TO: Mayor and Members of Council
FROM: Cynthia Beach, Commissioner, Sustainability & Growth Group
RESOURCE STAFF: Lanie Hurdle, Director, Recreation and Leisure Services
DATE OF MEETING: 2010-05-04
SUBJECT: Placement of cairn in Navy Memorial Park

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:
The City of Kingston and Women’s Royal Canadian Naval Services (Wren) have been working in partnership for many years on the maintenance and improvements to the Navy Memorial Park. In 2009, City staff met with representatives of the WRCNS (Wren) Association of Kingston to discuss options to install, in Navy Park, a cairn to honour the naval presence in Kingston. This cairn will consist of a limestone rock placed on a concrete pad which will have a plaque describing the naval presence and contribution in Kingston. Public Works has agreed to pay for the cost of the concrete pad and Recreation and Leisure Services will cover the cost of the plaque. WRCNS (Wren) is contributing the actual limestone monument.

RECOMMENDATION:
THAT Council authorize a partnership between the City of Kingston and WRCNS to place a cairn in Navy Memorial Park; and

THAT staff be authorized to finalize the wording of the text on the plaque.
AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES:

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<th>ORIGINAL SIGNED BY CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER</th>
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<td>Gerard Hunt, Chief Administrative Officer</td>
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CONSULTATION WITH THE FOLLOWING COMMISSIONERS:

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<th>Commissioners</th>
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<tr>
<td>Terry Willing, Community Development Services</td>
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<td>Denis Leger, Corporate Services</td>
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<td>Jim Keech, President and CEO, Utilities Kingston</td>
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OPTIONS/DISCUSSION:

The establishment of Navy Memorial Park, located at Gore and Ontario Streets, was undertaken by the WRCNS (Wren) Association of Kingston under the leadership of Audrey Waugh, on land owned by the City of Kingston. On October 6, 2003, Navy Memorial Park was formally opened and dedicated to “Those Who Have Gone Before”. The Navy Cenotaph and flagpole had already been placed in the park by the HMCS Cataraqui Veterans Association. The Fairway Buoy, owned by the Marine Museum of the Great Lakes, had also been placed within the park. Nine blue benches were in place for the opening of Navy Memorial Park. The benches were memorial gifts from donors at an estimated cost of $450 each. Flower beds were planted by the Wrens.

WRCNS (Wren) has contributed to Navy Memorial Park maintenance and improvements over the years since its official opening. In 2007, in collaboration with the WRCNS (Wren) twenty two trees were planted in the park with pedestals and plaques beside them. Flower beds in the design of a ship’s anchor and ship’s wheel have been planted each year for which the Park has received top marks from the Communities in Bloom program. The granite rock at the east end of the park was dedicated to the late Audrey Waugh as a memorial and a plaque was placed in the park.

In 2010, the WRNCS (Wren) in collaboration with the City will install a cairn at the west end of the Park by the Naval and Wren Veterans. Although some members of the Wren may continue to volunteer some time to work on the flower beds, most of the park maintenance will be turned over to the Public Works Department. A ceremony will be held in July.

EXISTING POLICY/BY LAW:

N/A

NOTICE PROVISIONS:

N/A

ACCESSIBILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

N/A

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Public Works will cover cost of the concrete pad through its 2010 operational budget and Recreation and Leisure Services will cover the cost of the plaque through its capital budget.

CONTACTS:

Lanie Hurdle, Director, Recreation and Leisure Services  613-546-4291 ext. 1231

OTHER CITY OF KINGSTON STAFF CONSULTED:

Damon Wells, Director, Public Works
Kristine Hebert, Parks and Open Space Coordinator

EXHIBITS ATTACHED:

N/A