Agenda
Trees and Forests Advisory Committee

The 1st Meeting of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee

January 22, 2020, 12:15 PM

Committee Room #3

The City of London is committed to making every effort to provide alternate formats and communication supports for Council, Standing or Advisory Committee meetings and information, upon request. To make a request for any City service, please contact accessibility@london.ca or 519-661-2489 ext. 2425.

Pages

1.   **Call to Order**

    1.1   Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

    1.2   Election of Chair and Vice Chair for the term ending in November 30, 2020

2.   **Scheduled Items**

    2.1   12:20 PM M. Pease, Manager, Development Planning and L. McNiven, Landscape Architect, Development Services – Canopy Requirements in New Development Sites

3.   **Consent**

    3.1   11th Report of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee   2

4.   **Sub-Committees and Working Groups**

    4.1   Education Sub-Committee Update   4

    4.2   2020 Work Plan Sub-Committee Update

5.   **Items for Discussion**

    5.1   City Budget and Climate Change

6.   **Adjournment**

Next Meeting Date: February 26, 2020

Trees and Forests Advisory Committee
Report

The 11th Meeting of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee
November 27, 2019
Committee Room #4

Attendance	PRESENT: R. Mannella (Chair), M. Demand, A. Hames, J. Kogelheide, A. Morrison, A. Valastro; and D. Turner (Committee Clerk)
	REGRETS: A. Cantell and A. Thompson
	ALSO PRESENT: A. Beaton, J. Parsons and R. Walker

1. Call to Order

1.1 Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that pecuniary interests were disclosed.

2. Scheduled Items

None.

3. Consent

3.1 9th and 10th Reports of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the 9th and 10th reports of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee, from its meetings held on September 25 and October 23, respectively, were received.

3.2 Municipal Council Resolution - 9th Report of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the Municipal Council resolution, from its meeting held on October 15, 2019, with respect to the 9th Report of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee, was received.

3.3 Public Meeting Notice - City Wide Amendment - Urban Design Peer Review Panel Terms of Reference Update

That it BE NOTED that the Public Meeting Notice, dated November 13, 2019, from J. Smolarek, Urban Designer, Development Services, with respect to a City Wide Amendment to the Urban Design Peer Review Panel Terms of Reference, was received.

4. Sub-Committees and Working Groups

4.1 Education Sub-Committee Update

That it BE NOTED that the committee held a general discussion with respect to the Education Initiatives Sub-Committee update; it being further noted that the ~~attached~~ sub-committee meeting minutes were received.

5. **Items for Discussion**

5.1 Social Housing and Tree Planting Opportunities in London

That a member of the London Housing Advisory Committee BE INVITED to attend a future meeting of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee to discuss social housing tree planting initiatives in greater detail.

5.2 Urban Forest Strategy - Topics of Interest

That it BE NOTED that the committee held a general discussion with respect to interesting topics enshrined in the Urban Forest Strategy which the committee may seek to research further, including urban design policy as it relates to green space requirements in new developments.

5.3 Trees in Parking Lots

That it BE NOTED that the committee held a general discussion with respect to tree planting and green space requirements in parking lots, noting that the Bostwick Community Centre parking lot was highlighted as a model for similar developments.

5.4 City of London Tree Planting Specifications

That the Civic Administration BE REQUESTED to investigate any discrepancies between tree planting specifications as they appear in the City of London's *Design Specifications and Requirements Manual* versus the International Society of Arboriculture's *Arborists' Certification Study Guide*.

5.5 2018 and 2019 TFAC Work Plans

That a sub-committee BE CREATED to begin drafting a 2020 work plan; it being noted that the committee's 2019 draft work plan will be used as a template.

6. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:43 PM.

