



MATHISON PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA

Date: September 4, 2024

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Place: Council Chamber
(1 Ottawa Street East, Havelock ON)

Call to Order

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

No written Declarations of Pecuniary Interest were received prior to the publication of the agenda.

Self-Introductions of Committee Members

Minutes:

1. February 22, 2022

Delegations:

None.

Business:

1. Grant – Upgrade to Parking Lot. (Verbal)
2. Knotweed Update.
3. Signage. (Verbal)
4. Talking Forest App. (Verbal)
5. Committee Appointments Expiring. (Verbal)

Other Business

None.

Next Meeting

TBA

Adjournment



**TOWNSHIP OF HAVELOCK-BELMONT-METHUEN
MATHISON CONSERVATION AREA
COMMITTEE MEETING**

MINUTES

Attendees:

Hart Webb, Deputy Mayor
Beverly Flagler, Councillor
John Nurse
Paul Wood
Michael Czerewko
Joshua Vettor.

Regrets:

Bianca Boyington, Deputy Clerk
Josh Storey, Supervisor of Parks, Recreation and Facilities

Guests:

None.

A Regular Meeting of the Mathison Conservation Area Committee for the Township of Havelock-Belmont-Methuen was held on February 22, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. in the Township Council Chamber.

Chair Deputy Mayor Webb called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and requested that members declare any pecuniary interest if and when it should arise.

Approval of Minutes (October 25, 2023 and November 2, 2023):

Moved by John Nurse
Seconded by Michael Czerewko

That the minutes from the October 25, 2023 and November 2, 2023 Mathison Conservation Area Committee be approved as presented.

Carried

Delegations:

None.

Business:

1. Grant – Upgrade to Parking Lot

A discussion took place regarding a grant opportunity for the upgrade of the Mathison Property parking lot. It was suggested that the main lot could be graded when necessary instead of paved. Staff is preparing the grant application that includes lighting. It was noted that a parking lot could be developed off of Newton Avenue.

Moved by Michael Czerewko
Seconded by John Nurse

That a grant be submitted to the Ontario Trillium Foundation seeking assistance for the upgrade of the Mathison Trail Parking Lot located at the Community Centre.

Carried

2. Knotweed Update

Deputy Mayor Webb noted that knotweed is difficult to eradicate. Harsh chemicals cannot be used. This remains a work in progress.

3. Signage

The committee discussed the need for a sign at the entrance to the Mathison Property. It was suggested that a sign could be erected at William Street. It was also suggested that wayfinding signs could be placed at the highway and at the Arena directing people to the Mathison Property. A banner could be placed identifying the Mathison Conservation Area.

4. Talking Forest App

This remains a work in progress. A new application with a new company is required.

5. Boardwalk

Deputy Mayor Webb noted that a boardwalk would be nice to have but grant funding will be required to get this accomplished.

Moved by Paul Wood
Seconded by John Nurse

That staff investigate the cost of constructing a picnic shelter that could be located at the lookout.

Carried

Other Business:

None.

Next Meeting

The next meeting date is yet to be determined.

Adjournment:

Moved by John Nurse
Seconded by Michael Czerewko

That this meeting adjourns at 5:58 p.m. Carried.

Chair

Secretary

From: Humphrey, Jenna <JHumphrey@ptbocounty.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2024 1:40 PM
To: Bob Angione <BAngione@hbmtwp.ca>
Subject: Re: Japanese Knotweed

Good Afternoon Bob,

First of all, my apologies in the delay in response. I have been doing a lot of field work lately and then with the Good Roads conference last week I have fallen behind in my emails.

I received a few concerns about Japanese Knotweed last year as it seems to be present in various townships throughout the County and residents have questions on how to best handle the invasive species.

Good news - the plant is not poisonous/harmful for humans to touch. Bad news is it has a large and dense root system which means excavating the weed by hand can be challenging if you do not succeed in removing the entire root. There are a few approaches you can try to eradicate the weed:

1. Depending on the location of the Japanese Knotweed on the property you could attempt a large-scale excavation with a backhoe, digging deep enough to get the entire root system. If you had the resources you could also try to dig out the root system by hand, as I mentioned the weed is not harmful to humans to touch
2. Tarp the weed with a dark material (best to start in early spring when the plant is still young) and you can essentially "cook" the root system with the heat generated from sunlight on the dark tarp
3. Continuous mowing/cutting of the weed (this is typically to help manage the growth and not eradicate)
4. Chemical application

It is important to note with these invasive species and noxious weeds that it can take 3-5 years of management before you will see full eradication of the weed. I have read that if you are going to try to excavate the invasive species it is recommended to replant the excavated area with non-invasive plants to help with outcompeting the invasive species.

Below is a resource I have referred to on more than one occasion for information on Japanese Knotweed:

https://www.ontarioinvasiveplants.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/JapaneseKnotweed_BMP.pdf

There is also a tool on the Ontario Government website (<https://www.ontario.ca/page/invasive-species-ontario>) where residents can use a map to report sightings of invasive species within their community: <https://www.eddmaps.org/>

As a township, it would be up to you as to whether or not you would want to manage the spread of an invasive weed using chemical application. If this is the route you choose to

pursue, I am more than happy to go to the conservation area and map out the Japanese Knotweed for our weed sprayer (GreenStream), but this is also something you could source out on your own, if you prefer.

During my road tours for noxious weeds, I can tell you that I see invasive species everywhere. If you choose to spray at one location where Japanese Knotweed is present, be mindful there may be additional requests from residents for chemical sprays at other locations.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Thanks,

Jenna Humphrey
Operations Coordinator

Public Works Division
County of Peterborough
(705) 742-4862 x6102
jhumphrey@ptbocounty.ca
www.ptbocounty.ca



From: Bob Angione <BAngione@hbmtwp.ca>
Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 3:17 PM
To: Humphrey, Jenna <JHumphrey@ptbocounty.ca>
Subject: Japanese Knotweed

Hi Jenna:

I am writing to you in your capacity as one of the weed inspectors in HBM. The Township has knotweed in a public conservation area that has spread to some private residences. Do you have any suggestions for the removal of knotweed? I realize that you deal with noxious weeds and not invasive species but I was hoping that perhaps you can lead us to a solution as the Township is getting complaints from residents.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this email.

Regards,
Bob

Bob Angione, M.P.A., B.Admin.

*Chief Administrative Officer and Municipal Clerk
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