

Council Memo



To	City Council
Service Area	Infrastructure, Development and Enterprise Services
Date	Monday, April 26, 2021
Subject	Municipal Building and Property Commemorative Naming Memo

At the Planning Council meeting on April 12, 2021 there was a request to have the Naming Committee approve the following recommendations.

1. That the proposed Courtney, Goines and Malott Park be named No.2 Construction Battalion Park.
2. That the names Courtney, Goines and Malott be added to the City of Guelph Potential Street Names List for future consideration.
3. Notwithstanding the Street Naming Policy, that the names of Courtney, Goines and Malott and their story be included on any signage marking the significance of the No. 2 Construction Battalion Park and/or Trail.

After careful consideration and further consultation with the applicant who submitted the name for the Dallan Subdivision Park, the Naming Committee provides the following response:

The Naming Committee does not support recommendation #1.

The proposed park name of Courtney, Goines and Malott Park satisfies the Municipal Building and Property Commemorative Naming Policy's first and second considerations for naming an asset – *the name has a geographic, civic or historic significance tied to the community; The individual will have demonstrated excellence, courage or exceptional service to the citizens of the City of Guelph, the Province of Ontario or Canada; The individual will have worked to foster equality and reduce discrimination.* While the naming of a public asset after more than one family name is unconventional, the Policy does not preclude the Naming Committee from making such a unique recommendation to Council.

By naming the park Courtney, Goines and Malott Park, we are honouring four courageous Black men from Guelph and the significant contribution of Guelph's Black community to the First World War effort. While the forming of the No. 2 Construction Battalion is of national interest, the distinction of the Courtney, Goines and Malott family names are of Guelph's local interest.

The Naming Committee continues to recommend the trail be named, No.2 Construction Battalion Trail, to further the education and story of Canadian Black lives during the First World War.

The Naming Committee does not support recommendation #2.

The addition of the names of Henry Francis Courtney, Victor Goines, Gordon Goines and Tom Malott to the list of street names does not satisfy the original intent of naming an asset after them. The current Street Naming Policy only permits those who died defending Canada to receive a poppy or those who died serving the City to receive the city crest next to their name on a street sign. Courtney, Goines and Malott would not qualify for either a poppy or crest on a street sign given this policy.

The Naming Committee does support recommendation #3.

The name and story of Henry Francis Courtney, Victor Goines, Gordon Goines and Tom Malott shall be incorporated into the park and/or trail signage. As per the Naming Policy direction, under section 7 - after names have been approved by Council, staff will initiate the implementation of the approved names on official documents, construction and permanent signage and plan/implement the appropriate protocols (e.g. dedication ceremony).

This memo was approved by:

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