Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee
No 1 - 24

AGENDA

Wednesday, April 24, 2024
Second Room, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 50 Dickson Street
7:00 p.m.

Meeting Called to Order

Disclosure of Interest

Presentations

Jenna Brown-Jowett, Director of Corporate Strategy on the City’s Strategic Plan – Cambridge Connected.

Delegations

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday, December 20, 2023

Recommendation:

THAT the decisions contained in the December 20, 2023 minutes be considered for errors or omissions and adopted.

Reports

Subcommittee Reports

1. City Green Subcommittee Meeting Notes

Recommendations:

THAT the Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC) receives the meeting notes from the January 8, February 5, March 4 and April 8, 2024 meetings of City Green;

AND FURTHER THAT they be appended to the April 24, 2024 CEAC minutes for distribution.

Please Note: If you cannot attend the meeting or if you have added agenda items please contact Karin Stieg-Drobig:
519-621-0740 Ext. 4816 or by e-mail: stiegdrobigk@cambridge.ca
Information Items


Other Business

Next Meeting

Date and Time: Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Location: Secord Room, 2nd Floor, City Hall, 50 Dickson Street

Close of Meeting

THAT the CEAC meeting does now adjourn at __ p.m.

Distribution:

Alison Fraser, Cynthia Brown, Danielle Lindamood, Derrick Roy, Jonas Duarte, Linda Foster, Lisa Grbinicek, Nelson Cecilia, Nichole Daniels, Ryleigh McDermid and Councillor Hamilton
MINUTES
Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee
No. 4-23
Wednesday, December 20, 2023
City Hall, Secord Room, 2nd Floor

Committee Members in Attendance: Alison Fraser, Cindy Brown, Danielle Lindamood, Derek Roy, Jonas Duarte, Linda Foster, Lisa Grbinicek, Nichole Daniels, Ryleigh McDermid and Councillor Hamilton

Regrets: Nelson Cecilia

Staff in Attendance: Kathy Padgett, Senior Planner – Environment, Karin Stieg-Drobig, Recording Secretary

Meeting Called to Order
The regular meeting of the Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC) was held in the Secord Room, 50 Dickson Street, Cambridge, Ontario. Jonas Duarte welcomed everyone to the meeting and the meeting was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

Disclosure of Interest
There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

Presentations NIL
Delegations NIL

Minutes of Previous Meeting
Moved by: Cindy Brown
Seconded by: Lisa Grbinicek
THAT the decisions contained in the October 23, 2023 minutes be adopted as written.
CARRIED

Reports

Subcommittee Reports

1. City Green Subcommittee
Nichole shared that Cambridge has received a Bee City designation and a pollinator event will be hosted by rare Charitable Research Reserve in spring of 2024. The group continues to work on a
low tech version of the walking tour for Main Street. The Cambridge Community Clean Up is scheduled for April 20. A new project taking shape for the group is the Victoria Park Forest Management Plan which will include the removal of invasive plant species and replanting in the woodlot and footpaths of Victoria Park.

Moved by: Danielle Lindamood  
Seconded by: Derek Roy

THAT the Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC) receives the meeting notes from the November 6, 2023 meeting of City Green;

AND FURTHER THAT they be appended to the December 20, 2023 CEAC minutes for distribution.

CARRIED

2. Renewing the Ontario Invasive Species Strategic Plan

Moved by: Derek Roy  
Seconded by: Jonas Duarte

THAT the Cambridge Environmental Advisory Committee (CEAC) appoints the following members to the Renewing the Ontario Invasive Species Strategic Plan Subcommittee:

Lisa Grbinicek and Cindy Brown

CARRIED

Correspondence

NIL

Information Items

The CEAC 2024 meeting dates were shared for information.

Other Business

The Committee discussed the status of the Blair-Preston Trail and Pedestrian Bridge Class EA and inquired about the status of the Regional Ecological and Environmental Advisory Committee (EEAC).

Next Meeting

The next meeting of CEAC is scheduled for January 24, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Secord Room.

Close of Meeting

Moved by: Danielle Lindamood  
Seconded by: Linda Foster

THAT the CEAC meeting does now adjourn at 7:52 p.m.
CARRIED

Jonas Duarte  
Chairperson

Karin Stieg-Drobig  
Recording Secretary
NOTE HYPERLINKS IN THE MEETING NOTES ARE IN **BOLD, BLACK, UNDERLINED FONT**

**Attendance:** Linda Simpson, Cassidy Mowbray, Nichole Daniels, Paul Willms, Kelly Pritchard, Laura Pritchard

**Regrets:** Moira Gilderson, Sandy Forsyth

**Roundtable welcome to any Guests or New Members**

1. **Review of Meeting Notes and Action Items**
   - In addition to current meeting discussion and action items, some project background information is provided in the Meeting Notes for a base of information.

