

## Report to the Fort Williams Park Committee: Oct. 19, 2017

### Fundraising

- Tri by the Sea – the recent youth triathlon raised \$1500 for the Children’s Garden maintenance fund. This gift will be recognized by a medium sized engraved granite paver in the Council Ring.
- Annual Report (Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2017) - Mailed during week of Oct 9.
  - Landscape Management Fund – our report highlighted the establishment of a new fundraising campaign to raise funds specifically geared for the ongoing maintenance of established Arboretum landscapes, in addition to the 5% of funds raised for projects that already gets set aside for this purpose.
- Annual Fall Appeal - Scheduled to be mailed during first week in November.

### Winter Moth Tree-Banding:

- The Foundation is partnering with CELT to share volunteers to wrap individual trees and trees within groves and woodlands throughout Fort Williams Park and Robinson Woods, on Saturday, Nov 11 and Sunday, Nov 12, respectively.
  - Funding for BugBarrier Tree Banding is being provided this fall by the Town via the Tree Warden’s budget.
    - Funding for 2018 & Beyond – The Foundation is considering the creation of a campaign to fund trees in the Park, or at least for future tree-banding efforts, with donors recognized in the Courier.
  - Prioritizing Trees: Mike Duddy and James McCain will walk the Park with Todd Robbins (Tree Warden), to prioritize areas for protection and to discuss logistics and coordination of efforts.
  - Volunteer Recruitment: via social media, MailChimp e-newsletters, and the Courier.

### Children’s Garden:

- Bio-filter System fixed: Restarted on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, after the skating pond was refilled by recent rainfall and a controller was installed to automatically shut down the pump in the future if water level falls too low.
- Improvements to Play Features:
  - Cottontail burrow – the entrances were veneered with additional rock.
  - Sliding stone – a fork was added to the scrambling stone path to improve access from the base of the slide to back uphill.
- Council Ring Pavers: New pavers will be installed this fall.

### Cliffside

- Weeds: We have recently begun putting extra effort into catching up with the weeds in Cliffside, after channeling most of our summer labor into further planting and establishing the Children’s Garden.

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- Next year we will have better equilibrium of effort between the three completed Arboretum sites and restoration efforts in the Cliff Walk Landscape. This will be aided by the recent establishment of a Volunteer Committee, and by the fact that we won't have a large planting effort under way.

### Cliff Walk Landscape:

- Full Project Approval via Town Council Workshop - tentatively scheduled for February. They want to discuss phasing and budgeting in greater detail than they allowed for during our presentation for approval back on Aug 14.
- Trails & Destinations Installation Schedule: OBP Trailworks recently confirmed a spring 2018 installation. First job of spring, so timing will depend on snowmelt and ground thawing for access to a stone yard in Raymond. Probably a mid-late April begin date.
- Invasive Plant Management:
  - Vegetation Control Services recently treated black swallow-wort seedlings with foliar application of *Rodeo* mixed with an MSO adjuvant.
  - Next round of cut-stump and basal bark applications of honeysuckle and bittersweet with *Garlon 4 Ultra* triclopyr will be in early November, after volunteers from SMCC's Landscape Management class haul away dead brush and vines, and cut more live plants.