

Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

June 6th, 2017

Town Council Chambers

Present

Councilor Mary Farrell, Chair

Councilor Jack MacPherson

K. Moores-Sutherland, Community Representative

K. MacGillivray, Community Representative

T. Cameron, Director of Recreation and Special Events

E. Stephenson, Active Living Coordinator

Absent With Regrets

Councilor Donnie MacInnis,

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:17 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

“It was moved and seconded that the Agenda for the Recreation Committee meeting of June 7th, 2017 be approved with the amendment to add “Provincial 55+ Games Bid” added. Moved by Councilor J. MacPherson. Seconded by K. MacGillivray. **Motion carried.**”

Approval of Minutes

“It was moved and seconded that the Minutes for the Recreation Committee meeting of May 17th, 2017 be approved.” Moved by K. Moores-Sutherland. Seconded by K. MacGillivray.

Motion carried.

Business Arising from the Minutes

- 1) T.Cameron sent the schedule for the Central Turf field out to committee members to view. K. MacGillivray commented on how well the field is used. T.Cameron noted that Ultimate Frisbee players are also looking for a spot to play.
- 2) Water Park: Funding from the province has come through.
- 3) Dog Park: Councilor M. Farrell asked about the size of a space near the regional fields. T. Cameron noted it was measured but appeared to be too small as an acre would likely be needed.

New Business

- 1) Council Up-Date Highlights

Recreation Director:

Camps: Online registration and payment has been set up for camps. T. Cameron noted in future it would be nice to try a “pay it forward” system with camp where those

who would like to donate money to others who want to go to camp can do so. T.Cameron noted that 1-on-1 support has been requested this year and we are working to support this request. **ACTION:** E. Stephenson to consult with Kentville and find out whether many have taken advantage of this system there.

Staff: New staff are working including Jenny Bowie (55+ Games) and Cody MacLellan (Summer Programs). Staff training has been scheduled.

Club 60: T. Cameron noted that Eastern Fencing will be looking at Club 60 fencing to be altered so that emergency vehicles can access it.

Whidden St. Garbage Pick-Up: T. Cameron noted that a request was put in to J. Lawrence to see whether it was possible to have on the Public Works route year-round as Recreation doesn't have staff year-round, yet the playground is also a bus stop where garbage collects.

Tennis Programming/Leadership: Tuesdays will be mens' night. Wednesdays will be ladies' night. Tennis "try-it" at elementary school coming up June 13th-17th.

Event Planning: T. Cameron noted event planning takes a great deal of time at this point in the year. K. MacGillivray noted that the Event Planning Document that was circulated was well-written and easy to follow.

Mayor's Challenge: T. Cameron noted that a Canada 150 grant was awarded to the Town to offer a "Mayor's Challenge" where the Mayor will offer challenges to get active through the radio and social media outlets.

Active Living Coordinator:

-After School Programs: E. Stephenson noted that fitness at Dr. JH Gillis continues to be popular and that Making Tracks cycling was filled to capacity at Antigonish Education Centre.

-Active Transportation Education: E. Stephenson noted that almost 200 people came to the safe cycling display put on by community members, Town, and County. Bike safety equipment and information were given out and the bike shop organized an educational ride that attracted over 20 people. Councilor M. Farrell noted that she will be attending the bike rodeo on June 24th. **ACTION:** E. Stephenson to prepare supplies for Councilor M. Farrell in preparation for the bike rodeo including bike safety kits and 'share the road' magnets.

-55+ Games: Coming up June 9th/10th with 144 participating. K. MacGillivray noted that perhaps looking at a different day of the week (ex/ Saturday and Sunday) might attract different participants to the games (i.e. those who are not yet retired).

Maintenance:

-Mulching Mowers: Staff are using these where possible. Some places are not worth using the mulching mowers because they slow them down too much. Councilor J. MacPherson wanted to make note of how good maintenance staff are at their jobs.

2) Review terms of reference:

T.Cameron asked committee members to clarify through a round-table why they were sitting on the committee. Discussion about the importance of recreation to a community ensued. Councilor M. Farrell noted that an event at the Credit Union parking lot would

be a possible idea to keep in mind for future. Councilor J. MacPherson noted that in the terms of reference he would like to see the Vice Chair position held by a community member as well as to change wording to say that meetings are always open to the public. **ACTION:** E. Stephenson to post on social media prior to meetings.

3) Community Engagement:

E. Stephenson noted that in order to best understand what the citizens of the Town of Antigonish would like to see come out of their Recreation Department, they need to be engaged meaningfully. She noted that it would be nice to see a Town-wide engagement session at least on an annual basis in preparation for budgeting.

4) Budget Review:

Budget was reviewed including details of Canada Day budget. No questions arose.

Motion to Adjourn

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:38 PM.