

**Recreation Committee Minutes
June 1, 2011
Council Chambers**

Present

Councillor D. MacInnis, Chair
Deputy Mayor D. Roberts
Councillor S. Cameron
D. Anderson
L. Boucher
J. Pellerin

Mayor C. Chisholm
D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk
T. Cameron, Recreation Director

Absent with Regrets

D. Kampen, MPA, Chief Administrative Officer

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:00 Noon.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by D. Anderson
Seconded by Deputy Mayor D. Roberts
“That the Agenda be approved with additions.” Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by L. Boucher
Seconded by D. Anderson
“That the Minutes of the, Recreation Committee meeting held on May 4, 2011, be approved as circulated.” Motion carried.

Business from Minutes

- Swim Program/Sports Field Update
T. Cameron advised that her meeting with the County Recreation Director, M. Melanson to further discuss the Town’s Swim Program has been delayed until this Friday.

At 12:03 PM, Councillor S. Cameron joined the meeting.

T. Cameron noted that she had put together some preliminary estimates for maintenance of the new turf field, should a swap between maintenance of the sports field and the swim program move forward, and briefly outlined a possible maintenance scenario. She further noted that the Town is already responsible for maintenance of the two (2) fields at the Dr. J.H. Gillis Regional School.

At 12:05 PM, J. Pellerin joined the meeting.

T. Cameron noted that she estimated \$5,000.00 in increased costs for maintenance of the turf field; however, \$2,000.00 of the costs may come from the Dr. J.J. Carroll Awards. Brief discussion took place on ensuring that the Town would not end up being responsible for a major

overhaul of the turf field in the future, that any agreement be reviewed on an annual basis, that the St. Andrew Jr. School be prepared to do their part in maintenance of the turf field and, that should the County take over the Town's Swim Program that the Town's name remain attached to the program.

L. Bouchie noted that she had received a few telephone calls regarding the delay of the Town's Swim Program.

T. Cameron stated she would have further information for the next Committee meeting following her meeting with Ms. M. Melanson.

- Canada Day Update

Councillor S. Cameron put forth the idea of a Good Neighbour Award with the idea of the Award being given to an individual or group who had done something extraordinary that had a positive impact on the Town and which would be given out during Canada Day celebrations. It was generally agreed that the individual or group could be from the Town or County and that the Award would not necessarily have to be given every year. Councillor S. Cameron suggested that those involved with the Turf Field Project be considered with Mayor C. Chisholm noting that as the Project has not been completed, the nomination may be premature and suggested the Seniors' Getting Involved Association be nominated.

T. Cameron suggested that the Recreation Nova Scotia Bluenose Achievement Award Criteria be looked at as an example for the Good Neighbour Award. Councillor S. Cameron agreed to put together draft criteria and forward it to Deputy Clerk D. Wilson for distribution to the Committee

Moved by Deputy Mayor D. Roberts

Seconded by D. Anderson

To recommend to Council that the Seniors' Getting Involved Association receive a Good Neighbour Award during the 2011 Canada Day celebrations." Motion carried.

Councillor S. Cameron updated the Committee on the arrangements for Canada Day including contacting the RCMP to act as an Honour Guard, arrangements for a piper, a singer for the National Anthem, and invitations to dignitaries and Councillors. He advised that St. FX University Security will be required during the fireworks display and noted that a 16' X 8' flare of the 'X' logo would form part of the fireworks display. Mayor C. Chisholm stated that the County of Antigonish has agreed to cost-share on the fireworks, to a maximum of \$5,000.00. Councillor S. Cameron noted the cost of the fireworks for this year, including tax, is \$8,000.00. He stated he has contacted the office of Member of Parliament, Mr. P. MacKay, to see if a 'fly-over' during the fireworks may be feasible.

T. Cameron noted that she is meeting with County Recreation Director M. Melanson to discuss joint advertising for Canada Day. Councillor S. Cameron noted that Canada Day cake would be served the previous evening during the movie at Columbus Field and, that Canada Day cakes would be sent to the RK MacDonald Nursing Home and Highcrest Nursing Home. T. Cameron advised that the pancake breakfast has been arranged and that local blueberries and sausage will be used. Mayor C. Chisholm noted that a poster would be put up acknowledging the use of local food for the breakfast.