2. **City Green in the Community**

   **Cambridge Bee City Team**
   - City Green members are welcome to attend meetings – Cambridge Bee City meets 3 times a year (March, June, November) 10-11:30 am. - next meeting is March 28, 2024, 10-11:30 am. [Click here to join the meeting]
   - Cambridge Bee City Canada documents and projects reporting are online
   - Pollinator event ("Bee City Seedy Saturday") will be hosted by rare Charitable Reserve, March 9, 2024. City Green members encouraged to attend to get ideas for the Victoria Park project (e.g. seedballs) and/or participating with a City Green booth at the next pollinator event.

   **Jane’s Walk / Mill Creek self-guided online tour (this is the link to the Google doc)**
   - Jane Jacobs was an urbanist and author who was interested in building community. An event was created in her honour and it occurs the first weekend in May ("Jane’s Walk"). Walks are planned and delivered all over the world on a variety of subjects. In the past, Cambridge City Green members have developed and hosted walks on the Victoria Park Forest Management Plan and Mill Creek. Following the Mill Creek walk, the group wanted to create a self-directed and/or permanent walk with interpretive signage and online resources.

   - At the February 2023 meeting, Ben Watson and Lynda Oleson provided a presentation on creating an "augmented reality" app version of the Mill Creek tour whereby they would develop an "app", load it on the app stores, etc. The package would then be handed off to the City for administration and hosting and the City would own the data / app (without a "subscription" or ongoing cost from a vendor). The total cost would be approximately $60,000. This is not in City budgets at this time and beyond City Green’s (modest) annual budget. Funding would need to be accessed from other sources such as the Regional Tourism
association, Community Foundation(s), corporate sponsorship, or other grants. But first, the content would have to be further developed by City Green.

- After discussing possible funding sources, the group felt the next steps would be:
  1. Make inquiries re: the potential funding sources identified in the brainstorm but hold off on speaking to any corporations until a presentation and “pitch package” has been completed (and also the initial version/project content of the tour is completed – in the Historic Downtown Walking tour format – so that it can be demonstrated where we are and where we would like to go).
  2. Finish the project content (the stops and complete the “low-tech version” in the same format as the Historic Downtown Walking tour (i.e. some text and a photo of each “stop”). This link above shows that format.
  3. Once the project content is done and in the Historic Downtown Walking tour format, create a slide deck (and any other materials such as a handout) for corporate sponsorship presentations.

- Fundraising Ideas (continued) – 50th Anniversary grants; Gore Mutual, Galt Lions Club, Regional Tourism, Community Benefits funding from a major development along the creek, etc.

- Subcommittee: Kelly, Linda, Diane, Moira, Cassidy

**ACTIONS:**

- LS will assemble the subcommittee to discuss next steps
- A “low tech example” (similar to the Historic Walking Tour but based on Google not Story GIS) would be the Natural Heritage Tour
- complete text and find photos for each destination; subcommittee and CG members can help by going to the Google Doc and
  - working on the text for existing 10-15 stops
  - working on new stops (text and photos) especially in the section of creek that goes underground / piped from Main St. to mouth (ask PW for the route map pdf file as he had the modern underground stormwater pipe/piped creek route overlaid on the 1851 map so that mill ponds locations could be visible....points of interest, such as the 19th century mill ponds, could be written up and perhaps an archival photo found?)
  - adding an “indigenous” stop(?) or info to applicable stops
  - seek great photos in Archives online databases and perhaps some new photos taken by members at stops. Find the oblique map of Galt downtown core.
to get help from Archives staff specific questions or information should be known in advance and the form must be completed and submitted in advance of a visit to Archives / meeting with Dan Schmalz

- TREEmendous Cambridge
  - The tool (at the link above) can be used on someone’s phone to look up information on ~500 trees on public properties with a diameter above 1 metre as well as ~50,000+ street trees. They can also view their tree canopy coverage (in %) for their school, property, etc. The information presented includes the species, diameter, Google Street View and address of the tree, and a statement about what the tree contributes in terms of “ecosystem services” (for example, one of the five statements is “*Trees combat climate change by absorbing CO2, storing the carbon and releasing oxygen into the air. This reduces our overall carbon footprint. According to the National Tree Benefit Calculator, you would need 10 trees the size of this one to offset the carbon footprint of*”)

3. Cambridge Community Clean Up
   - April 20, 2024 will be the date for the next Cambridge Community Clean Up

**ACTION:**

- Paul to confirm inventory of supplies next meeting / we have enough for the event.

