

Type of Decision									
Meeting Date	Friday, May 13, 2016				Report Date	Tuesday, May-10-16			
Decision Required	X	Yes		No	Priority	X	High		Low
Direction	X	Information Only			Type of Meeting	X	Open		Closed

Memorials at Old Mackey Park- Report #13/05/16/1101

Subject: Request for approval from Council for a formal Memorial Program.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt the following resolution and policy detailing guidelines for installation of memorials for family members at Old Mackey Park.

WHEREAS there has been some discussion of replacing trees at Old Mackey Park;

AND WHEREAS a memorial policy could be created to allow individuals to memorialize their loved ones with the sponsorship of a tree to be planted at Old Mackey Park with or without a corresponding plaque;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Council of the United Townships of Head, Clara & Maria does hereby approve this program and authorizes staff to create a policy to ensure that strict guidelines exist to allow personal choice but comply with municipal vision, with the municipality maintaining control of the process.

BACKGROUND/EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Back a number of years, staff was tasked with replanting trees which have been eliminated at Old Mackey Park due to age and damage. The idea was to keep costs low and to transplant local trees. The project has fallen by the wayside with other conflicting demands.

Staff have recently had personal conversations with relatives concerning recognising the memory of deceased loved ones. The goal is to create/erect some type of everlasting memorial in the community. The thought of having a tree planted in someone's honour entered the discussion.

The recommendation is to have interested individuals apply for and fund the purchase and installation of a tree with a plaque. (Previous Council has approved the installation of a bench at OMP in honour of Iona Sullivan and her volunteer time.)

Through the policy Council would control the location, type and size of tree – the location, size, type and content on the plaque to ensure compliance with municipal goals. If people were not interested in following those guidelines; they would not be granted permission.

Financial Considerations/Budget Impact:

Minimal – costs of tree and plaque purchase and installation would be borne by the applicant. Administrative and labour costs would be council's.

Policy Impact:

New policy for council consideration.

Others Consulted:

Approved and Recommended by the Clerk

Melinda Reith,
Municipal Clerk

Melinda Reith