Minutes – Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, Heritage and Riverbank Management – May 7, 2015

REPORTS

Item No. 3 Winnipeg Zoning By-law – Bee Keeping

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, Heritage and Riverbank Management directed that the Winnipeg Public Service investigate and report back, at its September 18, 2015 meeting, on the following:

1. A cross jurisdictional analysis and a summation of best practices over several Canadian cities of urban bee keeping in particular on the roof tops of high buildings.

2. Recommendations for amendments to the Downtown Winnipeg Zoning By-law No. 100/2004 to allow for the keeping of bees on building roof tops in the downtown.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Gerbasi,

WHEREAS the maintenance of a healthy bee population is critical to sustaining bio-diversity through the pollination of vegetation;

AND WHEREAS the declining population of bees throughout North America has been recognized as a significant environmental issue;

AND WHEREAS many Cities have amended by-laws and adopted policies to encourage the practice of urban bee keeping in an effort to restore and enhance the bee population;

AND WHEREAS a number of property owners in Downtown Winnipeg have expressed an interest in establishing bee colonies on high roof tops;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Winnipeg Public Service be directed to investigate and report back at the September 18, 2015 meeting of the Standing Policy Committee on Downtown Development, Heritage and Riverbank Management on the following:

1. A cross jurisdictional analysis and a summation of best practices over several Canadian cities of urban bee keeping in particular on the roof tops of high buildings.

2. Recommendations for amendments to the Downtown Winnipeg Zoning By-law No. 100/2004to allow for the keeping of bees on building roof tops in the downtown.

Carried

Jason Patterson, submitted a communication from Richard Bel, Managing Partner/Owner, Fort Garry Hotel, in support of the matter.