TOWNSHIP OF CAVAN MONAGHAN

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Millbrook Valley Trails Advisory Committee
Terms of Reference

Purpose

The Millbrook Valley Trails Advisory (MVT) Committee is established by the Council of the Township of Cavan Monaghan to expand, enhance and promote a public trails system consistent with the Township of Cavan Monaghan Trail Master Plan and the needs of the community.

All Trails are owned or managed by the Township and maintained by the Parks & Facilities department in conjunction with the Millbrook Valley Trail Advisory Committee in accordance with the Millbrook Valley Trails Construction and Maintenance Policy.

Operation

The MVT Committee is a volunteer Advisory/Working Committee whose Members are responsible to the Council of the Township of Cavan Monaghan Council and bound by these Terms of Reference. Decisions of the MVT Committee are made collectively by resolution, and no one Member of the Committee has the authority to speak for or bind the Committee. Members are subject to a Confidentiality Agreement with the Township and all other applicable policies.

All points of order or procedure for which rules have not been provided for in this Terms of Reference shall be decided by the Chair in accordance with the Township's Procedural By-law. The Committee shall also have regard to all Township policies and guidelines including the Cavan Monaghan Trail Master Plan, Millbrook Valley Trails Construction and Maintenance Policy, Corporate Strategic Plan, and Vision 2035 – Parks and Recreation Strategic Plan.

All Committee meetings are open to the Public.

Responsibilities of the Committee

- Advise on the maintenance of the trails and any policies governing them;
- Promote and enhance a continuous and integrated non-motorized network of trails within Cavan Monaghan Township;
- Work with Township Staff and Council to revise the Cavan Monaghan Trail Master Plan when needed;
- Encourage legislation and policy changes that support trails;
- Monitor, identify any hazards, and undertake minor remedial work on any hazards identified on trails located in Part Lots 10 Concession 3 & 4 (referred to as the MNR Lands), Agreement between the Ministry of Natural Resources;

- Work towards the identification, management and enhancement of natural heritage features (Baxter Creek, the Oak Ridges Moraine, private and public forested lands, fish and wildlife, and species at risk) in the Millbrook Valley Corridor;
- Work within the annual budget approved by Council;
- Establish well-defined goals and objectives for the upcoming year;
- Other initiatives, projects, or programs as directed by Council.

Role of the Chair

The Chair is responsible for ensuring the smooth and effective operation of the Committee and its roles including:

- Providing input into the creation of an agenda in consultation with Township Staff;
- Chairing the meetings;
- Participating as an active voting Member and encouraging active participation by all Committee Members;
- Representing the MVT Committee on other Committees when necessary or ensuring an appropriate staff designate is present;
- That financial requests are supported by a motion;
- Make a presentation to Council as part of the annual budget request;
- That in the absence of the Chair, these responsibilities will be undertaken by a Committee Member designated as Vice-Chair.

Role of Committee Members

MVT Committee Members, including the Chair and Vice-Chair, responsibilities include:

- Attending and actively participating in all scheduled meetings as a voting Member;
- Conducting trail inspections, actively participating in trail maintenance initiatives on the Millbrook Valley Trails System, supporting the implementation of Work Plan items, and any other programs under the Committee;
- Undertaking any trail development as required;
- Completing any assigned mandatory governance training and other required training to effectively perform their role as a Committee Member;
- Being familiar with any Municipal, Provincial and Federal legislation that is applicable to the mandate of the Committee;
- Publicly supporting all recommendations made by the Committee and Council;
- Working with other Members to attempt to reach a consensus on decisions brought before the Committee;
- Being aware and knowledgeable of the Millbrook Valley Trails Construction and Maintenance Policy and any other Township policies, publications, or procedures that are relevant to the Committee’s business.

Role of the Clerk

The role of the Clerk, or their designate, includes the following:

- Providing notice of meetings and creating the agenda;
- Taking minutes of Committee meetings;
- Maintaining an up-to-date record of previous meetings including agendas minutes, and meeting recordings;
- Distributing the minutes of previous meetings and publishing the agenda for the upcoming meeting at least 48 hours prior to the next scheduled meeting;
- Working with the Chair to develop the agenda;
- Acting as a resource for the Committee during meetings that may include presenting background reports and distributing information pertaining to the mandate of the Committee;
- Undertaking an orientation and training session with Committee Members at the first meeting after Council's appointment of Members to the Committee;
- Ensuring that all Members of the Committee have entered into a Confidentiality Agreement with the Township at the start of their term;
- Posting Committee agendas and minutes on the Township's website.

Role of Staff

The role of Staff includes the following:

- Acting as a resource for the Committee during meetings that may include presenting background reports and distribution of government information pertaining to the mandate of the Committee;
- Facilitating the recommendations of the MVT Committee to Council through the creation of reports;
- Submitting a report to Council for budget requests or reallocation of funds;
- Ensuring that finances will be managed through the Committee via motion and are administered by the Staff representative.

Composition

The membership of the MVT Committee shall consist of not fewer than seven (7) Members appointed by Council:

In addition to one (1) appointed Council representative, preference will be given to the following representation:

1. Otonabee Region Conservation Authority or the successor for the new Regional Conservation Authority
2. Residents and/or ratepayers of the Township – Members at Large – Five (5)

Additional Conservation Authorities or Ministry representatives may be added as required. Conservation Authority and Ministry representatives are considered non-voting Members.

At the first meeting of the new term of the MVT Committee, the Members shall appoint from among their Members a Chair and Vice-Chair. If the resignation of a Chair or Vice-Chair is received by the Committee, the Committee will appoint a new Chair or Vice-Chair at the same meeting.

Term of Office

The term of office for Members on the MVT Committee shall run concurrent with the term of Council until successors are appointed at the start of the term of the next Council.

Members are expected to actively participate in the business of the Committee and are required to notify the Chair or the Clerk if they are unable to attend a meeting. Should any Member of an Advisory Committee neglect to attend four (4) or more meetings or fail to take an active role in the business before the Committee, upon the recommendation of Staff, Council may discharge that Member by resolution and appoint another Member in their place. Members who wish to resign shall notify the Chair and the Clerk in writing. Replacement of the Member will be through the process outlined in the Advisory Committee Policy.

Quorum

A majority of the appointed complement of Committee Members at the start of a meeting will constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. No less than four (4) Members must be present before a quorum is achieved.

Minutes and Agendas

Reports, including recommendations from the MVT Committee, will be sent through the Clerk to be included on the next Regular Council Meeting agenda. Minutes will be forwarded to Council for adoption. The Council appointed representative will provide updates on the Committee's activities at the next Regular Council Meeting following a Committee meeting.

Distribution of the agenda for the upcoming meeting will be sent via email to Committee Members at least 48 hours prior to the next meeting and will be posted on the Township's website.

Meeting Times and Locations

The MVT Committee shall hold a minimum of five (5) meetings per calendar year. Meetings will occur on the fourth (4th) Monday of the month (except January, February, July, August, and December) or as otherwise approved by the Committee. Meetings will take place from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers' Hybrid Room or an alternative option when required. Staff will endeavour to stream and record the meetings of the MVT Committee.

Additional meetings may be held as required at the call of the Clerk in consultation with the Chair.

Remuneration

- Millbrook Valley Trails Advisory Committee Members are volunteers and there is no financial compensation associated with the appointments.
- Committee Members may be reimbursed for expenses incurred as part of their duties subject to the expense being supported by a resolution by the Committee and processed by the Corporate Services Department.