

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES

County Council Chambers
7 Broadway Street West
Tuesday, April 28, 2009
7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Eddy, Councillors Wheat, Schmitt, Haggart, Powell and Hodge

Staff: Underwood, Ballantyne, Atkinson, Ellins and Lehmann

Councillor Wheat in the Chair.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by – Councillor Schmitt
Seconded by – Councillor Powell

That the Parks and Recreation Committee agenda and addendum for April 28, 2009, be approved.

.Carried

DELEGATIONS / PRESENTATIONS / PETITIONS

Ms. Nancy Dubois – Du-B-Fit Consulting Re: Active Grand Physical Activity Strategy

Ms. Dubois reviewed a power point presentation with respect to the Active Grand Physical Activity Strategy and discussed the following:

- the need for a physical activity strategy locally;
- socio-behavioral risk factors for chronic diseases;
- the Physical Activity Index by location and sex;
- the process for implementing the strategy;
- the purpose and goal for implementing the strategy;
- priority populations;
- the plan and proposal going forward; and
- next steps – Phase 2

Ms. Dubois noted that the Launch of the Active Grand Physical Activity Strategy, featuring a free swim with a variety of outdoor activities will be held on Saturday, May 23, 2009 at 2:00 p.m., at the Wayne Gretzky Sports Centre.

Ms. Shannon McCracken – Paris Lions Club Re: Community Miracles Project

Ms. McCracken, Project Manager for the Community Miracles Project, reviewed the history of the proposed project and noted that the Paris Lions Club is requesting the following:

- permission to install \$10,000 worth of new playground equipment at Lions Park in Paris;
- that the Parks and Facilities Manager and the Parks and Facilities Supervisor – Paris be permitted to join the Community Miracles Planning Committee (to be formed in the future);

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- a financial contribution toward the hiring of a landscape architect for works to take place at the park, confirmation of what that amount will be and a projected start date for the works;
 - that the County enter into a five year Lease Agreement with the Paris Lions Club, for the use of Lions Park in Paris, to ensure that the Community Miracles Project is eligible for Trillium Foundation funding;
 - a commitment to the sale of the Community Miracles Project button in the Paris Customer Service Office

Ms. McCracken advised that the Paris Lions Club, through the Community Miracles Project, is reinvesting in young families residing in the Paris area and at the same time encouraging an increase in physical activity. She noted that the goal of the Paris Lions Club is to rejuvenate the Paris Lions Park to “destination park” status, such that tourists will be attracted to visiting the Park and the community of Paris. Ms. McCracken advised that the Paris Lions Club has been in contact with other Paris area service clubs to discuss the different roles that each of the service clubs can play in terms of fundraising, manpower, etc.

In response to questions, the Parks and Facilities Manager reported that she is preparing a Request for Proposals with respect to landscape architect services and that the entire process should take approximately two weeks. She noted that once a landscape architect has been selected, that person could work in conjunction with the Community Miracles Planning Committee. With respect to the amount of money that the County would be willing to contribute to the landscape architect services, she noted that the number would depend upon the quotes received from the Request for Proposals process. She advised that one proposal has been received, but that the scope of work could be slightly amended in order to ensure that the County is receiving the best value for the money being spent.

With respect to the Lease Agreement, the Parks and Facilities Manager reported that the Agreement could be finalized at a later date, as it does not need to be in place until the Trillium Foundation application deadline of November, 2009.

Committee members expressed concern with respect to the priority status being requested by the Paris Lions Club, noting that the Twin Pad Complex fundraising campaign is a high priority at present. The Director noted that should Committee and Council determine that the Community Miracles Project is a priority project, that one or more previously identified other priorities will need to be delayed. She further noted that the Community Miracles project would involve cross-departmental participation.

Moved by – Councillor Haggart
Seconded by – Councillor Hodge

That the requests received from the Paris Lions Club, with respect to the proposed Community Miracles Project, be referred to staff for review and report.

.Carried

MINUTES

Moved by – Councillor Hodge
Seconded by – Councillor Powell

That the Parks and Recreation Committee special meeting minutes of April 21, 2009 be approved, as printed.

.Carried

Moved by – Councillor Hodge
Seconded by – Councillor Powell

That the Parks and Recreation Committee special meeting minutes of March 24, 2009 be approved, as printed.

.Carried

Moved by – Councillor Hodge
Seconded by – Councillor Powell

That the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting minutes of February 25, 2009 be approved, as printed.

.Carried

The Committee adjourned from Parks and Recreation at 7:39 p.m., on a motion of Councillors Hodge and Powell, and convened the Emergency Services portion of the meeting.

