Agenda - Executive Policy Committee - March 5, 2008

REPORTS

Item No. 5 Friends of Peanut Park – Land Dedication Reserve (River Heights-Fort Garry Ward) File EP-2

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 26, 2008, the City Centre Community Committee recommended to the Executive Policy Committee:

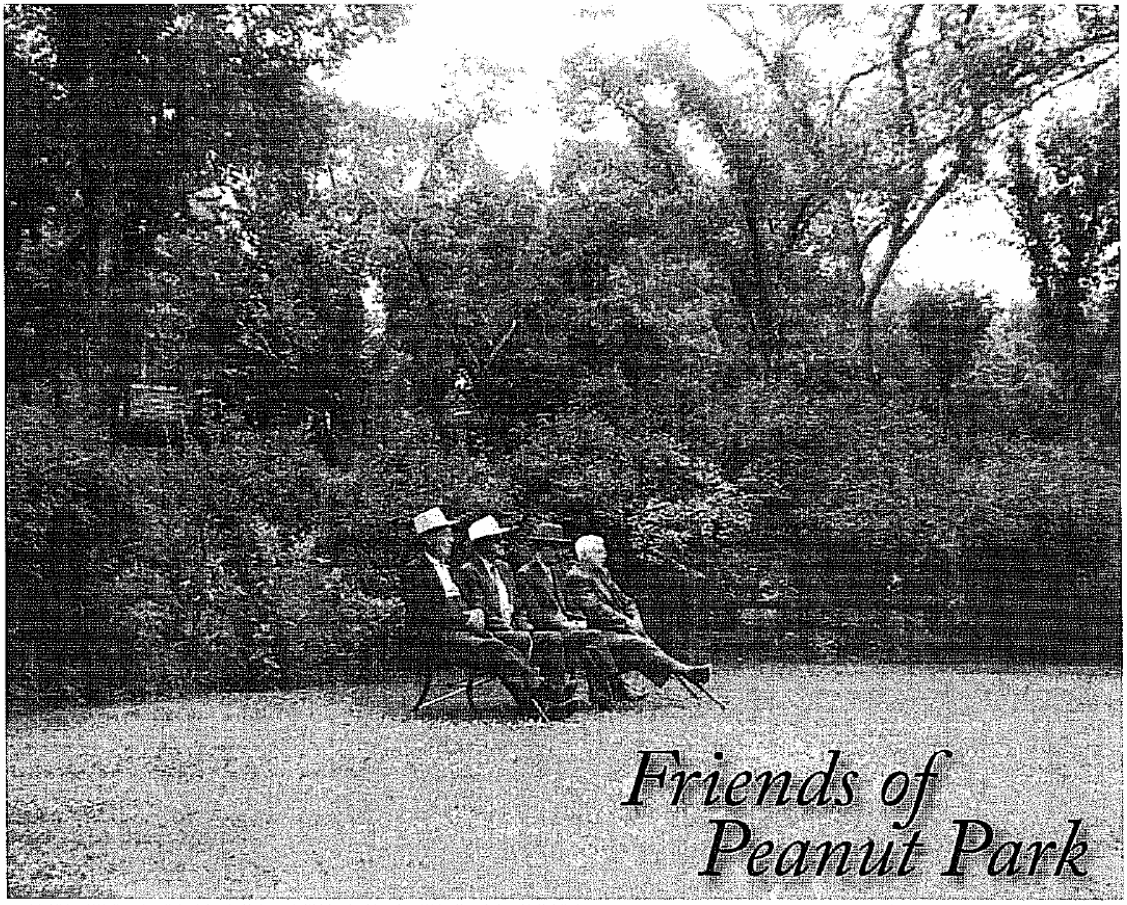
1. That funding to assist with starting up costs of the Peanut Park project, in the amount of $10,000.00 be allocated from the City Centre Land Dedication Reserve to the Friends of Peanut Park.

2. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

COMMUNITY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On February 26, 2008, the City Centre Community Committee recommended to the Executive Policy Committee that funding to assist with starting up costs of the Peanut Park project, in the amount of $10,000.00 be allocated from the City Centre Land Dedication Reserve to the Friends of Peanut Park.



Friends of Peanut Park

WHEN CHAS H. ENDERTON DEVELOPED CRESCENTWOOD, HE ALLOCATED LAND FOR A PARK. In 1902, the land was dedicated to the City of Winnipeg with conditions relating to the parks upkeep. A quote from his instructions to the City reads as follows: "provided your board will agree to improve the same and keep it in proper condition as a public park. In order that there should be no misunderstanding, I would require that, as soon as possible, next year, the park be laid out and fenced and trees and shrubs planted in order that the same may be growing and that it be improved from time to time in the harmony with the development and improvements of the abutting property." Pictures from the early years show the original enhancements and the grand design that is still somewhat evident in the placement of the mature trees and walking paths. It would appear however that Chas Enderton's dream has not been maintained.

The Friends of Peanut Park is a new organization consisting of neighbors living close to Peanut Park who would like to see the park restored to a much higher standard and maybe even capturing most of its original charm. It seems that over the decades and especially with the loss of the on site gardener, the park has sorely missed some basic TLC as its maintenance became more and more institutionalized by the city. Peanut Park gradually lost its finer appointments, the manicured gardens, distinctive pathways and decorative fencing. At one time there were once adult swings, giant flowering urns and a water fountain all adding to its unique charm. Many of us who walk through the park with our neighbors and pets believe we can bring this park back with a little effort.

