

Sports Park study updated

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
The Georgetown Gemini

The search continues for a new community park site near Georgetown and as a part of that search Council must decide if it wants to remain in the cemetery business.

In an update to Council, Bryan Shynal, Manager of Parks and Cemeteries, said that the need for a sports park was first identified in the Master Parks Plan, which highlighted a number of deficiencies in the number playing fields the Town provides for local organizations.

Noting that the item had first been included in the 1994 capital budget and put off for several years, Shynal said the Town is getting pressure from groups to proceed so they know if they can plan for growth in their organizations

as they deal with additional demand.

"Staff recognizes that this is a significant issue in terms of the dollar value and long-term implications of such a facility. We also recognize it has been active in the department for a considerable length of time," Shynal said.

The consultant's report said the first priority in locating a community park is that it should be in or adjacent to the urban area or hamlets and that areas above the brow of the Niagara Escarpment should be given higher consideration than those below the brow unless they are in, or next to, established communities.

The report also indicates that some lands approved for development but which are not moving ahead could be

considered as well as mined-out quarry lands.

A summary of the existing sports field use shows that while Town ball diamonds were used for 65 per cent of the available time in 1995, soccer fields were over-used at 151 per cent—significantly exceeding the supply.

User group discussions showed that the larger, better quality ball diamonds were used in the 80 to 100 per cent range while diamonds in areas like school yards were used only 30 to 40 per cent of the available time.

After assessing the supply and demand of sports facilities in Halton Hills, the consultant said realistic facility considerations would include:

- five to seven lighted ball diamonds
- four or six lighted soccer fields
- potential for an indoor soccer facility
- a 2.3 hectare cricket pitch
- an 8-12 hectare recreational camp for up to 120 people
- 30 parking spaces for each sports field
- hydro service for lighted fields and parking areas
- municipal water for washrooms, concessions and field irrigation
- a cemetery area of approximately 120 hectares

Since the two existing public cemeteries in Halton Hills, Greenwood and Fairview, are near capacity, Council must decide if it wants to continue providing public cemetery space. A report on that issue will be before councillors on Oct. 21.

Dominion Gardens plans coming

The latest development proposal for the Dominion Seed House property will be presented to the Town next month.

In an update on the 54-acre property, staff report that Owen Lawson of Paralex Land Corporation has conditionally purchased the property and retained a planning consultant, as required before any development can proceed on the property facing Guelph Street.

An outline of the Master Plan is expected on the Oct. 7 General Committee meeting agenda.

NEWS SHORTS

Cab driver stalked, forced from road, 2 arrested

Two Georgetown men face a litany of charges following an investigation into an incident Sept. 19.

According to police, a taxi cab driver was twice forced to the curb following a verbal altercation with two men at a gas bar near Guelph and Mill Streets. Police allege that the driver was forced off the road on Guelph Street near Maple Avenue where the driver of the suspect vehicle uttered a death threat. This was repeated further up the street, where the passenger of the suspect vehicle is also alleged to have threatened the victim.

The suspect vehicle fled the scene when a second taxi driver showed up. Witnesses report that the driver of the suspect vehicle also ran a red light and a series of stop signs.

Halton Regional Police have charged two men, a 24-year-old Durham Street resident dangerous driving and uttering threats. A 23-year-old Mill Street man faces charges of uttering threats and breach of probation.

Assault on pizza driver

An Irwin Crescent man faces charges of assault with a deadly weapon and uttering threats in connection with an incident on Mill Streets Thursday.

According to Halton Regional Police, a 36-year-old male became argumentative when a pizza delivery person arrived, threatening to stab the delivery driver, resulting in police being contacted following the assault.

The man is scheduled to appear in court Oct. 21.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Mulberry Garden was once the centre of prostitution in London, England. It is now the site of Buckingham Palace. The more things change ...

Stopsign installed near school

Parents in Georgetown South, including those with kids attending the new St. Brigid R.C. school, will be happy to learn that an all-way stop sign will be installed at the corner of Miller Drive and Eaton Street.

Since the beginning of the school year and the

opening of the new school, Town staff have received calls from area residents concerned about the safety of their children who must cross Miller Drive.

Miller Drive is designated as a "through" road, with only Eaton Street traffic facing stop signs at the intersection.

Although the volume of

traffic currently using the intersection doesn't meet the technical all-way stop warrants, staff report that observed current and future approach volumes show a 50/50 split of traffic entering the intersection from each road, and that does appear to satisfy the need.

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