

Added Item 5.1(d)

From: Sara Angela S [REDACTED]
Sent: November 28, 2019 9:49 AM
To: Collins, Chad <Chad.Collins@hamilton.ca>; Davenport, Alicia <Alicia.Davenport@hamilton.ca>
Subject: Friends of the Aviary

Good morning, Chad & Alicia:

I'm writing to you with regards to the Friends of the Aviary. I have been a volunteer there for 7 years. My involvement includes caring for the birds, fundraising & events, tour guide, admin coordination & education.

I'm so very grateful for stumbling upon this gem back in the day. It has become home. It's been wonderful to see a growing community of people caring for birds and not only does it heal the birds' souls, it heals our souls too. I can say with full confidence that the birds are very much loved.

The Friends of the Aviary has recently been recognized as one of Hamilton's favourite tourist facility, but I think of it more as a sanctuary and educational facility. These are all rescued birds in need of care. Not only do we care for them, but we also educate people about the status of birds around the world and inspire a need to protect and conserve them. We also educate people on just how many birds end up being rehomed as a result of not knowing just how much care birds require. We hope this will play a small role in our fight against the exotic animal trade. We are striving towards becoming more and more of an educator to the public.

The Aviary truly is a gem in the heart of Hamilton and I hope it will forever remain. It's a wonderful place to visit on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon and one where you don't have to spend any money, which makes it a wonderful place for families on a low or fixed income. All we ask is a donation, if possible, with 100% of the proceeds going towards the birds. As a tour guide, I have loved seeing people smile and falling in love with birds and especially, when those who visit then become volunteers themselves.

I ask for your support for The Friends of the Aviary.

Thank you so much for your time in reading this,

Sara Shwadchuck