

**FEBRUARY 19, 2019
MALLORYTOWN, ON**

A Special Meeting of the Council of the Township of Front of Yonge was held on the evening of February 19, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Roger Haley, and Councillors Fancy, Marcoux, Massey and Williams were in attendance.

Also in attendance from the St. Lawrence Parks Commission were Robert Runciman, Commission Chair; Hollee Kew, CEO and General Manager; Jennifer Tarini, Director of Parks and Recreation; Susan LeClair, Acting Director of Marketing & Customer Experience; Geoff Waycik, Director of Historic Sites; and Stephanie Plumpton, Planning & Development.

Mayor Haley opened the public meeting by welcoming all in attendance, and introducing SLPC chair and staff. He then proceeded to outline the purpose of the public meeting, which was primarily to collaboration, communication and local attractions.

Various suggestions were made to enhance communication and marketing for the Parks Commission local attractions, such as the bike path along the St. Lawrence Parkway, Skywood Eco Adventure Park and Brown's Bay. This lead into discussion regarding current operations at Brown's Bay Park. Residents have many concerns, including hours of operations, access to the park/water by vehicles or boats, discounted park passes or other incentives/discounts for Front of Yonge residents as well as maintenance at the park. Residents also spoke to the winter conditions of the bike path and not clearing the path in the winter for users, and the lack of facilities along the bike path.

Concerns were also raised regarding the lack of communication between SLPC staff and residents. It was heard that when residents try contacting the SLPC they have to leave messages, which go unanswered.

Councillor Marcoux also brought up that the SLPC currently charges Front of Yonge Township and Leeds and the Thousand Islands in order to access the parking lot at Brown's Bay and the bike path for the annual Parkway Challenge event.

Mrs. Kew gathered all concerns raised and the information brought forth, and will arrange a meeting to further discuss and work with the Township Clerk on communication matters. She recognized that staff not answering/properly dealing with concerns from residents was unacceptable, and a mechanism will be put in place for better communication practices.

Suggestions on more printed communications and up-to-date website information could be a starting point on increasing communication. Township staff can work and coordinate with SLPC staff to advertise events on the Township's website. Rack cards and booklets could be placed at various tourism locations throughout the Township, such as the Mallorytown Station, Township Office, Library and campgrounds.

Chairman Runciman spoke to his personal experience in using Brown's Bay Park over the years. He ensured that he looks forward to, and will be discussing various ways to improve the site and operation with the St. Lawrence Parks Commission Board and staff.

The meeting ended at approximately 6:50 pm.

Mayor, Roger Haley

Clerk, Jennifer Ault