

Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

September 6th, 2017

Town Council Chambers

Present

Councilor Mary Farrell, Chair
Councilor Donnie MacInnis

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 Jack MacPherson

Also Present

Jeff Lawrence, Chief Administrative Officer
Randy Crouse, Antigonish Baseball Representative
Kris Hunter, Antigonish Baseball Representative

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

“It was moved and seconded that the Agenda for the Recreation Committee meeting of September 6th, 2017 be approved as presented. Moved by Councilor D. MacInnis. Seconded by K. MacGillivray. **Motion carried.**”

Approval of Minutes

“It was moved and seconded that the Minutes for the Recreation Committee meeting of June 7th, 2017 be approved.” Moved by Councilor D. MacInnis,. Seconded by K. Moores-Sutherland. **Motion carried.**

Business Arising from the Minutes

- 1) E. Stephenson noted that she spoke with representatives from Kentville Recreation Department on their tiered payment system for day camp. They no longer use this system, but instead those who register for day camp are asked whether they would like to donate to the “Spike” fund on their form. This fund is for Town of Kentville citizens to use for Recreation and day camp donations are just one way they collect money. **ACTION:** E. Stephenson to gather all details of this program and bring to next committee meeting.
- 2) T. Cameron brought up the idea of some garbage cans being left out year-round, despite lack of outdoor recreation staff from November – April. **ACTION:** Tricia will

send a list to J. Lawrence with the list of the garbage cans that would be preferable to have out year-round, as well as those that are important to have out year-round.

New Business

- 1) R. Crouse, and K. Hunter made a presentation to the committee about their concerns and hopes for the baseball and softball fields on Braemore Ave. They expect the total of all upgrades would come to a total of \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 with many grants and funding options available. They would like to note that without the Town's support, they cannot explore moving forward. R.Crouse and K. Hunter left following the presentation.

- 2) Active Transportation Updates: Chisholm Street Path: E.Stephenson noted that the Chisholm St. path project received \$10,000 in funding from the Department of Energy's Connect 2 grant and that the work will be done this fall. Brierly Brook Trail: T. Cameron noted that consultations were done and were mostly in favour of the path, with some coming forward with concerns, mainly around loss of parking. Standard Trail Development Process: E. Stephenson noted that she has explored some standards for the process of trail development as a way to keep those involved with the same understanding of new projects. She presented the group with an example document. **ACTION:** E. Stephenson to present the group with an altered version (if necessary) for next meeting as a starting point to guide future trail development processes. J. Lawrence left the meeting. E. Stephenson also noted the importance of signage for Town pathways/trails. She indicated that to put up signs, and for the sake of communication, she suggests naming trails/paths is a good idea. **ACTION:** E. Stephenson to ask J. Lawrence about steps to approach naming of trails.

- 3) Council Up-Date Highlights
Recreation Director (T.Cameron):
Camps: Online registration and payment was set up for camps. One-on-one was needed but funding cutbacks made it impossible to fund a position for the whole summer. It was noted that the accessibility committee could look at funding items beyond infrastructure.
Tennis: The tennis program increased in numbers this year and there were mens' and ladies' nights. Ladies' received lessons for \$20 for the summer.
Events: Canada Day, the Antigonish 55+ Games, Street Fair, and the Wee Lads and Lassies Track Meet were all events that involved Town Recreation and all went well.

Active Living Coordinator (E. Stephenson):
Summer Splash/Games in the Park Activities: Some new activities tried this summer - Throughout the summer there were simple activities organized on average of once/week for target groups, mostly families, to get out and try. Stand Up Paddleboarding (27 people), Canoeing (15 people), Family Beach Day (cancelled due to weather). Games in the Park. Helped to bring attention to Arbor Drive playground and was easy to organize. Games in the Park drew an average of 10-12 kids/night.

Preparations for fall – upcoming items: Multisport, Highland Touch Football, Fitness Classes, Trail Building/Design, outdoor rink research, pickleball, after school programs.

Councilor D. MacInnis left the meeting.

- 4) Special Olympics: T. Cameron noted that there are some concerns about whether the Recreation Department has enough staff to be involved in more than facility development and maintenance for this event. She noted facilities will be extremely important and it is not worth risking dividing attention if facilities will suffer.
- 5) Provincial 55+ Games: **ACTION:** T. Cameron noted she would be doing a presentation to the Provincial 55+ Games committee and the final decision on the 2019 host will be made shortly.

Motion to Adjourn

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM.