



BOARD / ADVISORY COMMITTEE / TASK FORCE REPORT

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Date December 1, 2020

To Chair and Members
Committee of the Whole – Operations and Administration

From Chair and Members
Restoration of the Field Howitzer Cannon Working Group

1.0 Type of Report

Consent Item ☐

Item For Consideration ☒

2.0 Topic Restoration of the Field Howitzer Cannon Working Group Report Regarding Jubilee Park and Brant County War Memorial Upgrades [Financial Impact - \$112, 000]

3.0 Recommendation

3.1 Completion of Howitzer Site – Landscaping at Jubilee Terrace Park

- A. THAT Jubilee Terrace Park Concept 2, including upgraded LED lighting, amenities, landscaping, and an accessible pathway BE APPROVED; and
- B. THAT Jubilee Terrace Park Concept 2 BE REFERRED to the Brantford Heritage Committee for comment and recommendation due to the heritage designation of the park; and
- C. THAT if approved by the Brantford Heritage Committee, that the proposed park upgrades of Jubilee Terrace Park, to an upset limit of \$112,000 BE

INCLUDED in the Parks and Recreation Capital Budget for consideration at the Estimates Committee; and

- D. THAT upon approval by the Estimates Committee, that Operational Services Staff BE DIRECTED to implement the Jubilee Terrace Park upgrades following the timeline set out in the Capital Budget Plan.

3.2 Completion of Howitzer Site – Storyboard at Jubilee Terrace Park

- A. THAT Staff BE DIRECTED to consult with the Great War Centenary Association (GWCA) and the Armoury regarding the budget and scope for the installation of a storyboard at Jubilee Terrace Park; and
- B. THAT Staff BE DIRECTED to finalize the proposed storyboard wording and imagery with the GWCA; and
- C. THAT the approved Howitzer Cannon Working Group and GWCA storyboard wording and imagery BE REFERRED to the Public Art Subcommittee of the Brantford Cultural Advisory Committee for review; and
- D. THAT the Manager of Tourism, Culture & Sport and the Director of Communications and Community Engagement review and edit the proposed storyboard text in consultation with the GWCA; and
- E. THAT the storyboard BE DESIGNED by the Communications and Community Engagement Department; and
- F. THAT if any funding is required from a City budget that Staff REPORT BACK to the Working Group with funding recommendations for approval; and
- G. THAT Public Works staff BE DIRECTED to install the storyboard in Jubilee Terrace Park by Q3 2021.

3.3 Relocation of the Seven Bronze Figures and Addition of an Eighth Bronze Figure

- A. THAT Public Works and Economic Development and Tourism Department staff BE DIRECTED to request quotes for a formal site plan to prepare a new site for the seven (7) reinstalled bronze figures with space for an eighth (8th) figure following the Corporate Purchasing Policy; and
- B. THAT Economic Development and Tourism Department staff CONSULT WITH professional bronze artists to determine the estimated cost of adding 1 additional figure; and
- C. THAT the Public Art Subcommittee BE REQUESTED to provide comment on the proposed project; and

- D. THAT staff REPORT BACK on the full cost and acquisition of the bronze figures, proposed timeline, and recommended funding source (including alternative funding sources, i.e. grants) by Q4 2021; and
- E. THAT, upon approval by Brantford City Council, the Communications and Community Engagement Department staff BE DIRECTED to prepare a Communications and Community Consultation plan to determine the community interest and support for or against the significant changes and related costs prior to incurring additional project costs.

3.4 Completion of the Memorial as Designed by Walter Allward – Addition of Two Bronze Figures to Brant War Memorial

- A. THAT Economic Development and Tourism Department staff consult with the Public Art Subcommittee, Municipal Staff Technical Committee (Public Art), bronze artists, and contracted professionals; and
- B. THAT Economic Development and Tourism Department staff BE DIRECTED to investigate the estimated cost of adding the two missing bronze figures, and the cost of preparing the site to accept the additional two figures, funding sources (including alternative funding sources, i.e. grants) and report back to the Working Group by Q4 2021; and
- C. THAT the Public Art Subcommittee BE REQUESTED to provide comment on the proposed project.

3.5 Additional Names of the Fallen

- A. THAT Economic Development and Tourism Department staff BE DIRECTED to investigate the cost of the following in consultation with the GWCA and Six Nations Veterans Organization:
 - i. Inscribing missing names of the fallen directly on the Memorial Gallery wall; and
 - ii. Additional component installed on – or adjacent – the Memorial Gallery; and
- B. THAT the Public Art Subcommittee BE REQUESTED to provide comment on the proposed project; and
- C. THAT Economic Development and Tourism Department staff REPORT BACK to the Working Group on the cost, timeline, installation options, and recommended funding source (including alternative funding sources, i.e. grants) by Q2 2021.

