

Commons Coordinating Council Notes

June 5, 2012

Present: Bob A., Linda StC., Patrick R., Aidan S., Jinny H., Susan Y., Mary W., Victor A., George S., Kit S. Judith R., Pat M., Doug M.

Team Reports and Discussion

Fundraising and Grant Writing

It was felt that the impact of the articles about the Commons and our Fund Raising efforts was instrumental in our receiving the generous donation of \$150,000. A second wave of the donor drive will begin in July
The Lions donated \$4,000 to assist in our repair of the deck
We will apply for the Agri-Spirit grant

Share the Commons

The EEV information that has been collected will be placed in the Commons Archives for use in the future.
STC will have a walk-about to assess building usage and stages of readiness for use in the future.

T.A.G.S.

The sign that Rick Cranston made will be placed at the entrance to the Commons near the tennis court.
Space made by the Daphne eradication is being replanted with native species plants.
Camp Miriam campers will be coming again to help us with the Daphne eradication. If you can assist this process please contact Mary Wilson who is coordinating our efforts.

Covenant

The Covenant's Baseline Report needs to record the presence of all native animal species on the Commons —everything from frogs to dragon flies, from once-a-year trumpeter swans to beavers! Please send your observations to Judith Roux.

Communications

The Proposed Swap and Shop event needs to be reviewed to insure compliance with bi-laws. Stef to contact RDN for us.
Considering funding cost of fundraising from the fundraising returns
Contact Jinny with 200 word articles for publication ASP

Trustees

Met twice last month

Finances: The \$100,000 donation that went directly to pay off the mortgage, saved an estimated similar amount in interest (\$100,000). We now owe about \$340,000 on our mortgage.

In order to determine how to spend the remaining \$50,000 on projects and maintenance the Trustees are asking every team to make recommendations as to what projects/repairs they feel are important and to bring those to the next Commons Council with estimated costs. We are asked to look at these by categories of: maintenance, large projects and mid/small. These can also be sent to Victor but will be presented and discussed at our next Council on July 3.

Covenant

Draft is now going to the web site. Covenant Holders will be sent copies and will be asked to give their response by the end of summer.

The Charter will need to come "in line" with the covenant.

The Stewardship plan will be completed by the Covenant team along with the Base Line report.

Bookings

It is important that all meetings go through Bookings so that there will be no mix ups. ...and prior to the meeting date!

Learning Opportunities Team

Committed to get input from all teams on what ideas they have for workshops. There will be a cheese making workshop coming up and will be announced.

Farm Management Team

Kitchen garden almost fully planted; "little field" in progress; orchard and blueberries looking fruitful! .

Public meeting for Namaste group coming soon

Saturday Workbees continue: from 9 to noon with soup. All welcome!

Naomi Melnyk and Linda Neilson are co-organizing the Fall Fair. Date TBA

"Waterers" are need for summer drought times. Contact Susan Yeend.

People for a Healthy Community

Home and Garden Tour is on June 24

Cleaning up after construction is still to be worked on

Rollo Centre wants shed but it needs to be moved

Infrastructure

Work ongoing on mapping the infrastructure of the Commons (as part of the Baseline Report of the Covenant)

We need to develop a form for recognizing donations given in memory of a specific person or group (plaque or ?)

Ideas proposed: quarterly newsletter to papers:
create library for resource material;
possible connection with GIRO (incl. biodiesel)
develop solar hot water system for Commons
Colorful site map of Commons at the entrance

Long Range Planning

Members of the LRP Task Force will be requesting time with every team to explore their view of the future plans for the Commons. This will hopefully be done over the next two months and feedback given by the end of summer and before our AGM.

Next meeting of the Commons Council will be on July 3 at 7 pm at the Commons.