4. Brainstorm new projects
   - The group held a brainstorm at the November in-person meeting with several new members in attendance and generated a number of ideas.
   - At the December meeting the group reviewed the ideas through a 10-step process to further refine, evaluate and decide on project(s) around the theme of implementing the **Victoria Park Forest Management Plan**.
   - At the January meeting the group further refined the projects in the table below

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This could potentially be broken up into two separate events a week apart - e.g. have the talk first and then the action project a | May/June Jane’s Walk  
Autumn | 20 persons | Sam Scarlett – general issues  
Glen Prevost – Forest Plan  
recommendations  
Cassidy Mowbray – invasives  
Groundcovers – anytime, but summer months  
Garlic Mustard – May/June  
Woody Invasives (“Extractagators”) - Autumn  
Kristen Grittani – closing footpaths + planting | Paul to meet with City Forester  
Identify planting locations  
Review Kelly’s Jane’s Walk tour  
Identify dates that work for speaker, action event host and CG members |

**Ideas the City Green Group is Currently Discussing**
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**ACTIONS**

- Cassidy to reach out to Glen Prevost to gauge his interest in giving a walk/presentation about the Forest Management Plan he wrote, the species along the way, interesting stories he uncovered, and the recommendations of the plan
- Paul to reach out to Jaden’s mother to see if he would be interested in leading an activity around seedballs construction (for the February CG meeting)
- Paul to reach out to City Forestry staff and discuss the idea of implementing the Forest Management Plan through CG actions and events
- Paul to order appropriate native seeds, and other materials, for seedballs construction at the February meeting. Paul to confirm for CG members
whether February will be a seedball / IN-PERSON meeting at Dickson Arena the week before (if not, if supplies have not arrived, may have to go to March for seedball building)

- The City Green group to further refine the projects, timing, budgets, etc. at future meetings

5. Information Items
   - 604 members as of November 1, 2023 and 624 members as of January 8, 2024

6. NEXT MEETING: February 5, 2024 6:30-8pm

   CAMBRIDGE CITY GREEN CALENDAR

   - **City Green Meetings**: (usually the first Monday of the month 6:30pm – 8 pm; if there is a statutory holiday we meet the next Monday; we do not meet in July/August).

   - NEXT CITY GREEN MEETING (FEBRUARY) – SEED BALL BUILDING IN-PERSON MEETING

   - Next Cambridge Bee City Team Meeting – March 28, 2024, 10-11:30 am. [Click here to join the meeting]

   - Cambridge Bee City Team Pollinator event (“**Bee City Seedy Saturday**”) – March 9, 2024, 10-12 noon,

   - Cambridge Community Clean Up – April 20, 2024, 9:30-12 noon
CAMBRIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CEAC)
Cambridge CITY GREEN
Meeting Notes
Monday February 5, 2024  6:30 – 8 p.m.
In-Person Meeting at Dickson Arena

NOTE: HYPERLINKS IN THE MEETING NOTES ARE IN **BOLD, BLACK, UNDERLINED FONT**

**Attendance:** Linda Simpson, Diane Day, Paul Willms, Moira and Cardiff Gilderson, Cassidy Mowbray, Nichole Daniels, Paul Willms, Kelly Pritchard, Jaden Mojica and Jen Orlowski

**Regrets:** Sandy Forsyth

**Roundtable welcome to any Guests or New Members**
The group welcomed Jaden Mojica and Jen Orlowski. Jaden has been involved with City Green projects since he was five years old (e.g. tree planting, trout release, litter clean ups, etc.), as well as his own projects, and was nominated by City Green for a Youth Environmental Award in 2023. Jaden regularly cleans up his neighbourhood (see photo). He was invited to the City Green meeting to tell the group more about his fundraising and habitat enhancement projects around Monarch butterflies and to teach City Green members his techniques for making seedballs.

**Seedballs**

This City Green meeting was an “in-person training session” on how to build seedballs (i.e. clay, soil, native wildflower seeds) so that City Green members:

1. could start their new project focused on enhancing Victoria Park (and Cambridge Pollinator Preserve)

2. would gain experience with seedballs so that they have the capacity and supplies to teach others and/or to host a seedball-making activity in order to contribute to pollinator habitats or at events (e.g. Cambridge Bee City events, City Green workshop events, etc.).

After Jaden taught the group how to make seedballs, City Green members tried a few different methods of construction and made ~180 seedballs in one hour.

Supplies will be stored at the Dickson Arena storage closet for future seedball construction or activities. Native seeds are only viable for 1-2 years after collection. It was thought that the **clay from Michaels** was easier to work with, could work with any construction method, was cheaper and more readily available than the **clay powder from Pottery Supply House**.

**ACTIONS:**

- PW to dry out seedballs and then cold stratify them in outdoor storage.
- The group to decide at their March meeting whether or not to use the April 8th meeting to “plant” the seedballs at Cambridge Pollinator Preserve / Victoria Park or choose an alternative date in March or April for planting.

The January Meeting Notes (below) are carried forward. In addition, the Mill Creek subcommittee met in January and their notes were added below.
1. Review of Meeting Notes and Action Items
   o In addition to current meeting discussion and action items, some project background information is provided in the Meeting Notes for a base of information.

