



Thousand Islands Parkway Multi-Use Recreational Trail Committee

# Meeting Notes Arising from Public Meetings of July 14 and 15, 2021

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July 14 and 15, 2021 – **Zoom** Platform Meetings

**Registration** Via Eventbrite

**Circulated Materials:** Personalized Invitation including meeting Agenda, PDF Event Flyer including Registration Links, Previous Meeting Notes of June 2 and 3, 2021 for process continuity.

## **Meeting Notes:**

**Overall** – there were a total of 46 participants in 2 public meetings, one on July 14, 2021 – 630-830 pm and the second meeting July 15, 2021, 130-330 pm.

There is general agreement and encouragement for the development of the Thousand Islands Parkway Multi-Use Recreational Trail Committee (TIPMURTC), and there was agreement that the process continue, and that the larger group formulate a smaller Core Leadership Group (CLG) of about 18 persons, to streamline the processes and provide immediate guidance on issues for resolution through the TIPMURTC development process.

## **1. Introduction of Participants**

- a. Led by Greg Faaren, St. Lawrence Parks Commission, (SLPC). Greg introduced the staff of St. Lawrence Parks Commission, and invited the members of the public, and other interested parties, sitting in on the meeting, to introduce themselves.

During the introductions the participants were able to learn more about where each of the members of the public where from, including which part of the Thousand Islands Parkway (TIP), what their interest is in the process and what they hoped for through the development of a Thousand Islands Parkway Multi-Use Recreational Trail Committee.

## **2. Review of Progress to Date**

1. Led by Greg Faaren from SLPC there was a review of:

a. Review of the notes of the first meetings June 2 and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021, Greg led the participants through a review of the notes section by section providing detail on purpose and suggested actions arising from the notes.

b. Questions Arising – there were no questions arising from the notes of June 2 and 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021.

c. Governance and Role Feedback on the TIPMURTC –

i. Questions were posed by the public as to the composition and functioning of the TIPMURTC, the group reviewed the progress to date – that 18 of the first 72 participants in the larger public process of June 2 and 3<sup>rd</sup> has stepped forward to provide leadership in an acting capacity to the entire TIPMURTC process.

ii. To provide greater clarity to the process, in Section 3 of tonight's meeting there is a presentation that helps to ground the management role of the SLPC in relation to the TIPMURTC, as well as some of the history of the relationship between the SLPC and trails on its property, and the nature of the conditions of the trail road environment that require mitigation, through the workings of the SLPC and the TIPMURTC.

## **3. Presentation with SLPC staff and Patrick Connor OTC**

1. Overview of the roles and responsibilities of the SLPC to the TIPMURTC

### **a. Committee Structure and Role review**

i. Participant input – the members present indicated that a core group acting in leadership to the process is the way for the larger group to go. The Municipalities and the SLPC have provided 8 persons to the CLG, the public has self-identified 10

### **b. Slide Deck Presentation**

i. Participant input – Greg Faaren, Jennifer Tarini and Patrick Connor reviewed the slide deck – Greg detailed the SLPC Vision and Mission, Jennifer Tarini described the SLPC Park/Trail relationship, Patrick provided detail on the roles and responsibilities of various trail stakeholders to the larger TIPMURTC process. The group reviewed the 8 fundamental principles of successful Recreational Trail Committee operation.

### **c. Issue Identification**

i. Participant input –

1. Maintenance – there was discussion about general maintenance on the TIP, brushing and ecology issues to

preserve the important ecological benefits of a treed trail, and a wide enough corridor to accommodate the summer and winter activities.

2. Winter Ploughing and Recreational Uses in the TIP corridor were discussed from a managed recreational trail perspective. It was suggested that a discussion plan with residents and trail users alike be formulated to ensure effective winter maintenance for residents functioning in harmony with trail activity – snowmobiling, cross country skiing, winter biking and winter walking/hiking/running.

#### **4. Next Steps**

##### 1. Future Meeting Dates

**a. Core Leadership Group** – the participants in the meeting were asked to complete a fillable PDF providing input to 5 areas of enquiry -

**1. Trail Partners** – List Local Partners – identify local partners we haven't met with yet, as well as reinforce the suggested purpose and function, and provide a suggested Job Description for these types of TIPMURTC Member.

i. Purpose and Function:

Organizations who have a direct stakeholder function with the trail - municipalities, direct trail land management organizations

**2. Regional Groups** - List Local Regional User Groups – identify local regional partners we haven't met with yet, as well as reinforce the suggested purpose and function, and provide a suggested Job Description for these types of TIPMURTC Member.

i. Purpose and Function:

Regional User Groups that are not directly involved with the trail management but for whom the trail is a significant regional user destination or user experience.

**3. Regional Resource Bodies** - List Local Resource Bodies – identify local resource partners we haven't met with yet, as well as reinforce the suggested purpose and function, and provide a suggested Job Description for these types of TIPMURTC Member.

i. Purpose and Function:

These organizations include health units and other regional promotion organizations, such as The Great Waterway or the Brockville DMO

**4. Regional Advisory Bodies** - List Regional Advisory Bodies – identify local partners we haven't met with yet, as well as reinforce the suggested purpose and function, and provide a suggested Job Description for these types of TIPMURTC Member.

i. Purpose and Function:

To provide additional levels of support from other jurisdictions such as provincial federations, ministries at the provincial level, federal departments operating in the

region.

**5. Project Identification After Today:**

Participants were asked to consider the following question – Given the creation of a working group to formulate a Regional Management Council I think our next two tasks should be:

Next steps include the collection of answers – participants were asked to complete the questions by July 28, 2021. A commitment was made to share the questions via a fillable pdf. A commitment was made to consolidate this feedback for the next CLG meeting, suggested date: August 19, 2021.

**b. Thousand Islands Parkway Multi-Use Recreational Trail Committee** – deferred through the public meeting schedule leading to two culminating meetings at the end of September.

**5. Meeting Adjourn** – Mr. Faaren called the meetings to a conclusion at 8:30pm and 3:30pm on July 14 and 15<sup>th</sup>.

**APPENDIX 1 – Public Presentation**

[Link](#)

**APPENDIX 2 – PDF Questions for Public Input**

[Link](#)