

## **Request to designate 137 Marilake Drive as a Natural Garden**

<b>Date:</b>	March 30, 2009
<b>To:</b>	Scarborough Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Bill Blakes, Manager, Municipal Licensing and Standards, Scarborough District
<b>Wards:</b>	<b>Ward 41- Rouge River</b>
<b>Reference Number:</b>	IBMS 08-171319

### **SUMMARY**

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The purpose of this report is to consider a request by the owner(s) of 137 Marilake Drive to be exempted from Chapter 489-Grass and Weeds, section 489-2. This section states that the maximum height of grass and weeds cannot exceed 20 centimetres. This report is to consider this exemption request in accordance with Chapter 489, Grass and Weeds, section 489-3(E)(6) and have their yard(s) designated a Natural Garden, as follows:

- (6) An owner or occupant requesting a review of a notice, and any other interested person, shall be heard by the community council which may:
  - (a) If the land is located in the geographic area of one community council, under delegated authority:
    - [1] Grant the exemption, with or without conditions, and cancel the notice; or
    - [2] Confirm the notice and direct that a second notice be given under this section.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Parks, Forestry and Recreation-Natural Environments, states that in their expert opinion, this location does not meet the provisions to be considered as a natural garden. Therefore, Municipal Licensing and Standards recommends that the exemption be not be granted at this time.

## **Financial Impact**

There is no financial impact anticipated in this report.

## **DECISION HISTORY**

The notice of violation issued to the owner(s) of 137 Marilake Drive applied to all yards and the grass remained uncut. The owner(s) requested by letter to Municipal Licensing and Standards for a natural garden exemption for the property.

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

A public complaint reported grass in excess of 20 centimetres. A notice of violation was issued and not complied with. The owner(s) of 137 Marilake Drive submitted a letter requesting a natural garden exemption. In accordance with Chapter 489, Grass and Weeds, section 489-3(E)(5), a report on the natural garden was requested from, Patricia Landry, special projects, Parks Forestry and Recreation-Natural Environments. The recommendation for refusal is based entirely on that report dated October 3, 2008.

## **CONTACT**

Bruce Schneller, Supervisor, Municipal Licensing and Standards, Scarborough District  
416-396-7731

## **SIGNATURE**

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Bill Blakes, Manager

## **ATTACHMENTS**

1. Report from "Natural Environment-Parks Forestry and Recreation"
2. Photograph