2. City Green in the Community

Cambridge Bee City Team
   o City Green members are welcome to attend meetings – Cambridge Bee City meets 3 times a year (March, June, November) 10-11:30 am. - next meeting is March 28, 2024, 10-11:30 am. Click here to join the meeting.
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Jane’s Walk / Mill Creek self-guided online tour (this is the link to the Google doc)
   o Jane Jacobs was an urbanist and author who was interested in building community. An event was created in her honour and it occurs the first weekend in May ("Jane’s Walk"). Walks are planned and delivered all over the world on a variety of subjects. In the past, Cambridge City Green members have developed and hosted walks on the Victoria Park Forest Management Plan and Mill Creek. Following the Mill Creek walk, the group wanted to create a self-directed and/or permanent walk with interpretive signage and online resources.
   o At the February 2023 meeting, Ben Watson and Lynda Oleson provided a presentation on creating an “augmented reality” app version of the Mill Creek tour whereby they would develop an “app”, load it on the app stores, etc. The package would then be handed off to the City for administration and hosting and the City would own the data / app (without a “subscription” or ongoing cost from a vendor). The total cost would be approximately $60,000. This is not in City budgets at this time and beyond City Green’s (modest) annual budget. Funding would need to be accessed from other sources such as the Regional Tourism association, Community Foundation(s), corporate sponsorship, or other grants. But first, the content would have to be further developed by City Green.
   o After discussing possible funding sources, the group felt the next steps would be:
     1. Make inquiries re: the potential funding sources identified in the brainstorm but hold off on speaking to any corporations until a presentation and “pitch package” has been completed (and also the initial version/project content of the tour is completed – in the Historic Downtown Walking tour format – so that it can be demonstrated where we are and where we would like to go).
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- Fundraising Ideas (continued) – 50th Anniversary grants; Gore Mutual, Galt Lions Club, Regional Tourism, Community Benefits funding from a major development along the creek, etc.

- Subcommittee: Kelly, Linda, Diane, Moira, Cassidy. Moira will steer/chair the subcommittee. Cassidy will upload onto an on-line platform (City GIS staff can assist and the subcommittee only needs to provide text and images (photos, maps, etc., i.e. one photo per stop).

- Meeting Notes from January subcommittee:
  - we should have a downloadable PDF document for the use of those people who don't have data. City Graphics can assist in creating a “brochure” or just an 8 X 11 sheet that people can download
  - we will search for info about the stops that is already available (public facing) so that we can add links into our documents
  - we would like to offer this project in different languages to reflect the diversity of Cambridge

**ACTIONS:**

- group to walk the route March 2nd, 10am, start at Soper Park parking lot. Next subcommittee meeting (Teams) is Feb.12th, 6:30pm

- A “low tech example” (similar to the Historic Walking Tour but based on Google not Story GIS) would be the Natural Heritage Tour

- complete text and find photos for each destination; subcommittee and CG members can help by going to the Google Doc and
  - working on the text for existing 10-15 stops
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Galt Core Heritage Conservation District Project
of Galt downtown core.

- to get help from Archives staff specific questions or information should be known in advance and the form must be completed and submitted in advance of a visit to Archives / meeting with Dan Schmalz

  - **TREEmendous Cambridge**
    - The tool (at the link above) can be used on someone’s phone to look up information on ~500 trees on public properties with a diameter above 1 metre as well as ~50,000+ street trees. They can also view their tree canopy coverage (in %) for their school, property, etc. The information presented includes the species, diameter, Google Street View and address of the tree, and a statement about what the tree contributes in terms of “ecosystem services” (for example, one of the five statements is “*Trees combat climate change by absorbing CO₂, storing the carbon and releasing oxygen into the air. This reduces our overall carbon footprint. According to the National Tree Benefit Calculator, you would need 10 trees the size of this one to offset the carbon footprint of one car. That’s TREEmendous!*”

3. Cambridge Community Clean Up

  - April 20, 2024 will be the date for the next Cambridge Community Clean Up

**ACTION:**

- Paul to confirm inventory of supplies next meeting / we have enough for the event.

4. Brainstorm new projects

  - The group held a brainstorm at the November in-person meeting with several new members in attendance and generated a number of ideas.

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### Other Related Ideas for implementing the Victoria Park Forest Management Plan

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The City Green group to further refine the projects, timing, budgets, etc. at future meetings

5. Information Items
   o 624 members as of January 8, 2024 and 635 members as of February 6, 2024

6. NEXT MEETING: March 4, 2024, 6:30 pm – 8 pm

CAMBRIDGE CITY GREEN CALENDAR

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o Cambridge Bee City Team Pollinator event (“Bee City Seedy Saturday”) – March 9, 2024, 10-12 noon, rare ECO Centre and Slit Barn, 768 Blair Road. See the event link above for more details

o Next Cambridge Bee City Team Meeting – March 28, 2024, 10-11:30 am. Click here to join the meeting

o Cambridge City Green Seedballs “planting” – April 8th (City Green meeting) or alternative dates TBD in March or April

o Cambridge Community Clean Up – April 20, 2024, 9:30-12 noon
NOTE: HYPERLINKS IN THE MEETING NOTES ARE IN **BOLD, BLACK, UNDERLINED FONT**

