, Nicola Murray, Owen Plowman, Karen Wristen (BAA)

Regrets: Julie Headley, Pam Matthews, Aubin van Berckel

Topics

Municipal Funding Support

On Monday, 18 January 2010, at the next Committee of the Whole meeting, Peter Frinton will raise the issue of Municipal funding support for the Cates Hill Community Garden initiative. This will be part of a broader discussion concerning the 2010 Municipal budget. The issue will not necessarily be subject to a vote, since it's not formally on the meeting agenda, but there will be further discussion on subsequent CoW and/or Council meetings. Peter is proposing to ask for between \$15,000 and \$20,000.

It would be prudent for all members of the Planning Group (that's us!) to send an email to all Council members asking for their support for the Community Garden as discussions and voting takes place on the funding issue in the coming weeks.

Councillor's email addresses are:

- Peter Frinton: pfrinton@shaw.ca
- Doug Hooper: hooperbowen@gmail.com
- Cro Lucas: cro@journeymakers.com
- Alison Morse: amm5@shaw.ca
- Nerys Poole: nerysonbowen@shaw.ca
- Bob Turner: bob.turner7@gmail.com
- David Wrinch: ldwrinch@shaw.ca

Please send your email as soon as possible!

Questions:

1. **When will the funding be available (should Council make a favourable decision)?**
Probably in March or April.

2. **Who will administer the funds?** The monies will be allocated to the Parks and Recreation budget and they will be responsible for administering.

Community Garden proposal

Brett Dowler has done a lot of work to prepare a project proposal for the Community Garden. This incorporates a charter, “Gardener’s Agreement”, preliminary layout, and a table of equipment and costs.

Items remaining to do concerning the proposal are:

- Funding plan
- Project timeline
- Addition of “in kind” labour and material donations to the list of expenses.

Nicola Murray agreed to proofread the proposal. Owen Plowman agreed to work on building a formal document from the existing MS-Excel document.

We’d like to have the groundwork for the Community Garden completed for the 2010 planting season: this means having things ready for May.

The issue of Water

Water is an important aspect of the Community Garden and we’re investigating two sources:

- Cove Bay Water System hookup, and
- A rainwater collection system.

Karen Wristen has learned of a large water tank that may be of use to us; it’s being sold “used”. She’ll investigate further.

External funding

Karen Wristen mentioned that the Evergreen Foundation (www.evergreen.ca), which is a leading funder of community “greening” projects, has a grant available for \$10,000. The application for this grant must be submitted by 29 January. Source of the funds is Walmart.

There was some discussion about the ethics of accepting funding from Walmart. We decided to proceed with the application, and to canvas our neighbours about their comfort level with this funding source. Should our application be successful, then we will have to decide whether to accept the funds at that time.

(Notes by Owen Plowman)