The Committee reconvened into Parks and Recreation at 7:43 p.m.

CONSENT ITEMS

In response to a question, the Parks and Facilities Manager reported that the RFP for concession services at Green Lane Park has now closed and that there were no prospective applications received. She advised that local service clubs will be approached to gauge their interest, if any, in operating the concession services at Green Lane Park. Committee discussion focused on alternative means of operating the concession stand and the Director noted that staff will report back to Committee once the local service clubs have been approached.

Moved by – Councilor Hodge
Seconded by – Councillor Schmitt

That the following consent items be approved:

PR-09-14 – RFP Evaluation Criteria – Concession Services at Green Lane Park

Whereas the Green Lane concession operation was deemed unsustainable;

And whereas the Paris Parks & Recreation Committee at its October meeting supported ceasing the operation of the concession at the end of the 2008 season;

Be it hereby resolved that the following evaluation criteria be approved for the Provision of Concession Services at Green Lane Park as per Article 6.10 of the County of Brant Purchasing Policy (By-law 271-04) using the following criteria:

Criteria:	Points
a) Experience - proven experience in similar service operation	30
b) Proposed Services - qualifications, business plan, operating model	40
c) Compensation - percentage of gross revenue or flat rate proposal	20
d) References	10

.Carried

PR-09-21 – Proclamation for “June is Parks and Recreation Month” Proclamation

Whereas the County of Brant recognizes the benefits and values of recreation in everyday life;

And whereas the County of Brant continues to provide activities, events, programs and services that encourage families in the County of Brant to participate and be involved in recreation and parks;

Be it hereby resolved that the County of Brant proclaim the month of June, 2009 as *June is Recreation and Parks Month*;

And that the County of Brant continue to promote awareness in recreation and parks programs, services and facilities.

.Carried

Moved by – Councillor Hodge
Seconded by – Councillor Powell

That the following consent items be received as information:

- i. Parks and Recreation Ontario PROFile E-bulletin for March 2009;
- ii. Glen Morris Centennial Hall Committee meeting minutes of March 26, 2009;
- iii. Paris Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting minutes of February 10, 2009;
- iv. PR-09-18 – Active Grand Physical Activity Strategy Update – L. Atkinson;
- v. PR-09-19 – Recreation Division Activity Report January 1 through March 31, 2009 – L. Atkinson;
- vi. Brant West Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting minutes of April 8, 2009
- vii. Parks and Recreation Ontario PROFile E-bulletin for April, 2009;
- viii. PR-09-23 – Public Survey for Phase Two of Aquatic Service Review – L. Atkinson

.Carried

In response to a question, the Director reported that in the future, representatives of the Active Grand Physical Activity Strategy will be requesting additional funding from the County to implement Phase 2 of the Strategy. Committee discussion focused on the barriers that some people face when trying to increase their activity levels, namely, financial, transportation and education.

REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Moved by – Councillor Powell
Seconded by – Councillor Schmitt

That the following reports from Advisory Committees be received as information:

- a) Paris Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee of April 14, 2009;
- b) Cobblestone Common Committee of April 3, 2009;
- c) South Dumfries Recreation Advisory Committee of March 30, 2009; and

d) Brantford Oakland Onondaga Recreation Advisory Committee of March 26, 2009

.Carried

REPORTS FROM STAFF

PR-09-20 – Lease Agreement – St. George Lions Club

In response to a question, the Director advised that it has always been the intent of the St. George Lions Club that their financial contribution to the South Dumfries Community Centre addition would provide them with meeting time and space at the South Dumfries Community Centre, for an indefinite period of time. The Parks and Facilities Manager noted that she is currently working with County Legal Staff to develop a Lease Agreement between the County and the St. George Lions Club, noting that one of the conditions of the Lease Agreement would be a re-negotiation of the terms every three to five years.

In response to a question regarding cost benefits, the Director reported that the current annual budget for facility rental revenue for the space is \$9,275. She noted that the Lease Agreement would allow the St. George Lions Club to apply to the Trillium Foundation.

Moved by – Councillor Hodge
Seconded by – Councillor Schmitt

Whereas the South Dumfries Community Centre is expanding the Community Hall for community use;

And whereas the St. George Lion's Club is donating \$320,000 toward the South Dumfries Community Centre Addition;

And whereas the St. George Lion's Club requires space for their weekly meetings and annual fundraising activities;

Be it hereby resolved that the County of Brant enter into a non-exclusive license agreement with the St. George Lions Club, for the Club's use of space and times, as may be mutually agreed upon, at no charge, so long as the County owns and operates the presently existing South Dumfries Community Centre building as a recreational facility, located at 7 Gaukel Drive, St. George.

