

**Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**June 13, 2012**  
**12:00 Noon**  
**Council Chambers**

**Present**

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

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

**Call to Order**

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

**Approval of Agenda**

Moved by Councillor S. Cameron  
Seconded by D. Anderson  
"That the Agenda be approved as circulated." Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes**

Moved by Deputy Mayor D. Roberts  
Seconded by Councillor S. Cameron  
"That the Minutes of the Recreation Committee held on March 7, 2012, be approved as circulated." Motion carried.

**Business from Minutes**

There was no Business from the Minutes for discussion.

**Updates**

- Highland Connect

T. Cameron advised that the Highland Connect program has been launched and is now up and running. She provided a brief background on the program and noted that annual maintenance costs will be in the area of \$500.00 for training and media coverage, and further noted the site had received 36,000 'hits' since being launched.

- Canada Day

A poster outlining Canada Day activities was circulated. T. Cameron questioned whether the County would be again providing a contribution toward the fireworks, and if so, should be included in the promotion for Canada Day activities. She noted a grant of in the amount of \$7,300.00 was from Canadian Heritage for the celebrations.

At 12:05 PM Mayor C. Chisholm joined the meeting. Mayor C. Chisholm confirmed that the Town has already received \$4,000.00 from the County toward the fireworks display.

Councillor S. Cameron advised that the 'Good Neighbor' recipient has been contacted. It was suggested the recipient be presented with a shirt or jacket as well as a framed photo. Brief discussion took place on who would make the presentation.

In response to a comment from Councillor S. Cameron, T. Cameron advised that a cheque had already been requisitioned for the Ladies Auxiliary in the amount of \$750.00. for preparation of the pancake breakfast.

Councillor S. Cameron noted that more firemen may be required during the fireworks display due to construction at the University. He further noted that the parking lot would be blocked off due to soccer being held.

Mayor C. Chisholm provided comment on the lateness of the fireworks last year and a need to ensure they are either lit by dusk, or postponed.

- Trail Study

T. Cameron advised that the Trail Study is currently underway and is being paid for by way of a grant. Mr. G. MacIsaac, Health and Promotion, has stated that the \$5,000.00 for the trail study would be considered 50% of the Town's contribution toward an Active Transportation Plan.

The Chair advised that some businesses are seeking to have benches adjacent their buildings removed. Councillor S. Cameron suggested they be relocated closed to the RK MacDonald Nursing Home to facilitate Seniors walking. T. Cameron advised she had had some input in this regard from Mr. T. MacIntyre, an employee of the Nursing Home.

- Natural Play Spaces Seminar

T. Cameron advised that she had recently attended a Natural Play Spaces Seminar. She advised that \$10,000.00 is available for play equipment and that the money would be used for the re-installation of equipment at the Whidden Playground. She noted that she had met some people at the Seminar who could assist with a Natural Play Space plan. She further noted she would be meeting with Mr. K. St. Pierre, playground sales consultant, to look at options.

- Turf Field Maintenance

L. Boucher advised that the final report on the baseball diamond had just been received. Copies of the Report were distributed.

T. Cameron advised that for now, a verbal agreement is in place with St. FX University for them to provide maintenance until such time as the Town is able to. Brief discussion took place on maintenance/miscommunications.

Discussion took place on the purchase of a new tractor and a Gator for the turf field. It was noted that T. Cameron, and CAO S. Feist are looking at options.

Brief discussion took place on the possibility of utilizing sponsorship for the field maintenance equipment.

Councillor S. Cameron noted that if the cost of the Gator is under \$10,000.00 it could be purchased outright as it would not have to be put to tender.

Moved by Councillor S. Cameron

Seconded by Deputy Mayor D. Roberts

“That the Town purchase a Gator as per the specifications for the turf field.” Motion carried.

Moved by Deputy Mayor D. Roberts

Seconded by Councillor S. Cameron

“That the Town place a tender for the purchase of a tractor suitable for maintaining the turf field.” Motion carried.

CAO S. Feist noted strong concerns were raised with the contour of the baseball diamond and whether it should be accepted as it may not meet standards.

Ms. L. Boucher advised that there is a one (1) year window to have the contractor address any deficiencies. Discussion took place. It was noted that the Report did not make any mention of the crown on the baseball diamond.

CAO S. Feist suggested an expert be brought in to view the field and determine if it meets code, and confirm in writing the state of the field. T. Cameron agreed to contact Baseball Nova Scotia in this regard. Further discussion took place on a meeting held with Mr. G. Ratcliffe, the Landscape Architect overseeing the field construction and his Report.

Discussion took place on the Contractor, maintenance, substantial completion, and hold-back monies.

Ms. L. Boucher noted a meeting of those involved with the turf project was scheduled for this coming Monday. T. Cameron agreed to attend. Ms. L. Boucher to confirm the time of the meeting with T. Cameron.

- Youth Mountain Biking Group

T. Cameron advised that twelve (12) bikes have been secured for the Youth Mountain Biking Group, with ten (10) of the bikes coming from the RCMP. She further noted that Antigonish Sustainable Development received a grant and will have a summer student in place to make upgrades/repairs to the bikes. T. Cameron advised that the Keppoch group and Adult Learning will also be utilizing the bikes.

### **Correspondence**

- Kids First

T. Cameron advised she had received a thank-you note for funds received for their Tumble Bugs program.

### **New Business**

- Maintenance Staff

T. Cameron advised that Mr. H. Bonvie has been hired as Maintenance Supervisor, and that Mr. B. Linkletter will return. S. MacGillivray and D. Regal have also been hired for the summer.

T. Cameron advised that the Beautification and Land Rehabilitation Committee had received a grant to hire an assistant gardener for a six (6) week period.

- Summer Camp Staff

T. Cameron advised that Mr. B. MacVicar will return as Summer Camp Supervisor.

She noted that the information on the summer camps is out, that prices are up, and that there will not be any 'free' spots available. She stated this was in response to only receiving half of the funding that is usually secured. Registration is now being accepted and the information is also available on the Town's website.

- Water Park

T. Cameron advised that vandals had damaged two of the cannons at the water park, with an estimated cost of \$9,000.00 for repairs. She indicated she would be contacting the Town's insurer in this regard.

**Adjournment**

Moved by L. Boucher

Seconded by Deputy Mayor D. Roberts

"That the meeting be adjourned." Motion carried.