

NOTLINE NEWS

A NEWS UPDATE FROM THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF *Niagara-On-The-Lake*

Issue # 191 – July 21, 2010

DOCK AREA SECONDARY PLAN GOES FORWARD

The Planning Advisory Committee, after minor modifications, endorsed the Dock Area Secondary Plan and recommended its approval to Council. The revised Plan was arrived at after the public meeting in June and discussions with property owners in the area. The Committee modifications dealt principally with the water's edge public walk, public access to the waterfront, and future acquisition of public lands in the area. The staff report noted the Plan revisions were made in response to the input at the public meeting and noted should the Plan be approved by Council, it will be forwarded to the Niagara Region for consideration and approval, which would take approximately three months.

TOURIST ACCOMMODATION REVIEW

The Planning Advisory Committee endorsed a staff recommendation to move forward with a comprehensive review of the small scale tourist accommodation industry and to continue with the Bed and Breakfast Committee to conduct the review. The Committee was initially established to assist in resolving the Niagara-on-the-Lake Bed and Breakfast Association's appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board, which resulted in approved Minutes of Settlement providing for the comprehensive review of regulations and policies governing small scale tourist accommodations. The staff report also provided for an increase of two persons to the review committee and noted the review will deal with all operations, including country inns, cottage rentals, and boutique suites.

SIGN MONITOR RECOMMENDED

The Planning Advisory Committee modified a recommendation from the Municipal Heritage Committee (MHC) and staff regarding a sign permit for an interior television monitor display showing a number of properties for sale. The Town's Sign Committee recommended a variance for the sign, while MHC and staff recommended denial as it was not in keeping with the policies for the Heritage District. The Planning Committee recommendation was made following a delegation from the operators of the Sotheby's Realty at 66 Queen Street.

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Corporate Services Advisory Committee referred a proposed Code of Conduct for Councillors back to the Code of Conduct Task Force for further consideration and input on the implementation and potential compensation for an Integrity Commissioner. The Task Force reviewed other municipal Codes and recommended a simplified version be incorporated as a schedule to the Town's Procedural By-law, along with modifications to the

By-law. The report stated an Integrity Commissioner is not required to be appointed, however, the Task Force noted if a Code is adopted, it is advisable to have a Commissioner in place to address potential breaches.

COUNCIL SUMMARY – JUNE 28, 2010

Town Council, in association with the Niagara Advance, presented the 2010 Volunteer Recognition Awards. Recipients in the various categories were as follows: Working with Seniors – Barb Wood, Contribution to Youth – Charlene Juras, Contribution to Culture – Pat Lamb, Contribution to Heritage – Terry and Ruth Boulton, Contribution to Environment – Melissa Hellwig, Contribution to Education – The Friends of NDSS, Contribution to Sports and Recreation – Bob Tebbutt, Contribution to a Service Club – Jim and Stephanie Goertz, Contribution to the Needy or Disabled – Bryan Marcus, Contribution to Community Events – Jane Andres, Volunteer Under 21 – Zan Dominick. The Peggy Anderson Award for outstanding volunteer of the year was presented to the Friends of NDSS.

Lord Mayor Gary Burroughs commented on a number of events which occurred during the past two weeks, including the dedication of the Bob Howse Trail; hosting of Polish Sunday; the Senior Citizen's Strawberry Social, where over 300 seniors were entertained; the annual Air Cadets parade at Niagara District Airport; and a luncheon session with the Prime Minister of Vietnam.

A delegation was received from a Music Niagara representative who provided Council with an overview of the upcoming 2010 season. Information on their performances can be obtained by contacting their offices at the Pumphouse on Ricardo Street or visiting their website at www.musicniagara.org.

Council modified a recommendation of the Public Works Advisory Committee regarding a requested fence encroachment at 34 Vincent Avenue and directed staff to prepare the encroachment agreement for Council's consideration.

The balance of the recommendations of the Committee of the Whole were adopted without change.

Council endorsed a recommendation directing staff to prepare a financing program for homeowners who are forced to replace grinder pumps which have failed prematurely.

Two delegations regarding an Ontario Municipal Board (OMB) appeal to the Comprehensive Zoning By-law by the Bed and Breakfast Association were postponed as Council did not have a quorum due to a conflict of interest declaration. A special Council Meeting was held on June 29 to hear the delegations. Council approved the Minutes of Settlement with the Bed & Breakfast Association to avoid a costly OMB Hearing.

The next regular Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 26, 2010, with regular business starting at 7:00 p.m. This Newsletter, as well as information on meeting schedules and delegation procedures, is available on the Town's website at www.notl.org. Further questions may also be directed to the Town Clerk's Department at 905-468-3266.

Lord Mayor Gary Burroughs, Councillors: Jim Collard, Dennis Dick, Terry Flynn, Andrea Kaiser, Jack Lowrey, Martin Mazza, Art Viola, Gary Zalepa