



MINUTES
RECREATION AND PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, March 11 2010
7:00 p.m. – City Hall, Lower Boardroom

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Jim McManaman, Chair
Councillor Tom Pink
Tom Wiley (Councillor - Georgian Bluffs) Vice Chair
Paul Foster
Sharon McKeachnie
Rachelle Williams
Jean Paul Caron
Ryan Thompson (Councillor - Georgian Bluffs)
Mark Rouse

ABSENT/REGRETS: Francis Richardson (Mayor – Meaford)
Gayle Graham
Bob Knapp

STAFF PRESENT: Pam Coulter, Director of Community Services
Craig Ruppenthal, Facilities Manager
Pat Bryant, Community Services

1. CALL TO ORDER –7:03 P.M.

2. ADDITIONAL ITEMS

There were none.

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF FOR MATTERS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES OR LISTED ON THE AGENDA.

There was none.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

a) Regular Meeting – February 11, 2010

It was noted that Councillor Tom Pink not Councillor Wright attended the meeting and Gayle Graham was not in attendance.

Item 6. d), the capital budget for the soccer field is over two years (2011/2012).

Moved by Sharon McKeachnie

"THAT the minutes of the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee meeting held on February 11, 2010 be hereby approved as amended."

Carried unanimously

It was noted that the soil from the construction of the regional recreation centre will not be used for the new soccer field due to trucking cost.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) Leash Free Dog Park Update

The Director of Community Services reported the site plan and proposal for the leash free dog park has been submitted to the Planning Division. No public information is available at this time.

b) Report from Manager of Parks and Open Space Re: Miniature Horse "Fun" Drive

Pam Coulter reported that The Miniature Horse Club of Ontario has reconsidered their request to hold a "Fun Drive" at Harrison Park and have agreed to the costs and other associated conditions of use.

Moved by Sharon McKeachnie

"THAT the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee receive the report from the Manager of Parks and Open Space dated February 1, 2010 regarding the request from the Miniature Horse Club of Ontario with respect to a "Fun Drive" in Harrison Park on Saturday, July 17, 2010 with a rain date of Sunday, July 18, 2010, and further

THAT City staff prepare a formal rental agreement."

Carried unanimously

6. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations.

7. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED FOR WHICH DIRECTION OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS REQUIRED.

There was none.

8. REPORTS AND MATTERS TABLED FOR WHICH DIRECTION OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE IS REQUIRED.

a) Verbal Report from Chair, Steering Committee Re: Regional Recreation Centre

Councillor McManaman updated Committee on the status of the regional recreation centre.

An extension has been requested for the infrastructure funding as it will be difficult to meet the March 31, 2011 requirement. There are over 150 projects in similar situations.

The recent public meeting to discuss the City's 2010 budget resulted in major discussion regarding the recreation centre. Most comments supported moving forward with the project.

Council is cautiously optimistic and will continue to lobby government to continue funding beyond the deadline. The construction tender was awarded to Harold Sutherland Construction.

The fundraising campaign is to start very shortly.

b) Report from Manager of Parks and Open Space and Facilities Booking Coordinator Re: Ball Diamonds

The Director of Community Services reviewed the report outlining the issues relating to the request from the Owen Sound Men's Fastball League to relocate the Owen Sound Ladies Slow Pitch games to St. Georges Park.

In 2009 the Men's Fastball League realized increased team numbers and greater demand for ball diamonds and has requested additional ball diamond use at Duncan McLellan Park for 2010.

A review of allocation of ball diamonds similar to ice allocation would be in order for next season. However, ball diamond allocations start April 1st. Committee suggested John Howard meet with the user groups to ensure the diamonds meet the needs of users as best as possible and devise a plan to repair St. George's Park.

Several options to accommodate the request were proposed.

- Grant the request by relocating Ladies Slow Pitch games on Wed. nights to St. George's Park
- Deny request and encourage men to use Friday evenings and Sunday afternoons at Duncan McLellan Park
- Offer Ladies Slow Pitch diamond time on weekends at Duncan McLellan Park.

It was noted that all ball diamonds are not equal; St. George's Park is limited in size and men's teams cannot use this field; Tom Williams Park is a lit baseball diamond with a raised pitching mound.

Weekend users also run the risk of being dislocated due to tournaments.

Another option recommended was to alternate weekly use of Duncan McLellan Park by Ladies Slow Pitch and Men's Fastball. However Committee agreed that regardless of the option, St. George's Park should be improved in consultation with the user groups.

Ryan Thompson arrived at 7:25 p.m.

Moved by Sharon McKeachie

"THAT the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee recommend that the City offer Ladies Slow Pitch and Men's Fastball alternate Wednesday night use of Duncan McLellan Park, and Ladies Slow Pitch be given the option of playing Fridays at Duncan McLellan or St. George's Park, and further

THAT Community Services staff develop a Ball Field Allocation Policy for 2011 to be brought back to the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee for review and approval, and further

THAT the Manager of Parks and Open Space bring forward a report regarding improvements to St. Georges Park and request that he meets with user groups prior to final report."

Carried unanimously

c) **Report from Facilities Manager Re: Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre Signage**

The Facilities Manager advised that the sign at the southeast corner of the Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre was originally built by Hal Wrights Chev Olds at a cost of \$13,000. The 10 year agreement with Hal Wrights for the sign has now expired. There was no automatic renewal clause although did include wording "may negotiate terms with sponsor to continue to advertise".

The Facilities Manager is recommending an RFP be issued for advertising to determine interest.

Tom Wiley declared a conflict.

Moved by Councillor Pink

"THAT the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee recommend City staff advertise for a request for proposal from businesses interested in advertising on the coming events sign located at the Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre, to include amount of rent and length of contract. The City would have the final okay in approving the copy to be included on the sign."

Carried unanimously with
Tom Wiley not voting
having earlier disclosed a
conflict of interest

f) **Report from Facilities Booking Coordinator Re: Agreement with Bayshore Retirees for Use of Bayshore**

The Director of Community Services briefed Committee on the agreement with the Bayshore Retirees. The current agreement expires March 15th, 2010. The City is currently looking to find a permanent facility for seniors.

It was noted that the Bayshore Retirees do not use the facility on Wednesdays.

Moved by Rachelle Williams

"THAT in consideration of a report dated March 8, 2010 from the Facilities booking Coordinator, the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee recommend that City Council approve an extension of the current agreement By-law 2004-024 with the Bayshore Retirees for use of the Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre for Club activities to expire September 10, 2010."

Carried unanimously

9. **'IN CAMERA' RESOLUTION**

Moved by Councillor Pink

"THAT the Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee move 'in camera' to discuss identifiable individuals and contract negotiations."

Carried unanimously

Having completed its 'in camera' business, Committee returned to its regular meeting.

10. **OTHER BUSINESS**

a) There was none.

11. **CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED WHICH IS PRESENTED FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

There was none.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

The Committee adjourned at 8:05 p.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 8, 2010.