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Asset Naming Recommendation – Frank Williams Park Staff Report to Council

Report Number: 2020-85

Department(s): Recreation & Council

Author(s): Rob Wilson

Meeting Date: November 16, 2020

Recommendations

1. That the report entitled Asset Naming Recommendation – Frank Williams Park dated November 16, 2020 be received; and,
2. That staff be directed to formally name the park Frank Williams Park (currently known as Poppy Lane Park) and advise the Crosby family who requested consideration of this naming opportunity; and
3. That staff plan a park naming ceremony for spring of 2021; and
4. That Staff be authorized and directed to do all things necessary to give effect to this resolution.

Purpose

To provide information pertaining to Frank Williams such that Council may consider formally naming the park located at Poppy Lane and Wilbur Pipher Circle, in his honour.

Background

A family member of Frank Williams submitted an asset naming request to the Recreation and Culture Department to keep on file.

The park currently known as Poppy Lane Park has never been formally named. Recognizing Mr. Williams with a park on his former family land would be a fitting tribute given his years of local public service.

Discussion

Mr. Williams was born on the farmland located North of St. John's Sideroad, on the East side of Leslie Street (currently, the Copper Hills development). His family worked the land for more than 90 years. Throughout his life, Mr. Williams spent years dedicated to public service. For Whitchurch Stouffville, Mr. Williams served as a Councillor, Deputy Reeve and Reeve. He also represented Whitchurch Stouffville at County Council. Serving Newmarket and the surrounding areas, he sat on the board of directors for the Newmarket District Farmer's Co-Op and also on the S.S. 3 Public School Board.

The application is attached as an appendix for reference.

Conclusion

The park currently known as Poppy Lane Park has never been formally named. Recognizing Mr. Williams with a park on his former family land would be a fitting tribute given his years of local public service.

Business Plan and Strategic Plan Linkages

Well-Balanced; Encouraging a sense of community by interweaving small town charm and big city conveniences.

Well-Planned & Connected; improving inter-connectivity and interaction between neighbours and neighborhoods.

Well-Respected; Honouring our past, while planning for the future.

Consultation

The Information provided will be verified by Culture Services staff.

Parks and Property Services staff confirmed the park has not yet been formally named.

Human Resource Considerations

None

Budget Impact

Cost for a park sign and unveiling ceremony will be part of the 2021 Operational Budget

Attachments

- Frank Williams Park Naming Application
- Location of Poppy Lane Park

Approval

Colin Service, Director, Recreation & Culture

Ian McDougall, Commissioner, Community Services

Esther Armchuk, Commissioner, Corporate Services

Peter Noehammer, Commissioner, Development & Infrastructure Services

Jag Sharma, Chief Administrative Officer

Contact

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