

**MINUTES
RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2015
6:30 PM
JOHNSTOWN COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Present: Councillor Karie Smail, Chair
Councillor Gerry Morrell,
Don Deline
Larry Dishaw
Kristina Kinos
Mayor Pat Sayeau, Ex Officio

Regrets: Clint Cameron

Staff: Shelbi Deacon, Community Development Coordinator
Mike Spencer, Director of Parks, Recreation & Facilities
Sheena Earl, Deputy Clerk

1. Call to Order – Chair, Councillor Smail

Councillor Smail called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: K. Kinos seconded by: D. Deline that Committee approve the agenda as amended with the addition of a delegation from Ms. Merkley and Ms. Garswood with respect to repairing and reopening the Cardinal baby pool under item 5a).

Carried

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest –None

4. Business Arising from Previous Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes

Councillor Morrell noted a typographical error in the minutes.

5. Delegations

- a) Ms. Erin Merkley & Ms. Katie Garswood – Cardinal Baby Pool

Ms. Merkley and Ms. Garswood presented a petition created in support of the repair and reopening of the Cardinal baby pool. They noted that the petition currently has 291 signatures with 174 of those from residents of the Township.

Ms. Merkley and Ms. Garswood outlined the history of the pool and the fundraising efforts of the Cardinal Fire Department. Both discussed the importance of the pool in building confidence and skill development among young swimmers and asked that consideration be given to repairing and reopening the pool as soon as possible.

Ms. Garswood asked committee why there had been no attempts to fix the pool, how it was able to fall into disrepair and for estimated costs of work based on quotations.

Members asked Ms. Merkley and Ms. Garswood questions with respect to the timing of their petition distribution. A number of criteria for evaluating the options in the decision making process of Council with respect to the repairs were discussed. Statistical significance of anonymous surveys was discussed.

Staff noted that estimated repair costs are between \$48,000-\$53,000 plus additional funds to act as a contingency in case sandblasting reveals additional damage.

Funding options were briefly discussed among members and the delegation.. It was requested that the petition and presentations be provided to Council for their consideration.

Ms. Jodoin, present in the gallery, spoke briefly about an issue she and her child had experienced at the pool earlier in the day, which she believed could have been avoided if her child had been in a shallower pool. She also noted her discontent with the estimated cost listed on the recreation surveys.

6. Discussion Items

a) Recreation Surveys Update

Staff provided a brief update on survey responses thus far. Details of the survey were discussed among members. It was noted that completed surveys would be collected for one month with results to be presented to RAC in September.

b) Vision for Township Recreation

Members were asked to present visions for Township recreation based on information gained from the meetings and facilities tours thus far.

A number of ideas and suggestions were discussed. It was the consensus of members that a focus should be placed on recreation programming in current

facilities. Staff was asked to provide a report on programming and administration options at the August meeting.

Members felt that it was important to await the results of the Township-wide recreation survey prior to making recommendations to Council with respect to recreation.

7. Inquiries/Notices of Motion from Committee Members

Mr. Dishaw put forward the following Notice of Motion:

Moved by: L. Dishaw, seconded by: D. Deline that the Township Recreation Advisory Committee endorse and submit to Council a request to appoint a "Friends of the Galop Canal Committee" and that this Committee will seek out all ways to restore, upgrade and maintain the Township owned Galop Canal properties and further that the Township of Edwardsburgh/Cardinal will cover any and all liability associated with this project and committee.

This motion will come forward to the next Recreation Advisory Committee meeting for consideration.

Members briefly discussed some history with respect to an engineering report completed on the canal and preventative or maintenance work directed by the past few terms of Council.

8. Question Period

Questions were raised and comments were provided with respect to the following items:

- Cardinal baby pool repair and reopening
- Recreation programming in evening hours
- Walking track regulation enforcement
- Recreation guides -Township of Leeds & Thousand Islands
- Johnstown recreation facilities maintenance
- Pool heaters

The next RAC meeting will be held at Council Chambers in Spencerville on August 13th.

10. Closed Session – None

11. Adjournment

Moved by: D. Deline that the meeting adjourns at 7:59pm.

Carried

These minutes approved in open Council this 27th day of July, 2015

Chair

Secretary