

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**  
MINUTES

County Council Chambers, Paris Office  
Monday, December 18, 2006  
7:00 p.m.

**Present:** Councillors Wheat, Schmitt, Haggart, Powell and Chambers

**Staff:** Brenneman, Leask, Underwood, Ayres and Boyd

**Others:** Councillor Atfield

**Regrets:** Mayor Eddy

Councillor Wheat in the Chair.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved by – Councillor Schmitt

Seconded by – Councillor Haggart

That the Parks and Recreation Committee agenda for December 18, 2006 be accepted.

.Carried

**DELEGATIONS / PRESENTATIONS / PETITIONS**

**Mike Sywyk, Springtime in Paris – Garden of Hope** – Mr. Sywyk presented a proposal to establish a Canadian Cancer Society “Garden of Hope” in memory of cancer victims and survivors. He reviewed that the Paris Horticultural Society and Springtime in Paris Committee discussed this proposal with representatives from the Garden of Hope in Niagara on the Lake and support the use in Riverview Park (Grand River Street North, Paris). Mr. Sywyk presented plans for the garden, noting that the Horticultural Society and Canadian Cancer Society would be partnering in the project and fundraising for the works required. It is not anticipated that the County will be requested to contribute funds.

In response to a question, Mr. Sywyk suggested that the park be named the “Garden of Hope”. He estimated that the majority of landscaping works and plantings would be completed by June 2, 2006 (for Springtime in Paris), noting that daffodil bulbs could not be planted until the autumn. The County would continue to maintain the grass portions of the garden.

In response to a question, Mr. Sywyk reviewed that a wheelchair accessible path would be constructed at least to the upper level bench area, but suggested that given the steep slopes, it would be inappropriate to construct a ramp (rather than stairs) down to the lower level.

Moved by – Councillor Haggart

Seconded by – Councillor Schmitt

That the proposal from the Paris Horticultural Society – Springtime in Paris Committee to redesign and designate Riverview Park (Grand River Street North, Paris) into a Canadian Cancer Society “Garden of Hope” in memory of cancer victims and survivors be approved.

.Carried

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It was noted that all designs and works for the park should be reviewed with the Paris Facilities and Parks Manager.

### **MINUTES**

Moved by – Councillor Haggart  
Seconded by – Councillor Chambers

That the Community Services Committee minutes of November 27, 2006 be approved as circulated.

.Carried

### **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

1. The Director reported that the previous Community Services Committee deferred the appointment of a Council liaison to the ad hoc committee for the "Proposal for a Skateboard Facility in Paris". The minutes of October 23, 2006 were reviewed and Councillor Powell agreed to serve on the ad hoc committee. In response to questions regarding the \$420,000 cost estimate, the Director noted that the proponents established this figure in comparison with other facilities in the Province.

In discussion, clarification was sought on whether the ad hoc committee is being established by the County or by the delegation and on the mandate, terms of reference and appointments for the committee. The Director reviewed the ad hoc committee membership proposed by the delegation (one Council member, one Paris Recreation Advisory Committee member, staff liaisons, Lions Club, Optimist Club, parent and youth representatives). The Committee generally agreed with this ad hoc committee structure, but it was suggested that the Kiwanis Club of Paris also be invited to participate. The Community Services Manager noted that the previous delegation for a skateboard facility in Paris (Maclay Curtis and Isaac Sollazzo) is not part of the group that presented in October.

In discussion, questions were raised regarding how fundraising for this project would be administered. Councillor Wheat reviewed the proposal that the County establish an account and issue donation receipts on the group's behalf. The Director noted that administrative difficulties could arise if donations are received, but the project does not move forward. In response to a question, the Director noted that although referenced as a matter referred to budget deliberations, funding for this project is not recommended by staff in the draft 2007 budget being prepared for Council's consideration.

The Committee directed that staff prepare a report for consideration at the January Emergency Services Committee meeting, recommending a mandate, terms of reference and appointments for the ad hoc committee and recommending a protocol for fundraising.

2. The Director reported that the previous Community Services Committee had deferred the matter of scheduling a meeting with the Paris Business Improvement Association (BIA) to discuss the status and their ongoing participation in the development of the Cobblestone Common parkette. He reviewed that the property was purchased by the County and that the project was initiated on the understanding that the BIA would be the lead and fundraise for both the purchase and land development costs. The County was later approached with a request for funding to complete the project.

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The Committee directed that a meeting with representatives from the Paris BIA be scheduled as part of the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting in February. Background and technical information regarding the project will be forwarded to Committee members.

3. The Director distributed notes from the Twin Pad Arena and Indoor Field House User Group Meeting held on November 30, 2006. He noted there are two additional meetings to be held and that all user groups have been requested to forward written confirmation of ice time requirements by the end of January. In discussion, it was suggested that a standard form be used to determine exact ice time requirements, so that staff can clearly identify what time slots would be occupied. A report outlining the results of these meetings will be presented at the February Parks and Recreation Committee meeting.

In discussion, concern was expressed that the County has not yet begun to actively seek funding from the Federal and Provincial governments. The Director noted the announcement of a small amount of funds for "construction ready" projects. Councillor Atfield suggested that there may be more significant funding announced shortly. The Committee directed that staff investigate and report on Federal / Provincial funding opportunities in February.

#### **CONSENT ITEMS RECEIVED AS INFORMATION**

1. Community Services Cheque Register dated December 6, 2006.
2. Parks and Recreation Business Status Report.
3. Cemetery Advisory Committee Minutes of November 23, 2006.
4. Paris Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes of December 12, 2006.

#### **APPOINTMENTS TO THE PARIS RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Moved by – Councillor Chambers  
Seconded by – Councillor Schmitt

That Mr. Joe Stone be appointed as a citizen member to the Paris Recreation Advisory Committee;

And that Councillor Murray Powell be appointed as a Council liaison member of the Paris Recreation Advisory Committee.

.Carried

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

1. Councillor Wheat reviewed an article in the Paris Star regarding Shallis Ryder, who won World Cup and Gold Medals from the International Dance Organization in Germany. It was agreed that Ms. Shallis would be recognized and that a policy would be developed to acknowledge all Provincially, Nationally and Internationally-recognized athletes.

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Moved by – Councillor Schmitt  
Seconded by – Councillor Powell

That Ms. Shallis Ryder be presented with a certificate at an upcoming Brant County Council meeting in recognition of her achievement in the World Cup and gold medals from the International Dance Organization held in Germany;

And that the County of Brant establish a policy that all athletes achieving recognition at a Provincial, National or International event be recognized through a presentation by Council.

.Carried

2. The Director reported that the City of Brantford has advised that their representatives to the Emergency Services Committee (representing Ambulance Services) are unable to meet on Mondays. The Committee agreed that to be consistent, the Parks and Recreation and the Emergency Services Committees would meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month.

**In Camera at 8:15 p.m. to discuss a legal matter**, on motion of Councillors Schmitt and Powell

This portion of the meeting is recorded in the In Camera – Confidential Parks and Recreation Committee minutes dated December 18, 2006.

**Open Session at 8:35 p.m.**, on motion of Councillors Chambers and Powell.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. to meet again at the call of the Chair for the February meeting, at the County Council Chambers, Paris Office.

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Secretary