



Committee of the Whole Report

Report Number: PR2023-001
Meeting Date: March 7, 2023
Title: Kawartha Lakes Parks Advisory Committee Annual Update and 2023 Work Plan
Author and Title: LeAnn Donnelly, Executive Assistant, Community Services

Recommendation(s):

That Report PR2023-001, Parks Advisory Committee Annual Report and 2023 Work Plan, be received;

That this recommendation be brought forward to Council for consideration at the next Regular Council Meeting.

Department Head: _____

Financial/Legal/HR/Other: _____

Chief Administrative Officer: _____

Background:

The Kawartha Lakes Parks Advisory Committee was established in January 2019 to replace the former Lindsay Parks Advisory Committee to advise on significant park developments across the municipality, as well as trail system development. This includes the development of park policy, and promoting and maintaining communication with the public on park property needs and projects.

The updated Terms of Reference (2018) for the Kawartha Lakes Parks Advisory Committee stipulates that an annual report be written to Council by the end of Q1 each calendar year in line with the Committee's achievements from the previous year and to present their work plan for the upcoming year.

Rationale:

In 2022 the Kawartha Lakes Parks Advisory Committee participated in the following:

- The Committee held four meetings throughout 2022 as per our approved Terms of Reference. As a result of the ongoing pandemic meetings were held electronically.
- Received updates on major projects including Bobcaygeon Beach Park, Garnet Graham Park, Trails Master Plan, Active Transportation Plan, and I.C.I.P (Investing in Canada's Infrastructure) projects.
- Received updates on various community parks, including plans for future work and community involvement.
- Submitted a Letter to Council requesting the City investigate opportunities to create additional off-leash dog areas in Lindsay. Council referred back to staff for follow up report in Q2, 2023.
- Submitted a Letter to Council requesting the City investigate opportunities to support and increase winter use in parks and on trails by plowing parking areas adjacent to various parks and trails. Council referred back to staff for follow up report in Q2, 2023.

In the upcoming year the Committee will continue with the following:

- Discuss major parks developments and continued maintenance of existing parks.
- Provide a forum for citizens, user groups, and community agencies to raise issues and concerns regarding municipal parks.
- Continue to provide advice and guidance to City Council, through the Community Services Department, on matters pertaining to policies, development, conservation, active transportation, practices and programs related to municipal parks as required.

Other Alternatives Considered:

No other alternatives are recommended.

Alignment to Strategic Priorities:

The recommendations in this report align with the following strategic priority within 2020-2023 Kawartha Lakes Strategic Plan:

A Vibrant and Growing Economy – supporting our community parks and trails to encourage tourism and so that our communities have a strong core.

An Exceptional Quality of Life – enhancing community areas and encouraging social and healthy interactions.

A Healthy Environment – protecting and preserving natural areas while providing and maintain parks and trails for community use.

Good Government – working collaboratively with members of our community to foster teamwork within our communities.

Financial/Operation Impacts:

This is a volunteer Advisory Committee with no financial/operation impacts.

Servicing Implications:

There are no servicing implications associated with this report.

Consultations:

Manager of Parks, Recreation, and Culture

Attachments:

N/A

Department Head email: cshanks@kawarthalakes.ca

Department Head: Craig Shanks, Director of Community Services