

## **Naming of the Newly-Constructed Facility Located at 25 Mendelssohn Street “Warden Hilltop Community Centre”**

<b>Date:</b>	May 21, 2010
<b>To:</b>	Scarborough Community Council
<b>From:</b>	Brenda Patterson, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
<b>Wards:</b>	Ward 35 – Scarborough Southwest
<b>Reference Number:</b>	P:\2010\Cluster A\PFR\SC36-062210-AFS#12197

### **SUMMARY**

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The purpose of this report is to seek City Council approval to name the newly-constructed facility located at 25 Mendelssohn Street.

The Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division is recommending that the facility name Warden Hilltop Community Centre be officially adopted as the name of the new facility.

The Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division has exercised due diligence in ensuring that all criteria in the Naming and Renaming for Parks and Recreation Facilities Policy has been met and recommends the naming of this facility.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

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**The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation recommends that:**

1. City Council approve the naming of the newly-constructed facility at 25 Mendelssohn Street “Warden Hilltop Community Centre”.

### **Financial Impact**

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

## **DECISION HISTORY**

Four public information sessions regarding the new facility were held in 2008 on the following dates: February 7; February 28; March 25 and November 26. The purpose of the sessions were to present and provide updates on the basic architectural design of the new facility and seek input from the public. Those present were City staff, architects, area residents, new residents from the planned community, and representatives from community associations.

On November 5, 2008, the Councillor of Ward 35 requested Parks, Forestry and Recreation to begin the process of naming the new recreation facility located at 25 Mendelssohn Street in accordance with the City of Toronto's Naming and Renaming for Parks and Recreation Facilities policy.

On November 26, 2008, at the fourth public information session, City staff initiated a request to the public to submit name suggestions. Parks Forestry and Recreation staff worked with the Councillor to obtain suggestions from the community to name the new facility. The request for names was also promoted on the Councillor's website.

Two paid advertisements were placed by Parks, Forestry and Recreation to 'Name the Ward 35 Community Centre' in a local community newspaper for the February 4<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010 issues with a distribution of 20,000 households in the south/west region of Scarborough. These advertisements were placed requesting the public submit names for the facility and the name's significance, with a final submission date of February 28, 2010.

## **ISSUE BACKGROUND**

A new facility is being built at 25 Mendelssohn Street to support a growing community in Ward 35, where several new housing developments will increase the population by over 4000 new residents by the end of 2010.

The public and the new local residents were enthusiastic about the opportunity to name the new facility, and some suggestions were received the day after the first request in November 2008. A total of 24 names were submitted from the public.

## **COMMENTS**

A total of 24 submissions were reviewed by Parks Forestry and Recreation staff. Submissions were to be consistent with the criteria listed in the Naming and Renaming for Parks and Recreation Facilities Policy. Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff compared the submissions to the criteria. Nominations were also checked to avoid name duplication of existing similar facilities.

The recommended name is locally significant. Information provided by the Scarborough Historical Society confirms that the Hilltop Boarding and Riding Stables, also known as the Three Gaits Stables, was located on the actual site of the new facility, after World War II until the late 1970s, under various owners.

The facility is located on the upper slope of the hill overlooking the northeast corner of Warden and St. Clair Avenues.

The family that originally owned Hilltop Boarding and Riding Stables has provided written consent to Parks, Forestry and Recreation to use the name Hilltop. The family has stated this would mean a great deal to themselves, friends and people of Toronto who enjoyed years of horsemanship at Hilltop.

Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff have exercised due diligence in ensuring that all criteria in the Naming and Renaming for Parks and Recreation Facilities Policy has been met and recommends to City Council the naming of the facility to Warden Hilltop Community Centre.

The City would like to express its thanks and appreciation to the residents who contributed their creativity, thoughts and comments in naming the new facility.

## **CONTACT**

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## **SIGNATURE**

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