White Table Cloth Dinner in the Park

Last June Rick Bel and Ida Albo (Hotel Fort Garry) hosted a wonderful dinner in the park to kick off the idea and provide a perfect forum for discussion about how we could get the rejuvenation process going. This event was certainly an upgrade from our tradition hot dogs and salad fare at the annual Peanut Park get together. It inspired many of us to marshal our efforts and get moving. Thank you again Ida and Rick.

Peanut Park Action Plan

The neighbors are moving now and here is what we have accomplished to date. We have formally incorporated our organization. Thanks to John Myers and Taylor McCaffrey, Friends of Peanut Park Inc. has been created. We also have three directors with Al Kowalec (who has agreed to serve as treasurer) joining John and myself.

Brenda Lypsic, Deputy Mayor and our Councilor, has been very supportive and helpful in directing our efforts and identifying grant opportunities. Brenda assisted us in seconding Christina Harris, a City of Wininpeg Landscape Architect. Christina worked on the park over this past summer and created the necessary drawings and work plan to cover the basic necessities of the project. Through her advise and as we assembled a long term needs list, it became very evident that this was going to be into a multi year project. The park would require some basic and expensive work before we could talk about any quaint features.

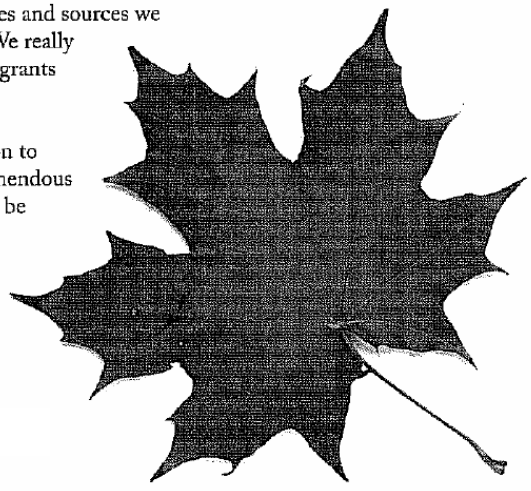
To begin with and as a first stage, we need to tackle the drainage problems in the south east quadrant. In addition, there is an urgent need to address the issues surrounding the health of the trees. Besides much needed maintenance of the existing vegetation, we need to look at replacement of material that forms the structure of the park. The paths also need to be upgraded as many areas have lost their definition. This will be expensive but the good news is that the city is very supportive and there are many funding sources for such requests. We have a list of 17 granting programs or foundations for the work we need done.

Fund Raising

Nicola Guttormson has agreed to spearhead a neighbourhood fund raising program because it is critical that all of us neighbors pony up some of our own money and prove that we are serious about improving our neighbourhood park. Mayor Katz has indicated to me that it is easier for him to justify funds for a south Winnipeg park when complimentary and local money is committed. I assured him that there is willingness on behalf of the neighbors to support this project both as volunteers and financially.

More Volunteers Needed

The Friends of Peanut Park have officially registered under the Adapt a Park Program and we are ready to begin applying for funds. Since there are so many opportunities and sources we now need some more help to apply and secure grant money. We really need at least 2 -3 people that would be willing to work on the grants (the paperwork and the follow up).



Finally, it would be wonderful to have a communications person to work at keeping us all up to date. Holly Beard has done a tremendous job of organizing the Annual Picnic in the Park and we would be able to give her a hand as well.

So if you would like to get involved and help out with any of the above areas: grants, communication or anything else please call or email me

Nick Logan:

PRELIMINARY COST ESTIMATE

Planning, Property and Development Department

Planning and Land Use Division
Unit 15, 30 Fort Street

Winnipeg

Name ENDERTON ('PEANUT') PARK

Project Park Renewal

Item No.	Description	Unit	Approx. Quantity	Unit Price	Amount
	GRADING				
1	Site Grading in east corner of Park	SM	500	$4.00	$2,000.00
2	Site Grading in skating area	SM	220	$4.00	$880.00
3	Land Drainage Engineer Consultant	LS	1	$1,000.00	$1,000.00
4	Supply and install new Catch Basin	ea	1	$3,000.00	$3,000.00
5	Supply and install Lead C.B. Pipe (250mm)	LM	15	$250.00	$3,750.00
6	Tie into existing Land Drainage Sewer line	ea	1	$1,000.00	$1,000.00
7	New Seed over graded area	SM	720	$6.00	$4,320.00
	Cost Estimate for CB & Grading of Skating area and East Corner of site				$15,950.00
	PATHWAY				
7	Supply and install new Limestone pathway, incl. Excavation	SM	1184	$40.00	$47,360.00
	Cost Estimate for new Pathway				$47,360.00
	INTERIOR OF SITE				
8	Re-grade interior of site	SM	3400	$4.00	$13,600.00
9	Sod interior of site	SM	3400	$12.00	$40,800.00
10	Remove existing trees & supply and install of new trees (x 7)	ea	3	$1,920.00	$5,760.00
	Cost Estimate for renewing central area of site				$60,160.00
	SITE FURNITURE				
12	Supply and install benches	ea	6	$1,500.00	$9,000.00
13	One-time cost sculpt and mold historic planter	LS	1	$5,500.00	$5,500.00
14	Casting planters	ea	6	$500.00	$3,000.00
	Cost Estimate for Site Furniture				$17,500.00

Construction Cost Estimate of all Areas	$140,970.00
Construction Contingency @ 5%	$7,048.50
TOTAL COST ESTIMATE	$148,018.50