.Carried

PR-09-17 – 2009 Alternative Location for Learn to Swim Programs in 2009

Moved by – Councillor Hodge
Seconded by – Councillor Schmitt

Whereas at the March 24, 2009 Parks and Recreation Committee meeting the recommendation was approved that the County of Brant look into alternative locations to continue offering learn to swim programs in the County of Brant until such time as new aquatic infrastructure is available;

And whereas the County of Brant recognizes the need to continue offering "Learn to Swim" programs for residents;

Be it hereby resolved that the County of Brant go into partnership with the City of Brantford to offer County of Brant residents subsidized swimming lessons at City of Brantford Aquatic Facilities at a 50% reduced cost for the 2009 summer season;

And that estimated cost to subsidize swimming lessons for the 2009 season of \$6,000.00 be supported.

.Carried

CORRESPONDENCE

Moved by – Councillor Hodge
Seconded by – Councillor Powell

That the following items of correspondence be received as information:

- 1) Mr. P. Yackman Re: Canadian Baseball Little League Championship;
- 2) M.P.P. Dave Levac to the Honourable Margaret Best, Minister of Health Promotion Re: Paris Community Pool

.Carried

OTHER BUSINESS

Damaged Railing

Mayor Eddy reported that the metal railing leading to the ramp at the east end of Lions Park Bridge, at the west end of Mechanic Street, has been damaged. He requested that the Director of Community Services liaise with the Director of Public Works, to ensure that the railing is repaired in advance of May 27, 2009.

Children's Services Coordinator / Recreation Coordinator

The Director reported that the former Recreation Coordinator provided his resignation to the County and that his last day of employment was April 28, 2009. In response to a question, the Director noted that during the 2008 Parks and Recreation Service Review, the position of Children's Services Coordinator and Aquatic Services Coordinator were each modified to "Recreation Coordinator", in an effort to provide flexibility to the positions and to enable work-sharing between the two Coordinators. She advised that the vacant Recreation Coordinator position has been advertised both internally and externally and that the deadline for receipt of applications is May 4, 2009.

DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

Recreation Advisory Committee Information Exchange

The Director reported that a Recreation Advisory Committee Information Exchange has been organized for Thursday, April 30, 2009 at 7:00 p.m., at the new Sacred Heart School in Paris. She invited members of the Committee to attend the Information Exchange and suggested that perhaps Mayor Eddy would wish to address the Advisory Committee members in attendance at the event.

Tennis Courts at the Paris District High School

The Director reported that at the June 24, 2008 meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee, Committee recommended approval, in principle, of a partnership with the Grand Erie District School Board (GEDSB) and the United Volunteer Foundation of Brantford / Brant for the replacement of the tennis courts at the Paris District High School. The partnership involved a County contribution of \$25,000, a United Volunteer Foundation of Brantford / Brant contribution of \$8,000, with the remainder of the cost to be borne by the GEDSB.

It was noted that the County's contribution amount of \$25,000 for the project and associated costs for joint maintenance of the tennis courts was approved as part of 2009 County Budget deliberations.

The Director reported that the GEDSB has advised that they did not budget for any funds to be applied to the tennis court reconstruction in 2009 and are requesting information with respect to the County's position with regard to future maintenance of the tennis courts. The Director advised that it is staff's suggestion that correspondence be forwarded to the GEDSB, under Mayor Eddy's signature, requesting that they honour their previous commitment to contribute to the project. She further advised that it is staff's suggestion that the project be put on hold until such time as the GEDSB is in a position to financially contribute to same.

Vandalism at the Burford Community Centre

The Director reported that vandalism occurred at the Burford Community Centre during the month of March. In an effort to reduce the amount of vandalism taking place at the various Community Centres throughout the County, the Director advised that a video surveillance policy is being drafted for submission to an upcoming Corporate Development Committee meeting. She further advised that the Burford Optimist Club has expressed a willingness to donate surveillance equipment for use at the Burford Community Centre.

In Camera at 8:13 p.m., to discuss legal matters on a motion of Councillors Powell and Hodge.

This portion of the meeting is recorded in the In Camera – Confidential Parks and Recreation Committee minutes dated April 28, 2009.

Open Session at 8:19 p.m., on a motion of Councillor Schmitt and Mayor Eddy.

NEXT MEETING and ADJOURNMENT

Committee adjourned at 8:22 p.m. on a motion of Councillors Powell and Hodge, to meet again on Tuesday, June 23, 2009 at 7:00 p.m., County Council Chambers, Paris.

Secretary