TFAC Website Suggestions for City of London Website – DRAFT FOR COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

1) **Trees and Forests Page Recommendations**:
   - Homeowners may not be aware of the width of road allowances and thus not know which trees belong to them versus the city.
   - Could add a landing page or section on how urban forestry works in the City, and how Public and Private trees are protected
     - Who does what within the city, who is responsible for which trees?
     - Which trees are protected, and by which by-law?
       - o "Boulevard Tree Protection By-law", "Tree Protection By-Law", and Tree Protection Plan information (included in the "Design Specifications & Requirements Manual")
     - Who to contact if you are concerned about adherence to by-laws
   - Add a section on How the City supports Tree Planting
     - TreeMe grants, National Tree Day Giveaways, Million Tree Challenge, how to request a street tree
   - Include a section with Key Planning Documents (Urban Forest Strategy and Implementation Plan, Tree Planting Strategy)
   - May be beneficial to have the link to the tree inventory be more prominent so residents know it exists and is publicly accessible.
     - Could move it to "Tree Resources" (despite only city trees being included), since it is good way to explore the trees in the city and promote awareness
   - At present, the "My Trees on My Property" only addresses by-laws, while the "City-Owned Trees" addresses both the city's urban forestry operations as well as some general tree care information (e.g. "Maple Decline", "Tree Planting and Watering")
     - Information that relates to both public and private trees could be moved to the "Tree Resources" page
   - The Trees and Forests Advisory Committee would like to add information to the "Tree Resources" page on tree-related issues, care and maintenance, which are relevant to homeowners and other landowners, as well as contractors. These may include:
     - How to properly plant a tree
     - Native, non-native and invasive tree species
     - Harms associated with "volcano" mulching
     - Why you should never move firewood

2) **TreeMe Grant/Funding**: Increase access to, and awareness of the program
   - Add category on main grants page (***Home/City Hall/Funding and Grants***, http://www.london.ca/city-hall/funding-grants/Pages/default.aspx) such as "Funding for Trees" or "Funding for Environmental Projects"
   - Add information on TreeMe to the "Fees and Incentives" page and/or the "Financial Incentives" (http://www.london.ca/business/Planning-Development/fees-incentives/Pages/default.aspx and http://www.london.ca/business/Planning-Development/fees-incentives/Pages/Financial-Incentives.aspx, both located under ***Home/Business/Planning and Development/Fees and Incentives***)

Additional Comments Regarding TreeMe Grants/Funding:

- On the main landing page for grants, it could be helpful to divide funding opportunities into those open to residents, those for organizations, businesses, etc. This would aid in informing residents that they have access to the TreeMe program, for example
- Revise the eligibility on TreeMe to state charities (rather than Not-for-Profits, which are different).
- Could be helpful to indicate the types of groups or projects previously funded
- The description noting that small groups of neighbors can access up to $,3000 from TreeMe make it appear that $3,000 is the upper limit. This should be expanded to note that registered charities can receive up to $50,000.

3) **Navigation:** from "City Hall A-Z" (under "City Hall" tab) to tree information
   - "Trees – City Inventory" links to the landing page for Trees and Forests, not the inventory
     - Either the name should be changed to "Trees and Forests", or the link should be changed to the inventory page and "Trees and Forests" added to the A-Z list
   - "Trees, Lawns and Gardens" links to "Lawns and Gardens", with no information on trees, and should be renamed to reflect this
   - Could be beneficial to add a "Forests" link (direct to "Trees and Forests" page)

Additional General Comments on City of London Website:

- Could be beneficial to add information on getting a tree for your yard on "Lawns and Gardens page (***Home/Residents/Property Matters and Taxes/Lawns and Gardens***, http://www.london.ca/residents/Property-Matters/Lawns-Gardens/Pages/default.aspx)
- Could also add information on when to water your street tree on the "Lawns and Gardens" page
- Links on the "Community Projects" page (***Home/Residents/Parks/Community Projects***, http://www.london.ca/residents/Parks/Community-Projects/Pages/default.aspx)
  - Could include information on the Million Tree Challenge
  - Could link to the Native Edible Trees page (https://www.london.ca/residents/Environment/Trees-Forests/Pages/EdibleTree.aspx)
- "Business" page (http://www.london.ca/business/Pages/default.aspx) should include information on Tree Permits and the Tree Protection By-law
- The pages, "Having your Say: Public Participation Meetings" and "Citizen's Guide to Land Use Planning"(http://www.london.ca/business/Planning-Development/participating/Pages/PublicInput.aspx, and http://www.london.ca/business/Planning-Development/participating/Pages/CitizenGuides.aspx, both located under ***Home/Business/Planning and Development/Participating in the Planning Process***) should be accessible from the "Residents" tab