



City of  
**Peterborough**

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**TO:** Members of the Arenas, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Rob Anderson, Recreation Division Coordinator

**MEETING DATE:** January 15, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Report APRAC13-003  
Request to Rename Stocker Park

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## **PURPOSE**

A report to inform the Arenas, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee (APRAC) of a request to rename Stocker Park to Pagett Park, in honour of former City Councillor, Glenn Pagett, and to seek APRAC's endorsement of the name change.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

That the Arenas, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee approve the recommendations outlined in Report APRAC13-003 dated January 15, 2013, of the Recreation Division Coordinator, as follows:

- a) That report APRAC13-003 be received for information; and
- b) That the renaming of Stocker Park to Pagett Park be endorsed.

## **BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Renaming of Stocker Park will create a need to erect a new park identification sign. The estimated cost to erect a new sign is \$400, which can be accommodated within the approved 2013 Park Signage and Bench capital budget.

## **BACKGROUND**

On November 27, 2012, a letter was submitted to the City's Director of Community Services requesting that Stocker Park be renamed Pagett Park, in honour of former Otonabee Ward Councillor, Glenn Pagett. Mr. Pagett was a City Councillor for twenty seven years. A copy of the letter describing the significance of Mr. Pagett's long standing contribution to the public life and well being of the City of Peterborough, as well as the urgency of the request, is attached as Appendix "A".

### **Authority to Rename a Park as per the City's Naming Policy**

Part C, section 7 of the Naming Policy identifies that all requests for renaming are to be forwarded to the Clerks Division, accompanied by a report from the Naming Committee. The Naming Committee has not met formally in over 2 years, thereby rendering the Committee defunct. Alternatively, Staff is providing a report to APRAC to receive input on the request to rename Stocker Park as Pagett Park. Subsequently, a report will be provided to Council, identifying APRAC's input and seeking approval to change the name of the park.

Part B, section 6 of the Naming Policy addresses the naming of parks. Section 6.2 specifically identifies the criteria by which parks shall be named. A copy of the Naming Policy is attached as Appendix "B". Staff believes that Mr. Pagett's contributions are well documented and broadly acknowledged within the City of Peterborough, and would meet the naming criteria identified in Part B Section 6.2(a) of the City's Naming Policy.

Staff has given consideration to section 6(d) of the Naming Policy, which states that names of living political figures are not to be used. However, the Policy does not provide a definition of a Living Political Figure. Staff believes that the intent of the policy is to prohibit the use of names of those who currently hold a political office. Therefore, Mr. Pagett does not meet the definition of a "Living Political Figure". Mr. Pagett would be considered a former political figure, who does not aspire to run for public office again. Staff contacted one of the authors of the letter dated November 27, 2012 to confirm that Mr. Pagett has no intention to run for public office in the future.

### **History on the Naming of Stocker Park**

The subdivision in which Stocker Road and Stocker Park are situated was established during the years of 1968 and 1969. The neighbourhood park, which is a little less than an acre in size, is located at 821 and 827 Stocker Road. An aerial view of Stocker Park, illustrating its location is attached as Appendix "C".

The City's Planner of Subdivision Control and Special Projects, and the City's Heritage Resources Coordinator conducted a review of the subdivision files and a history of the Stocker name in the Peterborough area. The subdivision files did not contain any information to suggest where the Stocker name came from or why it was used.

Research into the Stocker name identified it was not associated with the two North Monaghan Township farms that became part of the subdivision where Stocker Road and Stocker Park are located. The only reference to the Stocker name in the North Monaghan Township History is of a Daisy Stocker, who taught at the Brealey School for one year in 1917-18. A search of Ancestry.ca found a William and Mary Stocker and their three children listed in the 1852 census as living in North Monaghan Township. William was a 33 year old labourer. After that the Stocker family shows up primarily as Peterborough City residents. There is a Harry Stocker on the Wall of Honour but his attestation papers indicate that he was from Lakefield. There is no Stocker name on the Cenotaph, so the Road and Park weren't named in honour of anyone killed in military action.

The Stocker name may have been anecdotally associated with the area. However, Staff does not believe that renaming the park would detract from the continued commemoration of the Stocker family through the street name. As such, Staff supports the renaming of Stocker Park to Pagett Park, and recommends that APRAC also endorse the name change.

Submitted by,

Rob Anderson  
Recreation Division Coordinator

Contact Name:

Rob Anderson

Phone: 705-742-7777 Ext. 1833

Toll Free: 1-855-738-3755

Fax: 705-748-8824

E-Mail: [randerson@peterborough.ca](mailto:randerson@peterborough.ca)

Attachments:

Appendix A – Letter Requesting Stocker Park be Renamed Pagett Park

Appendix B – Naming Policy

Appendix C – Aerial View of Stocker Park