

**Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes  
March 7, 2012  
Council Chambers**

**Present**

Councillor D. MacInnis, Chair  
Deputy Mayor D. Roberts  
Councillor S. Cameron  
D. Anderson

T. Cameron, Recreation Director  
Mayor C. Chisholm  
S. Feist, Chief Administrative Officer  
D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk

**Absent with Regrets**

L. Boucher

**Call to Order**

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

**Approval of Agenda**

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

**Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Councillor S. Cameron  
Seconded by D. Anderson  
“That the Minutes of the Recreation Committee meeting held on February 1, 2012, be approved as circulated.” Motion carried.

**Business from Minutes**

- Canada Day Activities (Update)  
Councillor S. Cameron provided details on a request for separate payment for the band secured for Canada Day. T. Cameron noted a brief meeting would be held with the band to be clear on what their needs are.

Brief discussion took place on the timing of moving the stage.

- Christmas Events (Update)  
T. Cameron reviewed the costs associated with the final bill for the Christmas events and Co-ordinator, which was received from the Antigonish Regional Development Authority (ARDA). She noted that she is working with CAO S. Feist on a letter to be sent to the County requesting contributions toward the Christmas Events and upcoming Canada Day events.

T. Cameron noted that she will be working with Executive Assistant, J. Delorey, to put together a survey to receive feedback from the community on the 2011 Christmas events.

Councillor S. Cameron noted that some discussion had taken place with respect to the ARDA's involvement. He suggested a survey be sent to the high school to garner opinions on what is

important. D. Anderson commented that this would also provide an opportunity to bring an awareness of what is available.

In response to a query from Deputy Mayor D. Roberts, T. Cameron indicated she sees herself as the liaison with other Departments, but feels the ARDA should co-ordinate the Christmas events.

Discussion took place on having the ARDA include Christmas events in their Strategic Plan and the past involvement of merchants with the events.

Mayor C. Chisholm suggested the subject of the ARDA and Christmas events be broached at a presentation they will be making to Town Council.

- Active Transportation Committee

T. Cameron noted that the month of June is Active Transportation Month and spoke to a three (3) hour evening event being planned, to which Mayors and Wardens will be invited to attend to discuss active transportation.

T. Cameron stated a two (2) hour meeting on active transportation will be scheduled for next month, with a facilitator present, and noted she would check on the cost of a facilitator. She further noted that Active Transportation Plans can cost \$60-70,000.00, funds she does not have. However, she noted, active transportation was identified as a priority in the Strategic Plan. Brief discussion took place on previous comments on what can be accomplished in Antigonish, a survey completed last year by the Mayor and Council and a presentation that would be made to Council as part of the budget process.

Brief discussion took place on the use of colour-coded routes for sidewalks and paths, which could also be made available to visitors.

In response to Mayor C. Chisholm, T. Cameron advised that she would be scheduling the next meeting specifically on Active Transportation and would have a facilitator attend. CAO S. Feist suggested Mr. M. Peck be contacted and requested to facilitate the meeting. It was generally agreed that the meeting be scheduled from 4-6:00 PM, or 4:30-6:30 PM.

T. Cameron advised she hopes to have an Active Transportation plan in place for 2014.

- Trail Study (Update)

T. Cameron advised that the Antigonish Sustainable Development group had met with the person hired by the Town to carry out the trail study, but had no details on the out-come of the meeting.

- Whidden Street Playground (Update)

T. Cameron advised she would be attending the 'Bringing Nature to Life' workshop scheduled for April 11, and 12, 2012, in Canso. It is intended information from this workshop will be utilized for the Whidden Street Playground. She requested anyone interested in attending the workshop to advise her.

- Turf Field Maintenance

T. Cameron advised MacLeod's Farm Machinery is looking into an appropriate piece of equipment for maintenance of the Turf Field.

- Volunteer of the Year

T. Cameron advised that Ms. J. MacNeil will represent the Town as Volunteer of the Year at the Awards Ceremony in Halifax, scheduled for April 2, 2012.

Deputy Mayor D. Roberts agreed to accompany Ms. J. MacNeil to the Ceremony. T. Cameron agreed to provide additional details to Deputy Mayor D. Roberts on the event. She further noted she would advise Council on the Volunteer of the Year.

- Strategic Plan

The Recreation Department Strategic Plan was distributed. T. Cameron advised that two (2) meetings were held and the only thing not agreed upon was with respect to Festivals and Events. Councillor S. Cameron suggested the Town supports festivals and events and therefore a broad statement would suffice.

Discussion took place on the Recreation Department having its own Strategic Plan. CAO S. Feist noted that typically a Town would have a Strategic Plan that would include departments such as Recreation.

T. Cameron advised that she is working on goals that can be achieved which were taken from the Town's Strategic Plan. She noted she hopes to pull the costs and timelines together.

D. Anderson commented that some things relative to active transportation are already happening. T. Cameron advised that she needs direction as many groups are expecting her to have time to be available to them.

- Budget 2012-13

T. Cameron advised that active transportation, trail development, 'green gym', and a dog park have been identified as important considerations for the upcoming budget.

Brief discussion took place on posting walking/running paths/directions.

## **Correspondence**

There was no Correspondence to be received.

## **New Business**

- Youth Mountain Biking Group

T. Cameron advised she is helping the Youth Mountain Biking Group put together a grant application and that the group had received nine (9) bikes through the RCMP.

- Antigonish Sustainable Development (ASD)

T. Cameron advised that Councillor J. MacPherson has advised that the Antigonish Sustainable Development group want to hire a student for the summer and have the Town front 50% of the cost. Brief discussion took place on Councillors involvement with various organizations. T. Cameron noted that ASD seem to be requesting a lot of stuff.

Deputy Mayor D. Roberts noted that if a Town Councillor is represented with the ASD group, the Councillor should be bringing any information/requests to Council, and that all requests go through the CAO.

**Adjournment**

Moved by Councillor S. Cameron

Seconded by Deputy Mayor D. Roberts

“That the meeting be adjourned.”