**Attendance:** Linda Simpson, Diane Day, Paul Willms, Moira Gilderson, Cassidy Mowbray, Nichole Daniels, Kelly Pritchard, Laura Pritchard

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   - City Green members are welcome to attend meetings – the Cambridge Bee City team meets 3 times a year (March, June, November) 10-11:30 am. - next meeting is March 28, 2024, 10-11:30 am. [Click here to join the meeting](#)
   - Cambridge Bee City Canada documents and projects reporting are online
   - Pollinator event ("**Bee City Seedy Saturday**") will be hosted by rare Charitable Reserve, March 9, 2024 10-12 am at the ECO Centre/slit barn at 768 Blair Rd.. City Green members are encouraged to attend to get ideas for the Victoria Park project (e.g. seedballs) and/or participating at a City Green booth giving away native seeds packs.

   **Mill Creek self-guided online tour** (this is the link to the Sharepoint Site with all of the files for the project)
   - Jane Jacobs was an urbanist and author who was interested in building community. An event was created in her honour and it occurs the first weekend in May ("Jane’s Walk"). Walks are planned and delivered all over the world on a variety of subjects. In the past, Cambridge City Green members have developed and hosted walks on the Victoria Park Forest Management Plan and Mill Creek. Following the Mill Creek walk, the group wanted to create a self-directed and/or permanent walk with interpretive signage and online resources.
   - At the February 2023 meeting, Ben Watson and Lynda Oleson provided a presentation on creating an "augmented reality" app version of the Mill Creek tour whereby they would develop an “app”, load it on the app stores, etc. The package would then be handed off to the City for administration and hosting and the City would own the data / app (without a “subscription” or ongoing cost from a vendor). The total cost would be approximately $60,000. This is not in City budgets at this time and beyond City Green’s (modest) annual budget. Funding would need to be accessed from other sources such as the Regional Tourism association, Community Foundation(s), corporate sponsorship, or other grants. But first, the content would have to be further developed by City Green.
After discussing possible funding sources, the group felt the next steps would be:

1. Make inquiries re: the potential funding sources identified in the brainstorm but hold off on speaking to any corporations until a presentation and “pitch package” has been completed (and also the initial version/project content of the tour is completed – in the Historic Downtown Walking tour format – so that it can be demonstrated where we are and where we would like to go)

2. Finish the project content (the stops and complete the “low-tech version” in the same format as the Historic Downtown Walking tour (i.e. some text and a photo of each “stop”). This link above shows that format.

3. Once the project content is done and in the Historic Downtown Walking tour format, create a slide deck (and any other materials such as a handout) for corporate sponsorship presentations.

- Fundraising Ideas (continued) – Gore Mutual, Galt Lions Club, Regional Tourism, Community Benefits funding from a major development along the creek, etc.

- Subcommittee: Kelly, Linda, Diane, Moira, Cassidy. Moira will steer/chair the subcommittee. Cassidy will upload onto an on-line platform (City GIS staff can assist and the subcommittee only needs to provide text and images (photos, maps, etc., i.e. one photo per stop)

- Meeting Notes from January and February subcommittee meetings:
  - The group walked the route and did a first draft of how the walk could work; Cassidy worked on a map and the group worked on the content and accessed some photos from Archives online databases
  - we should have a downloadable PDF document for the use of those people who don't have data. City Graphics can assist in creating a “brochure” or just an 8 X 11 sheet that people can download
  - we will search for info about the stops that is already available (public facing) so that we can add links into our documents
  - we would like to offer this project in different languages to reflect the diversity of Cambridge. Google translate?
  - the group noted it would be good to have the platform / launch on Jane’s Walk event date. This may be challenging as there is only one City Green meeting date (April) to review the draft and not the finished product before launch
  - May 4th – Jane’s Walk event – Moira and Linda could provide the walk

ACTIONS:

- send PW the content for City staff to upload to the Story GIS platform
- PW to investigate Sculpture Garden oak audio and sign
- Linda / Cassidy could provide the walk on May 4th and launch the product
- complete text and find photos for each destination
3. Cambridge Community Clean Up

- The poster is complete, mobile signs are contracted, supplies are purchased
- Idea Exchange Locations and City Green volunteers:
  - Queen’s Square – Linda, Nichole
  - Clemens Mill / St. Benedicts – Laura, Paul
  - Hespeler – Sandy, John, Matt
  - Preston – Moira, Diane
- Pick up of supplies at Dickson Arena, 30 Park Hill Rd., on Friday, April 19th and set up at the Idea Exchange locations 5pm – 5:30pm
  - 11 am – Diane
  - 3:45 pm – Sandy
  - 4 pm – Nichole
  - Paul to set up Clemens Mill location

**ACTIONS**
- CG volunteers to pick up supplies April 19th and set up at Idea Exchange locations 5pm-5:30pm before closing
- PW to send the group the one-page suggested litter clean up locations and routes file for further comment or development
- PW produce an “event poster” for advertising City Green event(s) that follow the Clean Up event for each booth (e.g. Jane’s Walk, Autumn Victoria Park walk, TBC.