3.6 Changes to War Memorial Park

- A. THAT Public Works staff DRAFT a proposed site plan and budget for additional seating at War Memorial Park; and
- B. THAT Public Works staff REPORT BACK to the Working Group by Q4 2021 with the proposed plan, budget and funding sources (including alternative funding sources, i.e. grants); and
- C. THAT any recommended changes to War Memorial Park BE REFERRED to the Brantford Heritage Committee for comment and recommendation due to the heritage designation of the park.

3.7 Renaming of the Working Group and Review of the Mandate

- A. THAT the Restoration of the Field Howitzer Cannon Working Group BE RENAMED to be The War Memorials and Cenotaph Working Group; and
- B. THAT Clerks Staff BE DIRECTED review the mandate of the Working Group and recommend any necessary changes.

4.0 Background

The Restoration of the Field Howitzer Cannon Working Group was created in 2017 with a mandate to restore the Field Howitzer Cannon and provide recommendations on upgrades to Jubilee Terrace Park where the restored cannon was to be placed. At the end of 2018, the mandate of the Working Group was amended to include investigation into upgrades, restoration and completion of the Brant War Memorial. Staff and the Working Group have met and discussed a number of potential projects for the war memorial sites and cenotaph since the mandate was amended and on November 17, 2020 the Working Group approved a number of recommendations to finalize Jubilee Terrace Park and investigate upgrades to the Brant War Memorial site.

Jubilee Terrace Park received the newly restored Field Howitzer Cannon in 2019. Upon review of the location where the cannon has been placed, a number of potential upgrades to the park were noted in order to increase visibility and accessibility of the historical monument. Staff provided concept plans for the upgrades to Jubilee Terrace Park and the Working Group approved concept two as presented by Staff (attached as Appendix 'A'). A budget for the upgrades, which would include the installation of benches, LED lighting, a concrete walkway, trees and shrubbery was presented from Parks Services Staff and is attached as Appendix 'B'. The Working Group is asking that the budget, to an upset limit of \$112,000, be included in the Parks and Recreation budget for

consideration at the Estimates Committee. In consultation with the Great War Centenary Association (GWCA), a storyboard was suggested to provide the history of the Cannon for public awareness to be installed near the restored cannon. The Working Group is recommending that Staff consult with the GWCA and complete all necessary steps to have the storyboard installed at Jubilee Terrace Park. As the park is a designated heritage site, the Brantford Heritage Committee must also be consulted on the proposed changes.

At the August 28, 2019 Working Group meeting Staff presented Report 2019-500, which outlined possible upgrades to the War Memorial. In February 2020, Staff provided a memo with the original report and condition assessment, attached as Appendix 'C,' to further explain the process required to make changes to the current Brant War Memorial. The changes proposed by the Working Group include restoring the Brant War Memorial to its original design, which would require the installation of two bronze figures, as well as relocating the current seven bronze statues (plus an additional statue) to another location, which has not been decided, and adding the remaining names to the Memorial.

The project requires consultation with bronze artists to understand the technical and financial considerations of this project. Input from the public is also necessary as the Brant War Memorial Site is a prominent fixture in the City of Brantford and holds significance to many members of the public. The Working Group is recommending that Staff be directed to consult with bronze artists, contracted professionals, and other municipal staff and report back with a proposed plan, budget, funding source and timeline to the Working Group for further recommendation. As the Working Group understands the potential expense of the identified projects they are recommending that Staff be directed to investigate alternative funding sources (i.e. grants) to offset the budget impacts if the proposed projects move forward.

Lastly, as the mandate of the Working Group has changed and no longer focuses solely on the Howitzer Cannon, the Working Group is recommending that their name be changed from the Restoration of the Field Howitzer Cannon Working Group to The War Memorials and Cenotaph Working Group. Subsequent to the proposed name change, the Working Group is also recommending that the Clerk review their mandate and report back on proposed changes to better reflect the goals of the Working Group relative to the projects noted.

5.0 Conclusion

The Howitzer Cannon Working Group has completed a large project to restore the Howitzer Cannon and return it to its location at Jubilee Terrace Park. Updates to Jubilee Terrace Park, along with historical storyboard, will allow the public to access and enjoy the history of the Howitzer Cannon. Investigating completion and upgrades to the Brant War Memorial will allow the City to consider restoring the War Memorial to its original intended design and/or complete the monument to honor the Veterans as intended. The Working Group is seeking approval of the recommendation to review potential options for changes of the Memorial.



Councillor McCreary, Co-Chair
Howitzer Cannon Working Group

Attachments:

Appendix A: Jubilee Terrace Park – Concept Two

Appendix B: Jubilee Terrace Park – Concept Two Budget

Appendix C: Staff Memo dated February 7, 2020 including Report 2019-500 and Condition Assessment