

The Grimsby Lincoln News' FOCUS ON LINCOLN

Town of Lincoln receives final report on master plan for Charles Daley Park

The Town of Lincoln has been presented a new vision for the future of Charles Daley Park.

Consultants Carolyn Woodland and Jack Ellis presented the Town of Lincoln's community services committee with the final report for Charles Daley Park Master Plan last Wednesday.

The plan for the park includes a draft of what the park would look like. New enhancements include a trail along the waterfront, which at later times could be converted to a boardwalk, a fish habitat project, a new picnic pavilion, a trail centre containing history, a temporary stage and upgrades to current features.

During discussion Mayor

Konkle suggested they could start creating interest by developing the fish habitat, creating "an anchor" for use of the park.

"We have to create what's happening here," he said.

The total estimated cost for the project at current rates is almost \$1.5 million. The cost includes an 18 per cent contingency for consulting fees, site surveys and technical studies.

While discussing the project, it was discovered these costs could be reduced with the aid of community groups or with the municipality's own work forces.

The annual costs of implementation of the plan is about \$250,000 a year, with the exception of the year in which the multi-use pavilion is added. This structure,

the plan notes, is expected to cost about \$250,000, plus the costs of servicing it.

Further recommendations regard the operations of the park. They include opening the park year round, with free admission, except for some events.

With little support from some Lincoln councillors to keep Charles Daley Park, and a strict budget, a motion passed for the plan to be "received for information and adopted as a viable vision for a passive park." The motion also noted that Judy Pease, director of community services, will start to investigate different types of sponsorships and partnerships to help reduce costs, assuming the town maintains operation of the facility.

4 RANNIE PUBLICATIONS, Wednesday, January 16, 2002

Revenue picture at Charles Daley Park

(Staff) — Revenue is up, expenditures are down and the attendance has never looked better as administrators of Charles Daley Park review its past activities for the year 2001.

Over the past six years Town of Lincoln staff have noted a steady increase in park revenue as admission and park rental income has increased to \$9,680 in 2001, an increase of

\$2,672 over 2000 and the highest revenue in six years. According to statistics, the increase is due to the recent institution of admission and season passes beginning in 1999. As a result the total cost

of maintaining and staffing the park has decreased to the lowest figure in four years, allowing the Town to subsidize almost half of what was provided the year before.

Open to the public from May 24 to September 21, the Town also employs staff to maintain the park at the expense of \$45,903 in 2001. Vehicle and equipment costs were \$61,057 in 2001, while utilities and general operation costs reached \$1,436. Building supplies and materials cost the Town \$2,769 and total maintenance and upkeep cost \$4,881. In total the operation and expenditures of Charles Daley Park for 2001 reached \$70,145, bringing the Town subsidy amount down to \$60,465 thanks to the

looking better

increased revenue.

Total attendance in the park was also up in comparison to former years, despite the fact the well known Canada Day celebrations attracted approximately half of its normal visitors. Overall attendance to the park between May 24 and September 21 reached numbers of 15,500 people.

According to surveys, 51 per cent of these visitors originated from the Town of Lincoln, 26 per cent were from St. Catharines and 23 per cent were documented as "other." Of the 51 per cent visitors from Lincoln, 60 per cent were from Beamsville, 15 per cent from Vineland, 22 per cent from Jordan or Jordan Station and only 3

per cent listed as "other."

"It's a wonderful park on the shores of Lake Ontario and it's a great opportunity to enjoy nature in a park setting," said Community Services Director Judy Pease. "It provides a great setting for you and your friends and family to go for a nice picnic and relaxation. ...There's bird watching available if your interested in that, there's areas to go walking, fishing and beach combing...it's just a wonderfully scenic place and ecological spot to visit."