

TASK FORCE TO BRING BACK THE DON

MINUTES

MEETING 23

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

The Task Force to Bring Back the Don met on Wednesday, June 16, 2010, at 6:30 p.m. in Committee Room 4, 2nd Floor, Toronto, City Hall.

Present:

Members:

John Wilson, Chair
Ron Ballantyne, Vice-Chair
Cvitan Brkic
Greg Fenton
Norah Murphy
Janice Palmer, Vice-Chair
John Routh, Vice-Chair
Dalton Shipway

Regrets: Bryan Bertie
David Wright

Also Present: Susan Bookbinder, Policy and Research, City Planning
William Snodgrass, Senior Engineer,
Water Infrastructure Management, Toronto Water
Brian Betsworth, Administrative Assistant, Councillor John Parker's Office

Confirmation of the Minutes

The Task Force to Bring Back the Don was advised that the Minutes of the meeting held on May 17, 2010, were not available due to the illness of the Committee Secretary, and would be provided at the next meeting scheduled for July 21, 2010.

23-1. Cleaning Up Our Waterways: The Don River and Central Waterfront Project

Mr. William Snodgrass, Senior Engineer, Water Infrastructure Management, Toronto Water, provided a powerpoint presentation titled "Cleaning Up Our Waterways: The Don River and Central Waterfront Project" and advised that additional information could be obtained by accessing the link: <http://www.toronto.ca/involved/projects/cleanwaterways/new.htm>

The Task Force also considered a letter (May 20, 2010) from the Taylor Massey Project outlining their comments on this matter.

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Mr. John Wilson vacated the Chair. Ms. Janice Palmer assumed the Chair.

On motion by J. Wilson, the Task Force to Bring Back the Don:

1. Requested the City Clerk to advise the Director, Water Infrastructure Management that the Task Force to Bring Back the Don:
 - i. Endorses in principle the recommended alternatives proposed by Toronto Water for the Don River and Central Waterfront Project.
 - ii. Has concerns with the location of several of the remote storage tanks and/or the construction shafts.
 - iii. Requests ongoing consultation with Toronto Water to achieve satisfactory siting, construction and restoration conditions within the Don Valley.
 - iv. Will continue to work with Toronto Water to communicate the benefits of this project to the public and to delist Toronto as an "area of concern" by the Year 2020.
2. Thanked Mr. Snodgrass, Senior Engineer, Water Infrastructure Management, Toronto Water, for his excellent presentation.
3. Received the presentation by Mr. William Snodgrass, Senior Engineer, Toronto Water and the letter (May 20, 2010) from the Taylor Massey Project submitting comments regarding the document "Cleaning Up Our Waterways: The Don River and Central Waterfront Project".

Ms. Janice Palmer vacated the Chair. Mr. John Wilson assumed the Chair.

23-2. Task Force Budget – 2010 and 2011

The Chair, Mr. John Wilson, provided an outline of the 2010 proposed budget for the consideration of the Task Force to Bring Back the Don.

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The Task Force also considered an e-mail from Mr. Bernard Taylor, Parks Program Officer, Natural Environment and Community Programs, regarding the Lower Don Projects and referring specifically to the Chester Springs Marsh Inlet and the Cottonwood Flats.

On motion by C. Brkic, the Task Force to Bring Back the Don requested the Chair, in consultation with the Vice-Chairs to:

1. Finalize the Budget and add the projections for the balance of 2010.
2. Forward the finalized Budget for the Task Force to Bring Back the Don, to Ms. Susan Bookbinder, Policy and Research, City Planning.

23-3. Team Updates

1. Habitat Restoration Team

The Task Force to Bring considered a letter (May 18, 2010) addressed to Mr. Scott Laver regarding Cottonwood Flats. (This letter was deferred from the meeting held on May 19, 2010).

On motion by J. Palmer, the Task Force to Bring Back the Don requested the Chair, to sign and forward the letter (May 18, 2010) responding to Mr. Scott Laver c/o Ms. Wendy Strickland, Natural Environment Specialist, Parks Forestry and Recreation, Urban Forestry Section.

2. Planning and Policy Team

The Chair of the Planning and Policy Team advised that he had no additional information to report as the Team had not met.

3. Communications, Outreach and Marketing Team

Mr. John Routh presented a verbal update.

On motion by G. Fenton, the Task Force to Bring Back the Don received the verbal update from Mr. John Routh regarding articles written and the Fall Newsletter.

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23-4. Don Watershed Regeneration Council Update

The Task Force to Bring Back the Don considered the letters submitted by Ms. Janice Palmer for the information of the Task Force:

1. (June 4, 2010) from the Don Watershed Regeneration Council to Mayor Miller and Members of Council regarding the "Proposal for a Sports Centre in the Port Lands."
2. (June 10, 2010) from the Don Watershed Regeneration Council to Mayor Miller and Members of Council regarding the "Don Mouth Naturalization and Portlands Flood Protection Project Environmental Assessment and Lower Don Lands Framework Plan."

Ms. Janice Palmer provided a verbal update.

On motion by J. Routh, the Task Force to Bring Back the Don received the communications and verbal update presented by Ms. Janice Palmer.

23-5. Communications

The following communications were provided for the information of the Task Force to Bring Back the Don:

1. Information on Lower East Don River, Access North of Parkview Hills Crescent.
2. Letter (May 25, 2010) addressed to the Community Development and Recreation Committee from the Task Force to Bring Back the Don regarding the Status Report on the Port Lands Sports Centre Project.
3. (April 19, 2010) Announcement from Mr. Lou DiGironimo, General Manager, Toronto Water, advising of the appointment of Mr. Jim Harnun, Director, Water Treatment and Supply.

On motion by J. Routh, the Task Force to Bring Back the Don received the communications for information.

The Task Force to Bring Back the Don adjourned its meeting at 8:30 p.m.