

May 15, 2012

- Page 5 -



CITY OF KINGSTON
REPORT TO COUNCIL

Report No.: 12-162

TO: Mayor and Members of Council
FROM: Lanie Hurdle, Commissioner, Community Services
RESOURCE STAFF: Wally Ferris, Director, Recreation & Leisure Services
DATE OF MEETING: May 15, 2012
SUBJECT: Park Naming – Bert Meunier Common

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

On October 5, 2010, Council unanimously passed a motion directing staff to proceed, in accordance with the Corporate Naming policy, with the naming of a future municipal park to be dedicated in Mr. Bert Meunier's memory. Mr. Meunier was a former Chief Administrative Officer (C.A.O.) with the City of Kingston, who passed away during office.

This report recommends that a 1.4 hectare community park, at 739 Augusta Drive, in the Cataraqui North neighbourhood be named 'Bert Meunier Common'.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council authorize the municipal park located at 739 Augusta Drive at Augusta Drive and Crossfield Avenue in the Cataraqui North neighbourhood be named 'Bert Meunier Common'.

May 15, 2012

- Page 6 -

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES:

<p>_____</p> <p>Lanie Hurdle, Commissioner, Community Services</p>
<p>_____</p> <p>Gerard Hunt, Chief Administrative Officer</p>

CONSULTATION WITH THE FOLLOWING COMMISSIONERS:

Cynthia Beach, <i>Sustainability & Growth</i>	N/R
Denis Leger, <i>Transportation, Properties & Emergency Services</i>	N/R
Jim Keech, <i>President and CEO, Utilities Kingston</i>	N/R

(N/R indicates consultation not required)

May 15, 2012

- Page 7 -

OPTIONS/DISCUSSION:

The memory and professional contributions of former C.A.O., Bert Meunier, are proposed to be recognized by naming a community park in the Cataraqui North neighbourhood after him. Mr. Meunier passed away while serving the City in 2005. He served two terms as C.A.O. with the former City of Kingston, initially from 1990 to 1992, and then as the City's first C.A.O. following amalgamation in 1998 until his passing in January 2005. Mr. Meunier was an admired and respected administrator who was instrumental in making the City of Kingston a better community following amalgamation. He had a love for municipal government and inspired staff and administration to be strategic thinkers and work collectively towards building a stronger City.

Throughout his career, Mr. Meunier had a close association with recreation and parks. He taught physical education and was an active recreation administrator in the Gaspé Peninsula, Gloucester and Vanier, Ontario. While serving in Quebec City, the management of the Colisée sportsplex was under his portfolio and while in Kanata, he participated in the creation of the Corel Centre (Scotia Bank Place). His personal interests included competitive running, taking part in marathons and was an avid recreational jogger. Mr. Meunier loved the outdoors and recognized the value of community planning. These values were integral to the Cataraqui North Neighbourhood Secondary Plan which began construction during his second term as C.A.O.

Central to the Cataraqui North neighbourhood is a community park scheduled for construction in 2012 and 2013. The park is located at 739 Augusta Drive at the main community intersection of Augusta Drive and Crossfield Avenue and is bound on three frontages by public streets. This park forms a highly public focal point for the residents' future recreation and leisure pursuits. The name 'common' refers to a central gathering place. The working name of the property through the subdivision planning and park development process has been Augusta Common Park.

A public meeting was held in July 2010 where two park master plan options were presented. Feedback was received at the meeting, by follow up after the session, and from comments posted to the 'Your Opinion' page on the City website. Through this feedback process, the community identified a preferred design. This design is attached to this report as Exhibit 'B'.

Mr. Meunier's wife, Frankie LeMonde-Meunier, was consulted regarding the proposed park to be named in his memory. Ms. LeMonde-Meunier, her family and Mr. Meunier's extended family were very honoured that he would be recognized in this manner. Ms. LeMonde-Meunier agrees that it is a highly appropriate commemoration since Mr. Meunier began his career in recreation and had a career long affinity for parks.

A public meeting was held on April 18, 2012 to discuss the proposed naming, 'Bert Meunier Common', of the 1.4 hectare community park. Members of the public, former Mayor Gary Bennett, former Mayor Harvey Rosen, and District Councillor Rick Downes were in attendance along with Ms. LeMonde-Meunier and a friend of her family. The residents were receptive to the proposed park name and supportive of the rationale to name this park in memory of Mr. Meunier. Many questions were asked regarding the development of the new park and this discussion was hosted by Recreation & Leisure Services staff.

May 15, 2012

- Page 8 -

EXISTING POLICY/BY LAW:

The City of Kingston's Naming of Corporate Assets policy pertains to parks, open spaces, facilities, streets and other municipal properties. The following excerpts from the policy apply to the naming of a park in memory of Mr. Meunier. The policy allows for:

- The honouring of individuals or groups;
- Recognition of significant contributions that organizations or individuals have made to the public life and the well-being of the people of Kingston;
- Recognition to be given to names that honour individuals, living or deceased, who have made a significant contribution to the community;
- Naming in honour of elected or appointed public officials, City administrative officials or staff, posthumously.

NOTICE PROVISIONS:

Notice of the public meeting held on April 18, 2012 to discuss the proposed naming, 'Bert Meunier Common', of the 1.4 hectare community park, was given on April 10th and 17th in the Whig Standard, April 13th in the Kingston This Week and EMC. A press release was issued April 9, 2012.

ACCESSIBILITY CONSIDERATIONS:

The public meeting at the Invista Centre was accessible to all members of the community.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

N/A

CONTACTS:

Lanie Hurdle, Commissioner, Community Services	613-546-4291 ext. 1231
Wally Ferris, Director, Recreation and Leisure Services	613-546-4291 ext. 1302

OTHER CITY OF KINGSTON STAFF CONSULTED:

Neal Unsworth, Manager, Parks Development	613-546-4291 ext. 1811
Kristine Hebert, Parks & Open Space Planning Coordinator	613-546-4291 ext. 1256
Therese Greenwood, Manager of Communications	613-546-4291 ext. 1156

EXHIBITS ATTACHED:

Exhibit 'A'	October 5, 2010 City Council Meeting No. 22-2010 Minutes
Exhibit 'B'	Subject Park Master Plan

May 15, 2012

- Page 9 -

Exhibit 'A'

City Council Meeting No. 22-2010

Minutes

Tuesday, October 5 2010

- (2) Moved by Councillor Foster
Seconded by Councillor Smith

WHEREAS the first Chief Administrative Officer for the City of Kingston, approved by City Council, following amalgamation in 1998 was Bert Meunier; and,

WHEREAS, in January 2005, Mr. Meunier passed away in office; and,

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the professional contributions of this individual for the creation and leadership of the "new" City of Kingston; and,

WHEREAS, Mr. Meunier's professional background and personal interests included parks and recreation; and,

WHEREAS, there are a number of municipal parks and green spaces currently being developed within our community;

NEW MOTIONS (CONTINUED)

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT City Council direct staff to proceed, in accordance with the naming policy, with the naming of a future municipal park, to be dedicated in Mr. Meunier's memory.

CARRIED (13:0)
(See Recorded Vote)

(See Motion To Defer Which Was LOST)

Exhibit 'B'

