

**Minutes of the Downtown Waterfront
Advisory Committee Meeting Held
Friday, November 24, 2017**

Present:

Mayor McDonald, Chair
Councillor King, Committee Member
Councillor Maroosis, Committee Member
Gary Gardiner, Committee Member
Jamie Lowery, Committee Member
Tracey Restoule, Committee Member
Jay Aspin, Committee Member
Keith Robicheau, Chief Administrative Officer
David Euler, Managing Director Engineering, Environmental and Works
John Severino, Managing Director Community Services
Beverley Hillier, Manager of Planning Services
Adam Curran, Policy and Business Development Planner

Regrets:

Adam Lacombe, Senior Capital Project Engineer

Special Advisory Committee Chair, Mayor McDonald, called the meeting to order at 7:32 a.m.

1. Introductory Remarks:
 - The Chair welcomed the Committee members to the meeting and highlighted that Council unanimously adopted all options brought forward by the Committee to date.
2. Adoption of Minutes:
 - The Minutes of June 9, 2017 were approved by the Committee and will be forwarded to the December 12, 2017 meeting of Council.
3. Adoption of the Agenda:
 - The Agenda was adopted by the Committee.
4. Master Plan Discussion:
 - (a) Status Update
 - Items noted complete in the Master Plan have been moved to the next Council Meeting for final approval.
 - The Geotechnical Draft Report with cost estimates is expected by late January 2018.
 - Core Area Improvements including the new splash pad/skating rink, pavilion: presentation today by the North Bay Rotary Club
 - Planning Policy – Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-Law Amendment: Recommendation adopted by Council through RTC 2017-32. Draft complete.
 - What will the Pavilion look like?
 - We are seeking a community partner to initiate conversations to determine what this will look like as a year-round farmer's market.
 - What about adding an Art Gallery and Library together as a pedestal and as a cultural component? This would be a great use and draw by having a central piece. As this is already on the books for a Capital Plan can we look at something like this?
 - (b) Splash Pad – Presentation by Rotary Clubs of North Bay & Nipissing: Jeff Celentano, Jim Evans and Bill Hagborg.

- Does your cost estimate include sewer and water service?
 - It is hopeful that the estimate would cover sewer and water service. The City has proposed \$50,000.00 to get the services to the site and the Rotary \$50,000.00.
- Often Splash Pads are a companion to a playground facility.
 - It has been recommended and this is a part of the plan as an Eco Park.
- Is the Splash Pad surface concrete?
 - The Splash Pad recommended is concrete.
- What are the ongoing operational costs of the Splash Pad?
 - The main operational cost is water. The Splash Pad fountains operate on demand, activated either by a button or by motion. The estimated operational cost is \$40,000.00-\$50,000.00 annually. The first year is maintenance free and covered by warranty. The equipment will be stainless steel further reducing costs. Water is estimated to be 80% of the cost.
- The cost seems high. Can you compare it to the Callander splash pad?
 - The Callander Splash Pad operating cost was absorbed by the Municipality and constructed for fewer than 2 million dollars but is 1/3 of the size recommended for construction in North Bay.
- What is the water source for the Splash Pad?
 - The splash pad will be connected to the City of North Bay potable water service.
- Why was this location considered rather than constructing it at the lake?
 - The access to the site is easy and still close to King's landing. The splash pad can pull people into the downtown core as it will be next to the pedestrian walkway. It provides a safe facility for children, especially knowing how the lake can be rough at times. Furthermore, the location at the waterfront did not have a large enough footprint.
- The concern is not so much about the Operating Costs but more about the recommended location given the synergistic support of the lifeguards and first aid already available at the waterfront. How does a family divide its' interests between the waterfront and the proposed Splash Pad location?
 - The Planning Committee participated in three public consultations. The location recommended by the Rotary was the one chosen by the Consultant. The Consultant considered all locations with a range of functions such as: services in the downtown core; The Farmer's Market; the Museum. The recommended location is considered a desired location in the overall Downtown Waterfront Master Plan.
- What is the total cost of the proposed change room and washroom facility?
 - We are contributing \$100,000.00 as we feel we have an obligation to provide a solution. The overall costs are unknown.
- When the water is turned on does it have to be treated?

- Yes. The water that will be used is the same that would be used for drinking water.
- The proposed location is not drawing people to the lake as the Splash Pad is located away from the lake. We have two lakes within the City, why add a Splash Pad? Why is this priority?
 - The proposed location, size and square footage is something more substantial and will draw more people to the City. The size is recommended due to the overcrowding experienced at the local one. The location is ideal for accessible concerns and as weather conditions change, the lake is more challenging. We have been working at this for 14 years. We recognize that this is a priority project and ask for support as Federal and Provincial funding applications are submitted.
- The change rooms and washrooms at the Waterfront are in need of renovations. Are we extending ourselves out too far?
 - The facilities at the Waterfront do require repairs. The facilities at the Splash Pad are to provide a localized service to reduce the pressures on the Museum facilities.
- Has there been any thought to rehabilitating the washrooms at the Marina/waterfront?
 - Condition assessments have been completed. We have not looked at the facilities at the Splash Pad because nothing has been confirmed about the Splash Pad location. People do use the washrooms at the Museum, but we know that the Museum could not handle the anticipated volume in the future. There have been some discussions about looking at a temporary washroom/change room.
- From a Policing standpoint the recommended location keeps the site safe at this location.
- This will be a daylight operation only and will not be operational after dark.
- The clustering of activity will provide an economic draw for the downtown.
- If the Committee/Council wants a different location will this affect the Rotary's involvement?
 - The Downtown Master Plan identified this site. The Rotary Club wants to build a Splash Pad!
 - There will be an Eco Park near the Splash Pad. This is a play area that is a natural space with more natural like wood logs to run and play on.
- What is taking the Geo-Technical analysis so long?
 - Soil sample analysis is underway by a consulting firm however the consulting firm is delayed.
- Were there consultations held with First Nation?
 - This was completed through an Environmental Assessment process. There was no response.

5. Recommendations to Council:

- i. Moved by Mark, Seconded by Jamie

That the Downtown Waterfront Advisory Committee supports the construction of a splash pad in partnership with our local Rotary clubs

6. Next Meeting Date: At the Call of the Chair

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 a.m.

Mayor Al McDonald
Chair Special Advisory
Committee

Judy Bechard
Deputy City Clerk