Minutes
Trail Advisory Committee
Monday, March 11, 2019
Township of Selwyn
Lower Board Room

Present:  Bruce Bellchambers
          David Walsh
          Yvonne Spradbrow
          Ian Deslauriers
          Councillor Gerry Herron

Regrets:  Tony Davidson

Guests:   Mayor Andy Mitchell (left at 3:00 PM)

Staff:    Mike Richardson, Recreation Manager
          Tania Goncalves, Deputy Clerk

Call to Order

Mike Richardson called the meeting to order at 2:32 PM.

Mike welcomed new and returning Committee members and thanked members for their interest in the Committee. All members provide a brief introduction of themselves including their current trail(s) involvement. Mike also welcomed Mayor Mitchell who attended the meeting to provide greetings to the Committee. Mayor Mitchell thanked Committee members for their willingness to serve on a Township Committee and noted the importance of recreation and specifically trails in our community.

Election of Officers
Deputy Clerk Tania Goncalves noted that the term of the existing Chair and Vice Chair have expired.

The Deputy Clerk opened the floor for nominations for the position of Chair.

Resolution No. 2019-001 – Appointment of Chair
Moved by: Bruce Bellchambers, Seconded by: Dave Walsh,
That Yvonne Spradbrow be appointed Chair for the remaining term of Council. 
Carried.

The Deputy Clerk asked for nominations for Vice-Chair
Resolution No. 2019-002 – Appointment of Vice-Chair
Moved by: Yvonne Spradbrow, Seconded by: Councillor Gerry Herron
That Bruce Bellchambers be appointed Vice-Chair for the remaining term of Council.

Carried.

Yvonne Spradbrow assumed the role of Chair.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

Tania provided all Committee members with an information sheet with guidelines regarding pecuniary interest. It was noted that, in this case, pecuniary interest applies to Council Members however, other committee members should be aware that there can be a perceived bias from members of the public when considering matters that may result in an economic benefit to them or their spouse, parents or children. Tania provided Committee members with a some examples.

1. **Deputations and/or Invited Persons**

2. **Minutes**
   None

3. **Business Arising from the Minutes**
   None

4. **Question Period**
   None

5. **Correspondence for Discussion and/or Decision**
   None

6. **Reports/Updates**

   a) **Meetings/Procedural Guidelines/Remuneration:**

   Tania noted that the Committee receives administrative support from Township staff, including the recording of minutes, meeting preparation and communicating Committee recommendations to the Township Council and other relevant stakeholders.

   Tania brought forward that the Committee will make decisions and recommendations based on consensus. In the event consensus cannot
be reached, the Committee will vote with a Resolution moved and seconded, with majority vote prevailing.

Tania also noted that Committee members are provided with a remuneration per meeting for a maximum of 10 meetings annually. It was noted that remuneration is provided at the end of each year.

b) Handouts:

Terms of Reference

Mike reviewed the Committee’s terms of reference which was recently updated to note that Committee meetings are to be held bi-monthly and that one council member sit on the Committee as oppose to two. Mike advised that the Terms of Reference also permits the Committee to meet more frequently, if required.

2019 Meeting Schedule

Committee members were provided with the 2019 Trail Committee meeting schedule. Mike noted that staff is proposing a joint Parks and Recreation Advisory meeting in June combined with a trail/facility tour.

Recreation Trails Master Plan

Mike provided a high-level reviewed the 2019 Trails Master Plan. Mike noted that the Plan is scheduled to be reviewed/updated in 2020. Committee members asked a series of questions and discussed the option of updating the Plan in house rather than using a consultant. Mike noted that a consultant can provide an unbiased review of the existing climate and needs. Gerry noted that the Committee may want to consider a hybrid approach similar to what was used to update the Recreation Services Master Plan whereby the consultant supported some public consultation and provided an update rather than a whole new Plan. Ian noted that there may be a need to develop a whole new Plan as many changes and advances have occurred in trails over the past several years that are not captured in the existing Plan. There was a general discussion regarding the need for extensive public outreach especially to various user groups as well as new trail organization to understand their mandates and goals i.e. Trails Towns, Toronto to Algonquin.

Action: Mike to develop “next steps” for the Master Plan and explore options for Committee involvement in the process.
Action: Committee members will review the existing plan for any errors or omissions as well as develop a list of new or existing organizations that should be targeted during the public outreach process.

2019 Work Plan

The Committee reviewed the 2019 work plan.

Action: Mike will schedule a spring inspection of the Ennismore Heritage Trail with Ian. Mike to contact St. Martin’s School and the Optimist Club to set-up a work day at the Ennismore Heritage Trail in May.

7. Other, New and Unfinished Business

Fife’s Bay Request: Mike advised the Committee that the Township received correspondence from a resident requesting that the Township consider constructing a multi-use trail along Maryland Blvd. (Fife’s Bay area). The Committee reviewed the request and determined that the Township does not own lands along Maryland Blvd that would permit the construction of a trail. A multi-use trail along Maryland Blvd. would involve the Township acquiring lands from residents along the boulevard. It was also noted that the need for a trail in the subject area was not identified in the existing Master Plan.

Action: Mike to correspond with the resident to advise them of the Committee’s discussion as well as inform them that the Township will be seeking public input for the 2020 Trails Master Plan which would be a good opportunity for them to express their needs.

Water Bowls: Yvonne brought forward an example of recreational areas that have water bowls for dogs. Yvonne suggested that the Committee consider this for area’s in the Township. The Committee discussed the feasibility of moving forward with such a project. Mike noted that this would be possible at the two Township water stations (Robert E. Young Complex and the Lakefield Campgrounds).

Action: Mike to explore options and costs.

Toronto to Algonquin Greenway Request: Mike noted that he has been contacted by the Toronto to Algonquin Greenway group requesting to host a meeting at the Marshland Centre in partnership with the Trails Committee. The purpose of the meeting will be to provide information on their project which aims to link existing parks, paths and rail trails from
downtown Toronto to the forests of Algonquin Park. The meeting is proposed for Tuesday, April 2, 2019 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Committee members agreed to support the event and those available will attend.

8. **Adjournment and Next Meeting**
The Committee’s next regular meeting will take place on May 13, 2019 at 2:30 p.m.

The Trails Committee meeting adjourned at 4:55 PM.