

# Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Town Council Chambers

## **Present**

Councilor Mary Farrell, Chair

Councilor Donnie MacInnis

Councilor Jack MacPherson

K. Moores, Community Representative

T. Cameron, Director of Recreation and Special Events

E. Stephenson, Active Living Coordinator

## **Absent With Regrets**

K. MacGillivray, Community Representative

## **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 April 4th, 2018 be approved. Moved by Councilor Jack MacPherson. Seconded by Councilor D. MacInnis. **Motion carried.**”

## **Approval of Minutes**

“It was moved and seconded that the Minutes for the Recreation Committee meeting of March 7th, 2018 be approved.” Moved by Councilor D. MacInnis. Seconded by K. Moores. **Motion carried.**

## **Business Arising from the Minutes**

- 1) Field of Dreams Update: T. Cameron noted that all grant applications for the Field of Dreams project have been submitted. We have not heard confirmation from any grants yet, but tenders are ready to go and will be put out when confirmation of funding is received.
- 2) Grants update:
  - T.Cameron noted that the Canada Day Grant from Federal Government has been confirmed at \$4000. There seems to be a pattern of decline in this funding over the past few years.
  - T. Cameron noted that the Keep Well Antigonish program has received funding from several sources, allowing it to continue beyond the original anticipated length. It will now also have a fall component.
  - T. Cameron noted the Age Friendly Grant that was submitted was not successful.

- T. Cameron noted the JJ Carroll fund came in at \$4400 this year and that this funding is intended for swimming and track and field.
  - T. Cameron noted that she has not received final numbers for Town grants and that those who submitted grants would have been expecting responses on March 26<sup>th</sup>.
- 3) Asset Management:
- T.Cameron noted that a student and former Rec Department staff member will be helping to train this summer's maintenance staff and also collecting GIS information pertaining to Recreation assets in the Town.
- 4) Trail Signage: E. Stephenson noted that signage for Tilly Walsh Trail has been made and she will be meeting with representatives from Admiral later in the week to confirm signage location. She noted that with signage being implemented that it is worth exploring a trail sign policy to ensure consistency for future.

## **New Business**

- 1) Council Update Highlights:

### **Recreation Director (T. Cameron):**

- Spring Programming: Club 60 fitness class members were previously a problem for paying for class but now are paying their fees. Mary Girrior is teaching a new class at the fire hall called "beginner fit".
- Recreation Budget: Recreation budget was reviewed. Items of note were the ask for more money for pins this year (in recognition of running short this year and events like Special Olympics coming up), inclusion staff member for day camp, 2 new maintenance staff
- Recreation Personnel: Interviews have been conducted for E. Stephenson's replacement. Upcoming positions to be filled and interviews to be conducted include: inclusion leader, day camp leaders, day camp supervisor, and maintenance staff
- Special Events Committee Update: The special events committee calendar of events was reviewed. Members of the Recreation Committee are encouraged to share this resource.
- New Banner Arms: These are now in and MMI will be putting them up.

### **Active Living Coordinator (E. Stephenson):**

- Multisport ongoing, preparations for next year's Multisport have started (plan for June registration)
- After School Programming: winter programs are wrapped up, plans for the rest of the school year are now being finalized
- March Break: This year we spent our time compiling information and filled in gaps with programming. It was generally a good way to do things considering budgets and human resources, but also seemed to be well-received by the community. I would recommend approaching using this style again next year.

- Facility Access: The skates and swims were successful again and have now officially finished for the year. Keeping in mind that we have had our budget significantly slashed by the Province, if anyone has ideas before going into planning for next year's programming (anything that could use free access that we don't currently do) please send in these ideas.
  - 55+ Pickleball: We will be having discussions with players, County, and STFX to figure out how to best move forward with this ever-growing interest as we are currently having trouble keeping up with demands being asked of the Rec Department in terms of involvement.
  - Outdoor Rink: A full report will be given to Council once the rink structure is disassembled. This will be done next week when our second Recreation maintenance staff member starts work.
  - Preparing for the coming year has been focus since past meeting: preparing programming and plans for the coming year, budgeting, year-end calculations and reporting
- 2) National Special Olympics 2018 Update: Councilor M. Farrell gave an update on the Opening and Closing ceremonies for the National Special Olympics, summer 2018 including torch updates, entertainment, and need for volunteers.
  - 3) 55+ Provincial Games Bid: Town staff are currently involved heavily with Special Olympics preparations and much of the 55+ Games preparations will not be able to be undertaken until this has been completed.

### **Motion to Adjourn**

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM.

Next meeting: to be held on May 2nd, 2018, Council Chambers.