4. Victoria Park Forest Management Plan Implementation

- The group held brainstorming sessions at their December and January meetings to define a new project around a particular City property and as Victoria Park had a management plan, and a City Green volunteer had interpreted it and provided a Jane’s Walk in the past, Victoria Park woodlot was chosen. Ideas included:
  - Invasives species removal (e.g. garlic mustard – May/June; woody invasives such as buckthorn with “extractagators” – Autumn / October-November
  - Tree planting for healthy understory / regeneration (May)
  - Closing / replanting footpaths to reduce the impacts to the interior forest habitat (May)
  - Interpretive walks (Autumn: City Forester, Glen Prevost/Forest Plan author, Jane’s Walk, etc)
  - Wildflower planting (seedballs) at the pollinator habitat (May)
Seedballs were created using native wildflower seed at the February meeting.
City Forestry staff are supportive of the City Green initiatives and can help with walks, invasives control, and planting if City Green can provide the volunteers.
Cassidy mentioned that May is the key times for garlic mustard removal (before it goes to seed) and buckthorn usually retains its leaves into October and can be removed then.

**ACTIONS**

- CG volunteers to use their May 6th meeting to plant the seedballs at the Cambridge Pollinator Preserve
- June 3rd meeting to be used for a walk in Victoria Park forest with the City Forestry staff to discuss projects
- Walk event October 5th or 19th pending availability of City Forester
- City Green to develop timeline for Victoria Park public events at next meeting

**5. Information Items**

- 635 members as of February 6th and 649 members as of March 4th

**6. Other Business**

- Linda asked if there were any other topics people wanted to discuss – Region’s education programs about litter, reducing the amount of garbage, targeted education and involvement of schools in litter events were discussed.

**7. NEXT MEETING: April 8, 2024, 6:30 pm – 8 pm** (virtual, April 1st is Easter Monday so our meeting is “bumped” to April 8th)

**CAMBRIDGE CITY GREEN CALENDAR**

- **City Green Meetings:** (usually the first Monday of the month 6:30pm – 8 pm; if there is a statutory holiday we meet the next Monday; we do not meet in July/August).

- Cambridge Bee City Team Pollinator event (**“Bee City Seedy Saturday”**) – March 9, 2024, 10-12 noon,

- Next Cambridge Bee City Team Meeting – March 28, 2024, 10-11:30 am. [Click here to join the meeting]

- Thursday, March 28th 10-11:30, Bee City team meeting
- Monday, April 8th, 6:30-8pm (regular virtual City Green meeting…. April 1st is Easter Monday so our meeting is bumped to this date)
- Friday, April 19th – pick up supplies at Dickson Arena to set up at Idea Exchange locations 5-5:30 (11 am – Diane; 3:45 pm – Sandy; 4 pm – Nichole)
- Cambridge Community Clean Up – April 20, 2024, 9:30-12 noon
- Jane’s Walk – Mill Creek walking tour – TBC – Saturday May 4th or Sunday May 5th depending on when others are offering walks; launch the online version if it is ready
- May 6th City Green meeting to plant the seedballs at the Cambridge Pollinator Preserve – meet at the boathouse 6:30 pm – PW to send more details, directions
- June 3rd City Green meeting, 6:30-8pm to be used for a walk in Victoria Park forest with the City Forestry staff to discuss projects, TBC
- June – possible garlic mustard pull event, TBC
- Thursday, June 6th, 10-11:30, Bee City team meeting
- Monday, September 9th, 6:30-8pm, City Green meeting (virtual)
- Saturday, October 5th or 19th TBC – walk event in Victoria Park with City Forestry staff
- Monday, October 7th, 6:30 – 8pm, in-person City Green meeting at Dickson Arena
- Monday, November 4th, 6:30 pm, virtual City Green meeting
- Thursday, November 7th, 10-11:30, Bee City Team meeting
- Monday, December 2nd, 6:30-8pm, virtual City Green meeting
CAMBRIDGE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CEAC)
Cambridge CITY GREEN
Meeting Notes
Monday April 8, 2024       6:30 – 8 p.m.