- Mr. J. Teasdale, Canadian Association for Community Living (CACL) re River Trail
The Chair welcomed Mr. J. Teasdale to the meeting and roundtable introductions were made. Mr. J. Teasdale advised that an initiative has been put forth by ACALA to develop a walking trail from Chisholm Park to the rear of the new library. He noted his intent in attending this meeting was to seek the Town's support and see where the Town may become involved. He further provided an overview of the proposed project noting that the trail would be less than 300 meters in length, five (5) feet wide with an 8 inch deep gravel base which would be compacted. He further noted others he has been in contact with regarding the proposed project. J. Teasdale stated that costs for the project would be very low noting that ACALA would fund the construction of the kiosk and gravel for their portion of the walkway which would come from a grant. J. Teasdale provided a brief overview of how the project would be carried out and agreed to put together a schedule. He expressed his hope that the Town could facilitate having a backhoe remove the 'duff' from the area, a dump truck to remove fill from the site, and have the backhoe dig sona tubes for the kiosk. He further noted a couple of trees would likely have to be replanted (by C. Griffiths).

In response to a question from Deputy Mayor D. Roberts, J. Teasdale advised that it is intended that the ACALA students would generally look after maintenance of the walkway. In response to a query from the Chair, J. Teasdale suggested that he would like to see the project begin in late June or early July, and expects it will take approximately two (2) to three (3) days of equipment work and approximately two (2) to three (3) weeks of volunteers' time. Mayor C. Chisholm suggested that if he is seeking the Town's support of the project he should ensure that the plan being done by JHS Consultants is provided in time for the June Council meeting.

Moved by Deputy Mayor D. Roberts

Seconded by J. Pellerin

"That the Recreation Committee supports, in principle, the plan for the development of a walking trail from Chisholm Park to the rear of the new library." Motion carried.

The Chair thanked J. Teasdale for his presentation and he left the meeting at 12:48 PM.

- Guysborough/Antigonish Active Living Network (GAALN)
T. Cameron updated the Committee on the groups who are participating in the purchase of software for a database for Active Living noting that the Strait Regional School Board is on board for this year. She further noted she is hoping to hire someone to input data through a Job Creation Partnership grant.
- Seniors Games Update
T. Cameron advised the Committee that the Seniors' Getting Involved Association was successful with their grant application and will receive 100% funding for a student for an eight (8) week period. She further noted that registration for the Games closes on June 10, 2011.
- Antigonight
T. Cameron stated she had nothing new to report on Antigonight.
- RCMP Musical Ride
T. Cameron noted that the Memorandum of Understanding regarding the RCMP Musical Ride is in place and the role of the Town has been clarified. She noted that Music on Main and Minor Soccer have been advised of tentative dates that Columbus Field may not be available to them.

- Spring Programs Update

T. Cameron reported that the Spring Programming and Wee Lads and Lassies is going extremely well. She noted that they are combining the Town's Track and Field events with the Antigonish Highland Society.

Correspondence

- Live Right Now Community Challenge

T. Cameron stated that the Live Right Now Community Challenge grew from the Million Pound Challenge sponsored by CBC®. She noted that a conference call is scheduled for later in the day with CBC® to answer any questions. She noted that if the Town decides to become involved with the Challenge, there may be an opportunity to partner and/or challenge the University and/or the County of Antigonish.

New Business

- Executive Assistant Position

T. Cameron advised that M. Fougere has been hired to fill the position of Executive Assistant and expanded on some of the details. She further noted that contact through social media will likely become part of the role of this position.

- Saddlespan

T. Cameron advised that she had been approached by an individual who had previously rented the Saddlespan from the Town and who has expressed interest in a proposal whereby the individual would eventually take ownership of the Saddlespan. It was generally agreed not to pursue this venture further.

- Food Coalition

T. Cameron advised that the Food Coalition Group has expressed interest in developing three (3) community garden plots on a portion of Town-owned land at the end of Greening Drive, adjacent Beaverbrook Trailer Park. She further noted that the Group is well aware of the drawbacks that may be associated with the location but would like to pilot the project regardless.

Moved by Councillor S. Cameron

Seconded by Deputy Mayor D. Roberts

"To recommend to Council to grant permission to the Food Coalition Group to utilize a portion of Town-owned land at the end of Greening Drive for the purpose of developing three (3) community garden plots." Motion carried.

Adjournment

Moved by Mayor C. Chisholm

Seconded by Councillor D. MacInnis

"That the meeting be adjourned." Motion carried.

