

**5TH REPORT OF THE**  
**TREES AND FORESTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Meeting held on April 27, 2016, commencing at 12:15 PM, in Committee Room #4, Second Floor, London City Hall.

**PRESENT:** R. Mannella (Chair), A. Cantell, C. Dyck, C. Haindl, J. Kogelheide, C. Linton, G. Mitchell and D. Pavletic and J. Martin (Secretary).

**ABSENT:** A. Adgria and P. Ciufo.

**ALSO PRESENT:** A. Beaton, I. Listar, J. Ramsey, S. Rowland and G. Sass.

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**I. CALL TO ORDER**

1. Disclosures of Pecuniary Interest

That it BE NOTED that no pecuniary interests were disclosed.

**II. SCHEDULED ITEMS**

2. Joint Urban Agricultural Symposium

That it BE NOTED that the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee approved expenditures of up to \$300.00 to assist with the costs associated with the Joint Urban Agricultural Symposium being held November 19, 2016 at the London Central Library and hosted by the Advisory Committee on the Environment and the Agricultural Advisory Committee; it being noted that the TFAC has sufficient funds in its proposed 2016 budget for these expenditures and that the TFAC received the attached communication from G. Sass; it being further noted that this initiative is included on the Advisory Committee on the Environment approved 2016 work plan.

**III. CONSENT ITEMS**

3. 4th Report of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the 4th Report of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee, from its meeting held on March 23, 2016, was received.

4. Municipal Council Resolution - 4th Report of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee

That it BE NOTED that the Municipal Council resolution adopted at its meeting held April 19, 2016 with respect to the 4th Report of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee, was received.

**IV. SUB-COMMITTEES & WORKING GROUPS**

5. Allergens, Climate Change and Invasives Working Group

That it BE NOTED that a verbal update from A. Cantel, on behalf of the Allergens, Climate Change and Invasives Working Group, was received.

**V. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

6. Urban Forest Strategy

That Civic Administration BE REQUESTED to consider including the attached communication with respect to the bi-annual Urban Forest Strategy update, it being noted that the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee (TFAC) will extend an invitation to the members of the Planning and Environment Committee when these updates are presented.

**VI. DEFERRED MATTERS/ADDITIONAL BUSINESS**

7. Road Work in Rowntree Neighbourhood and Impact on Trees

That it BE NOTED that discussion with respect to the road work in the Rowntree neighbourhood and its impact on trees was deferred to a future meeting of the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee.

8. Climate Change

That the Civic Administration BE REQUESTED to consider the attached proposed recommendations with respect to the City of London's "Design Specifications and Requirements" and the "Climate Change Action Plan" and tree planting; it being noted that I. Listar provided additional information to the committee with respect to this matter.

9. Trees and Forest Advisory Committee Meeting Dates

That it BE NOTED that the Trees and Forests Advisory Committee will not meet in the month of July and set a meeting date of August 9, 2016.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM.

**NEXT MEETING DATE: June 1, 2016**

## **Urban Agriculture Conference: “Urban Agriculture: London's Food Future”**

### **Aims of this event:**

- To educate Londoners on the current state and future potential of Urban Agriculture in the City of London
- To serve as a forum for public engagement and empowerment to move the agenda of Urban Agriculture forward

### **Conference themes:**

- Urban Agriculture Policy for Municipalities
- The Politics of Urban Agriculture
- The Economics of Urban Agriculture
- Appropriate Technology for Urban Agriculture
- The Role of Fruit and Nut Trees in Urban Agriculture
- The Role of Animals in Urban Agriculture

**Date:** November 19<sup>th</sup>, Saturday, blocked time at the library will be 9-5.

**Space:** Wolf Hall, Stevenson Hunt room, Hallways

**Organizing committee:** Sarah Brooks (ACE), Skylar Franke (AAC), Susan Hall (ACE), Gabor Sass (ACE), Diane Szoller (ACE), Maureen Temme (Citizen-at-large)

### **Flow of the day: (10 to 3 pm)**

- 10:00 introductions
- 10:10-10:45 plenary speaker (Big picture comments on Urban Ag)
- 10:45-11 break
- 11-12 breakout sessions (3 sessions, each with two speakers and a facilitator)
  - Appropriate Technology for Urban Agriculture
  - The Economics of Urban Agriculture
  - The Role of Fruit and Nut Trees in Urban Agriculture
- 12-1 lunch (in foyer and in Organic Oscars)
- 1-2 breakout session (3 sessions, each with two speakers and a facilitator)
  - Urban Agriculture Policy for Municipalities
  - The Role of Animals in Urban Agriculture
  - The Politics of Urban Agriculture
- 2-3 Wrap-up with panel discussion (facilitated by Urban League of London)