NOTE: HYPERLINKS IN THE MEETING NOTES ARE IN BOLD, BLACK, UNDERLINED FONT

Attendance: Diane Day, Paul Willms, Moira Gilderson, Cassidy Mowbray, Nichole Daniels, Laura Pritchard, Linda Simpson

Regrets: Sandy Forsyth, Kelly Pritchard

Roundtable welcome to any Guests or New Members

1. Review of Meeting Notes and Action Items
   - In addition to current meeting discussion and action items, some project background information is provided in the Meeting Notes for a base of information

2. City Green in the Community

   Cambridge Bee City Team
   - Bee City Seedy Saturday event
     - 3-4 times the usual audience participation (ie. ~200+ people attended! and this was ~100 more than the inaugural event and without 2 busloads of people, i.e. another ~100 who could not make it due to other commitments); the event was well-received by partners and public; Diane Day helped at the City Green booth and Nichole Bonner attended as well. City Green booth distributed seed packets and garden signs. Next year City Green should participate again by giving away 100 native seed packs. There was a large variety of vendors and different displays. It was very busy and somewhat overwhelming and it would have helped to have people directing the event or having a booth at the front with someone providing information.
   - next meeting, June 6th City Green members are welcome to attend meetings – the Cambridge Bee City team meets 3 times a year (March, June, November) 10-11:30 am. - next meeting is March 28, 2024, 10-11:30 am. Click here to join the meeting
   - Pollinator Week June 17-23, 2024
   - Cambridge Bee City Canada documents and projects reporting are online

   Mill Creek self-guided online tour (this is the link to the Sharepoint Site with all of the files for the project)
   - Jane Jacobs was an urbanist and author who was interested in building community. An event was created in her honour and it occurs the first weekend in May (“Jane’s Walk”). Walks are planned and delivered all over the world on a variety of subjects. In the past, Cambridge City Green members have developed and hosted walks on the Victoria Park Forest Management Plan and Mill Creek. Following the Mill Creek walk, the group wanted to create a self-directed and/or permanent walk with interpretive signage and online resources.
   - At the February 2023 meeting, Ben Watson and Lynda Oleson provided a presentation on creating an “augmented reality” app version of the Mill Creek tour whereby they would develop an “app”, load it on the app stores, etc. The
package would then be handed off to the City for administration and hosting and the City would own the data/app (without a “subscription” or ongoing cost from a vendor). The total cost would be approximately $60,000. This is not in City budgets at this time and beyond City Green’s (modest) annual budget. Funding would need to be accessed from other sources such as the Regional Tourism association, Community Foundation(s), corporate sponsorship, or other grants. But first, the content would have to be further developed by City Green.

- After discussing possible funding sources, the group felt the next steps would be:
  1. Make inquiries re: the potential funding sources identified in the brainstorm but hold off on speaking to any corporations until a presentation and “pitch package” has been completed (and also the initial version/project content of the tour is completed – in the Historic Downtown Walking tour format – so that it can be demonstrated where we are and where we would like to go)
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- Subcommittee: Kelly, Linda, Diane, Moira, Cassidy. Moira will steer/chair the subcommittee. Cassidy will upload onto an on-line platform (City GIS staff can assist and the subcommittee only needs to provide text and images (photos, maps, etc., i.e. one photo per stop)

- Meeting Notes / highlights from subcommittee meetings:
  - March 11 subcommittee meeting update – met about the text and revising it
  - Mill Creek Jane’s Walk – post event on City Green site and the Jane’s Walk Waterloo Region site and use the updated stops led by Linda and Cassidy, Sunday May 5th, 11am.

**ACTIONS:**
- Linda / Cassidy post to event to City Green site and provide the walk on May 4th
- complete text and find photos for each destination

**TREEmendous Cambridge**
- The tool (at the link above) can be used on someone’s phone to look up information on ~500 trees on public properties with a diameter above 1 metre as well as ~50,000+ street trees. They can also view their tree canopy coverage (in %) for their school, property, etc. The information presented includes the species, diameter, Google Street View and address of the tree, and a statement about what the tree contributes in terms of “ecosystem services” (for example, one of the five statements is “Trees combat climate change by absorbing CO2, storing the carbon and releasing oxygen into the air. This reduces our overall carbon footprint. According to the National Tree Benefit Calculator, you would need 10 trees the size of this one to offset the carbon footprint of one car. That’s TREEmendous!”

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page 2
3. Cambridge Community Clean Up
   - Volunteers at locations:
     - Hespeler – Sandy and family
     - Queen’s Square – Linda, Nichole
     - Preston – Diane, Moira
     - Clemens Mill – Laura, Paul
   - Schedule for pickup of supplies (please set up your booth 5-5:30pm at your location:
     12:30 am – Diane
     3:45pm – Sandy
     4:30pm – Nichole
     Paul will set up Clemens Mill
   - Diane suggestion that seed packets be provided for give-aways for Cambridge Community Clean Up (produce 50 packs per location, first-come-first-served?).
   - Create a poster for more info about City Green events, etc. = Linda

ACTIONS
- Linda to produce poster and send to PW. Paul can print several 8 X 11 for handouts and an 11 X 17 poster for the tables. Subjects include Waste Whiz, how to join City Green, how to join an event, link to Treemendous Map, links to Bee City Canada.
- Diane / Moira to ask Idea Exchange staff if it would be alright to give away seeds next year (given that they have seed give-aways at Preston IE)

