



## **TREE PROTECTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, April 20, 2021 at 7:00pm  
via Zoom

---

### **MINUTES**

#### **Present:**

C. Grey, Community Co-Chair  
B. Whitmarsh, Council Co-Chair  
P. Arnason, Council Co-Chair (Alternate)  
K. Richter, Councillor  
E. Woodward, Councillor

C. Bishop, J. Evanochko, M. Muller, A. Neufeld, H. Sakurai, T. Smith, A. Stewart, J. Turner

#### **Staff:**

T. Buckner, Manager, Parks Operations  
J. Chu, Manager, Community and Policy Planning  
E. Fong, Superintendent, Trees, Trails, Horticulture, and Natural Areas  
A. Jensen, Planner, Community and Policy Planning  
K. Stepto, Recording Secretary

#### **Guests:**

A. Needoba, Principal and Senior Urban Forester, Diamond Head Consulting  
C. Lefrancois, Urban Planner, Diamond Head Consulting

### **A. APPROVAL AND RECEIPT OF AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **1. Tree Protection Advisory Committee – April 20, 2021**

Moved by C. Grey,  
Seconded by A. Neufeld,  
That the Tree Protection Advisory Committee approve the agenda and receive  
the agenda items of the April 20, 2021 meeting, as amended.  
**CARRIED**

Clerk's Note: Item E.2 was added to the agenda.

### **B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

#### **1. Tree Protection Advisory Committee – March 16, 2021**

Moved by T. Smith,  
Seconded by C. Grey,  
That the Tree Protection Advisory Committee adopt the minutes of the March 16,  
2021 meeting.  
**CARRIED**

C. **DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS**

D. **REPORTS**

E. **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. **Memo from the Engineering Division to Mayor and Council**  
**Re: Tree Removal at 20291 - 3 Avenue and 3347 - 271A Street**

The committee received the memo from staff regarding tree removal at 20291 - 3 Avenue and 3347 - 271A Street.

2. **Sawmill Trail Ecosystem**

The committee received the letter from L. Pahlke regarding development near Sawmill Trail and the effects on the ecosystem.

F. **WORK PROGRAM**

1. **Revised Committee Work Program**

A. Jensen reviewed the Work Program and schedule.

2. **Revised Strategy Process**

A. Jensen reviewed the timeline for the rest of the strategy process.

3. **Proposed Walking Tour in Willoughby**

J. Chu presented the idea of having a walking tour to explore green infrastructure elements such as street greenways, pocket parks and wildlife corridors. Willoughby and Brookwood-Fernridge were suggested communities to tour.

**Action:** Staff to look at potential dates for both communities and also invite Council to participate.

4. **Tree Permit Case Studies**

E. Fong presented an overview of the process that staff undertook for the tree permit application at 3347 - 271A Street. He noted that the responsibilities of the Urban Forestry Group are to:

- Manage Urban Forestry assets
- Manage landscape and horticulture areas in parks and grounds maintenance at Township facilities
- Manage Trail maintenance
- Administer the Tree Protection Bylaw

**F. WORK PROGRAM**

Current staff resources include:

- Superintendent, Trees, Trails, Horticulture and Natural Areas
- Acting Supervisor/Arborist
- Arborist
- Trades 1 – Urban Forestry
- Operations Maintenance Works (2)

He noted that the City of Richmond, which the Township has based its Tree Protection Bylaw on, has three full-time staff dedicated to administering their Tree Protection Bylaw. Council has approved in the 2021 budget to have an Arborist and a Support Clerk to help administer the Tree Protection Bylaw.

The Permit Application process involves:

- Application received,
- Clerical review,
- Arborist review,
- Approver review, and
- Permit issued/denied.

After the review process for 3347 - 271A Street, the following observations were noted:

- All conditions of Sections 5 and 8 of the Bylaw were met as required prior to permit issuance.
- A total of 40 permit sized trees were approved for removal and approximately 100 undersized trees did not require a tree cutting permit.
- One tree was given exemption under 6.2 and another was dead and given exemption under 9.3.
- A total of \$3,800 in trees were collected and 36 replacement trees are required.
- The process required a multi-disciplinary approach, requiring the in-house expertise of an arborist, environmental coordinator, and other qualified environmental professionals (QEPs).

Discussion ensued and the following comments were provided:

- There is no real mechanism to deny removal of trees with the current bylaw.
- Application can be denied if the address is in a tree retention area.
- Staff follow the bylaw as it is written.
- What needs to be added to the bylaw to allow denial? Staff suggest wording similar to Section 4.4 of City of Surrey's tree bylaw.

**Action:** An interim report and possible revisions to the bylaw to be placed on the next agenda for discussion.

**Action:** Review of the application process for 20291 - 3 Avenue to be deferred to the next meeting.

**F. WORK PROGRAM**

**5. Community Forest Management Strategy**

C. Lefrancois and A. Needoba provided an overview of the three proposed vision statements for the Community Forest Management Strategy. The three statements include the following components:

1. What components of the community forest are particularly valued by the community?
2. What has the community achieved once the strategy is implemented?
3. How is the forest cared for or considered by the community?

The three themes that are considered with each component include:

- Natural Heritage (significant trees and forest stands)
- Biodiversity (ecological functions and environmental quality)
- Green Infrastructure (integration of nature into the built environment)

The following comments were provided from the committee:

- What grade level is this written at? Need to be mindful of the average citizen of Langley.
- There is no reference to people enjoying the green spaces.
- Another theme to consider: Social and heritage experience of trees and landscapes.
- Does the public know what a significant tree is?
- Integrate the built environment into nature, instead of the other way around.
- Has the citizenry gotten involved in an advocacy role?
- There is no reference to the benefits of a forest in regards to climate change and carbon storage.
- Indigenous people and rural heritage – lacking an acknowledgement of the indigenous condition of the Township prior to colonial development – re-establishment of medicine and food plants and other visions.
- Human health and well-being needs to be referred to.
- Additional theme: “Invest in our future by preserving our green assets”

**Action:** Diamond Head to provide draft vision statements electronically to TPAC for input.

**G. COUNCIL REFERRALS**

**H. OTHER BUSINESS AND ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

**I. NEXT MEETING**

**Date:** May 18, 2021  
**Location:** via Zoom  
**Time:** 7:00 pm

**J. TERMINATE**

Moved by C. Grey,  
Seconded by A. Stewart,  
That the meeting terminate at 9:05pm.  
**CARRIED**

**CERTIFIED CORRECT:**

---

Community Representative Co-Chair

---

Council Representative Co-Chair