

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – MAY 28, 2007

DESIGNATION OF THE WOODBRIDGE EXPANSION AREA OPEN SPACE AND OF ITS PRINCIPAL TRAIL

Recommendation

Councillor Tony Carella recommends that the Woodbridge Expansion Area (WEA) Open Space be designated "Elder's Mills Park", and that the principal trail within the space be named "The McCallum Trail".

Economic Impact

Nil

Communication Plan

The source of the requests to these effects will be informed by the ward councillor; the unveiling of signage designating the area as Elder's Mills Park and of the principal trail therein as The McCallum Trail shall be the occasion of a media release, to inform the public of the renaming and of the historic nature of the names of both the park and the trail.

Purpose

To effect the request of the Elder's Mills Women's Institute that the name of the park reflect the history of the area, and that the name of the principal trail within the park acknowledge the presence of the McCallum family in the area for some eight decades.

Background – Analysis and Options

Margaret McClure, Secretary, Elder's Mills Women's Institute (EMWI), recently informed Councillor Carella (see attachment) that at their meeting of May 7, 2007, the EMWI requested these designations, to acknowledge the historical fact that the mills which give the area its name were located within the WEA Open Space, and that the McCallum family farmed in the area for some eighty years, beginning in 1858.

The designation of the park with an appropriate place-name, as well as the commemoration of an early settler family by the naming of the principal trail traversing the park after that family, is entirely appropriate, particularly as this year marks the 125th anniversary (or quasiquicentennial) of the incorporation of the Village of Woodbridge, of which this area was and is a part.

Regional Implications

Nil

Relationship to Vaughan Vision

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council.

Attachments

Letter of Margaret McClure, Secretary, Elder's Mills Women's Institute

Report prepared by:

Councillor Tony Carella

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Tony Carella

May 10, 2007.

Mr. Tony Carella,
Ward 2 Councillor,
City of Vaughan.

Dear Sir:

This past weekend we became aware of the planting of trees on the northeast corner of Highway 27 and Rutherford Road, now known, I believe, as "Woodbridge Expansion Area Open Space". The Elder's Mills Women's Institute met on May 7th and we would like to submit a request that the area be renamed ELDER'S MILLS PARK. This is the site of the mill dam and the 'flats' where the football team played and community picnics were held so we think it would be appropriate to have the Elder's Mills name used in this way.

If the trail through the area is to be named, we would like to suggest "The McCallum Trail" as the McCallum family farmed in this community since 1858 and owned this property for 80 years.

We also feel it would be an asset to the park to have a heritage sign erected similar to the one now in Knox Vaughan cemetery.

We thank you for your consideration of our requests and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours truly,

Elder's Mills Women's Institute


Secretary

Margaret McClure
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CcMayor Linda Jackson
Mr. Michael de Angelis
Mr. Marlin Kallideen