4. Victoria Park Forest Management Plan Implementation
   - The group held brainstorming sessions at their December and January meetings to define a new project around a particular City property and as Victoria Park had a management plan, and a City Green volunteer had interpreted it and provided a Jane’s Walk in the past, Victoria Park woodlot was chosen. Ideas included:
     - Invasives species removal (e.g. garlic mustard – May/June; woody invasives such as buckthorn with “extractagators” – Autumn / October-November
     - Tree planting for healthy understorey / regeneration (May)
     - Closing / replanting footpaths to reduce the impacts to the interior forest habitat (May)
     - Interpretive walks (Autumn: City Forester, Glen Prevost/Forest Plan author, Jane’s Walk, etc)
     - Wildflower planting (seedballs) at the pollinator habitat (May)
   - Seedballs were created using native wildflower seed at the February meeting
   - City Forestry staff are supportive of the City Green initiatives and can help with walks, invasives control, and planting if City Green can provide the volunteers. However, at this time there are not enough staff to support projects. City Forestry should take the lead and so City Green can pause until we can walk with the City Forester and discuss projects
   - Cassidy mentioned that May is the key times for garlic mustard removal (before it goes to seed) and buckthorn usually retains its leaves into October and can be removed then

ACTIONS
- PW to reach out to City Forester in August about October Walk; alternatively we could contact Glen Prevost to provide the walk
- CG volunteers to use their May 6th meeting to plant the seedballs at the Cambridge Pollinator Preserve.
June 3rd 6:30pm walk in Victoria Park woodlot with City Green members. City Green members should review the Management Plan prior to the event.

5. City Green Members

We currently have 8 members. We recently (November 2023) reached out through www.CambridgeCityGreen.ca for more members and had 3 join us for a brainstorming session. We will also have an opportunity to recruit new members at the Cambridge Community Clean Up (banner). Should we aim to have about 15-20 people on the committee? How do we get additional members? The group noted the following methods of recruiting more members:

- Moira noted that every month we have events going on and these are opportunities to see if people are interested in the planning of City Green events
- PW noted we could leverage City social media as well and ask Communications to send out a post
- Post recruiting messages on the Facebook Group and Meetup Site
- Cassidy noted that different methods could be used – email address list, different social media platforms, having methods whereby people don’t need to create an account, etc.
- Laura noted that groups are on X, Instagram, and get exposure through different platforms and perhaps City Green should also be on those platforms

ACTIONS

- LS to post on Facebook and PW to start an email distribution list.

6. Information Items

- 647 members as of March 4th and 661 members as of April 4th

7. Other Business

8. NEXT MEETINGS:

- May 6, 2024, 6:30-8pm (Riverbluffs Park – meet at the boat house parking area at 6pm and then we’ll walk to the Cambridge Pollinator Preserve to plant the seedballs). IF it is light rain, dress for the weather but if it is heavy/continuous rain we will cancel (PW will confirm the day of the event). Use “165 or 251 George St. N. in your phone/navigation program to get there. Park close to the boathouse. We will walk from the boathouse down the trail to the Cambridge Pollinator Preserve to plant.
• June 6, 6:30pm. City Green walk in Victoria Park (Galt) to become more familiar with the woodlot and its issues. If raining we will have a regular virtual meeting (Paul will confirm). Use “99 Wentworth” in your phone/car navigation program and park on the street (SEE MAP – we will meet at the deadend of Wentworth and walk the route you see in red on the map.

CAMBRIDGE CITY GREEN CALENDAR

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  o Cambridge Community Clean Up – April 20, 2024, 9:30-12 noon
  o Jane’s Walk – Mill Creek walking tour – TBC – Saturday May 4th or Sunday May 5th depending on when others are offering walks; launch the online version if it is ready
  o May 6th City Green meeting to plant the seedballs at the Cambridge Pollinator Preserve – meet at the boathouse 6:30 pm – PW to send more details, directions. If raining hard PW will cancel / we will have a regular virtual meeting.
  o June 3rd City Green meeting, 6:30-8pm, Victoria Park (Galt)走 to become more familiar with the park and woodlot. If raining it will be a regular City Green meeting (virtual)
  o Thursday, June 6th, 10-11:30, Bee City team meeting
  o Pollinator Week, June 17-23, 2024
  o Monday, September 9th, 6:30-8pm, City Green meeting (virtual)
  o Saturday, October 5th or 19th TBC – walk event in Victoria Park with City Forestry staff
  o Autumn (Sept./Oct) – American Chestnut planting event, buckthorn pulling event (TBC)
  o Monday, October 7th, 6:30 – 8pm, in-person City Green meeting at Dickson Arena
  o Monday, November 4th, 6:30 pm, virtual City Green meeting
  o Thursday, November 7th, 10-11:30, Bee City Team meeting
  o Monday, December 2nd, 6:30-8pm, virtual City Green meeting