### **Budget:**

- London Public Library is a partner so there will be no fees for the use of facility
- ACE (Council approved \$800 to be used for this event)
- AAC (Council approved \$500 to be used for this event)
- TFAC: propose to use part of their budgets for bringing in guest speakers
- City Hall, City Councillors might be potential financial sponsors of this event
- Also looking for other direct and in-kind support for speakers as well as refreshments and lunch

**With regards to the Urban Forest Strategy, TFAC would like to request that the following items be included in the first semi-annual update presentation, to be made at upcoming the June 1, 2016 meeting:**

- What is the **purpose & scope** of the UFS (2 slides max.)
- What the canopy cover **targets** are
  - What we know about the feasibility of reaching these / how we reached these new targets (what assumptions were made)
- What **canopy cover** is currently at, and how that number was arrived at
  - How it has changed over the last (X) years
  - If, after taking out the impacts of EAB, what the “ambient” rate of canopy cover change is in London (if we are generally losing or gaining cover over time)
- **What staff hope to accomplish** in the coming year (including any policies to be updated) and what progress has been made on the **table of tasks** included in the back of the UFS (the "table" items on p. 25 - p. 40 of the UFS), preferably sorted by whether they are short/medium/long term. I would like to see this list updated on an ongoing basis over the next ~18 years.
- What is known about current rate of **cutting** in London
  - How many trees does the City cut down each year?
  - Is there a working estimate for cutting on private land?
- What is known about the current rate of **clearing** in London
  - And what do we expect the canopy cover impact will be?
- What is known about the current rate of **planting** in London
  - And what do we expect the canopy cover impact will be?
  - (MTC can provide some of this data, if whoever is preparing the presentation would like to send an e-mail to Amber)
- What is known about the change in canopy cover resulting from the **growth** of already existing trees in London?
- When will **woodland cover** (an earlier request of TFAC's that was included in the final UFS) be calculated? Can we use the most recent flyover to develop this number?
- An overview of what is happening with the **Tree Planting Strategy** (and how it fits into the UFS) would be helpful, as this is a major piece of the overall UFS
- Current **staff resources** dedicated to the successful implementation of the UFS and who is primarily responsible for making sure progress is being made
- What **funding** was provided at the last budget, how it has or will be spent, how it relates to have much is believed to have been needed and what the expected outcomes of (over/under funding) will be on our ability to reach the targets

## Recommendations Concerning the Design Specifications & Requirements Manual

*The following recommendations all apply to sections within Chapter 12 of the City of London's "Design Specifications and Requirements Manual".*

1. Appendix 5 ("Approved Street Trees") be modified to include a column to reflect **sex of trees** (monoecious, partially or fully dioecious), so that pollen-free trees can be identified and used in areas with a high incidence of respiratory illness (hospitals, retirement homes)
2. Appendix 5 ("Approved Street Trees") be modified to include a column to reflect each species' **OPALS rating**, so that the relative allergenic potential of different species can be determined by guidelines users
3. Appendix 5 ("Approved Street Trees") be modified to include a column listing each species' **fruit size**. A local food security group likely exists which could be approached to help provide this information for use in the table.

## Recommendations for the Climate Change Action Plan

1. The City of London seek to implement these recommendations in time for the Spring, 2017 tree planting tender.
2. A "**Climate Change Sister City**" initiative be established, either as a project of the Forestry department, or by partnering with an appropriate community partner to carry out the initiative, it being noted that TD Green Streets or the Federation may be a suitable source of funding for this project (*see attached draft proposal*).
3. The City make active use of climate change projections to anticipate **future budget needs**, both for urban forestry and other departments. (For example, estimating how much emergency tree trimming might need to be increased each year to make up for the expected increase in severe storms, or determining how many extra trees will need to be planted from increased deaths due to drought or pests).
4. Residents concerned about food security should be permitted to make **special requests to plant fruit and nut trees** in the boulevard in front of their homes, in the case where a street tree is not already present but site dimensions and conditions would support one.
5. For **dioecious species** (those species which have separate "male" trees and "female" trees), the City request that nurseries provide only female trees (which do not produce pollen) wherever practical.