

Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

March 7th, 2018

Town Council Chambers

Present

Councilor Mary Farrell, Chair

Councilor Donnie MacInnis

K. MacGillivray, Community Representative

K. Moores, Community Representative

T. Cameron, Director of Recreation and Special Events

E. Stephenson, Active Living Coordinator

Absent With Regrets

Councilor Jack MacPherson

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

“It was moved and seconded that the Agenda for the Recreation Committee meeting of March 7th, 2018 be approved. Moved by Councilor Donnie MacInnis. Seconded by K. Moores.

Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

“It was moved and seconded that the Minutes for the Recreation Committee meeting of February 7th, 2018 be approved.” Moved by Karen MacGillivray. Seconded by K.

MacGillivray. Seconded by Councilor Donnie MacInnis. **Motion carried.**

Business Arising from the Minutes

- 1) Field of Dreams Update: T. Cameron noted that funding from the Province was uncertain. We will ask for \$500,000 from Jumpstart. Still have possibility from Jays Care. Bonvie MacDonald and Field User groups will provide some funding.
- 2) Spike Fund: E. Stephenson noted that the County, a key partner for this initiative, has had a changeover in staff and we will put this project on hold until they have filled the staff position who will be working on the project.
- 3) Trail Signage: E. Stephenson showed the committee a mock-up of the trail signage that will be installed at the Tilly Walsh Trail. Councilor MacInnis noted that the family should be notified when the signs are installed if possible.

New Business

- 1) Antigonish Art Fair Presentation: Organizers of the Antigonish Art Fair presented a thank you for the support the Town has given in the past and expressed hopes that it would continue, considering how much it is needed. They included plans for expanding the event this year with new partnerships, and made notes on past economic benefits.
- 2) Engage Antigonish REA Request: E. Stephenson and T. Cameron notified the committee that a community group, Responsible Energy Action, had approached the Recreation Department looking for a staff member to present at an upcoming meeting on Active Transportation. E. Stephenson and T. Cameron noted that the timing for this request is not well-suited at the current time, with upcoming staff changeover, and with Active Transportation being in a state that is not consultative at this time. The recommendation from staff would be to decline the opportunity to present at this time, and to instead encourage folks to give input at ongoing Engage Antigonish sessions to inform future work plans which will arise from the Strategic Plan that is formed.
- 3) Council Update Highlights:

Recreation Director (T. Cameron):

- Grants have been compiled and given to Council. March 23rd, council review and score. March 26th, Tricia will contact grant recipients.
- Asset management: Matt Hull will be coming on to do GIS work to track recreation assets. He will also train new maintenance students. Chris MacDonald from COGS in Lawrencetown has also been meeting with Recreation and Planning to discuss skills he could bring on as a co-op student.
- Special Events Committee: Most groups are represented. T. Cameron noted that new banner will be done, events calendar will have a story done by Casket.
- Event Planning Manual: Will be completed.
- Staffing: T. Cameron noted that more staff are needed in the Recreation Department if we are to continue to provide support for things like special events.
- Youth Volunteer of the Year: Councilor D. MacInnis moved that "Miss Brianna Green be chosen as the Youth Volunteer of the Year". K. Moores seconded. Motion carried.
- Good neighbor award: Look at June meeting to bring this forward.

Active Living Coordinator (E. Stephenson):

- After school programming and Multisport ongoing
- Lessons on the Bus report is being finalized, CBC wrote an article which E. Stephenson shared with the group.
- March Break options have been compiled and along with the County we teamed up to fill-in a few gaps. Seems to be going over well.
- 55+ Pickleball is ongoing
- Facility Access program is wrapping up this month
- Ageing Well Coalition discussion about the library funding. E. Stephenson wondered if others at the table had heard this discussed in other circles and whether a letter

could be supported if the group puts one forward. The group noted that if a letter is created, the best action would be to bring it to the CAO to look at before approval.

- 4) National Special Olympics 2018 Update: Councilor M. Farrell gave an update on the Opening and Closing ceremonies for the National Special Olympics, summer 2018.
- 5) 55+ Provincial Games Bid: On hold for the time being.

Motion to Adjourn

“It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned”. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Next meeting: to be held on April 4th, 2018, Council Chambers.