

Recreation and Leisure Services Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: August 29, 2023
Time: 7:33 am - 8:51 am
Location: Zoom

Members Present **Mayor Bent**
 Deputy Mayor Goose
 Councillor Moores
 Councillor Connors
 Councillor Hardy
 Councillor Tilley

Staff Present **Nick Miller, Director of Recreation and Leisure Services**
 Carla Hodder, Program Supervisor
 Natasha Hann, Program Supervisor

1. Facilities, Parks, Playgrounds

1.a Community Park Paving Project

The Director of Recreation provided an update to Committee on the community park paving project. The Director informed Committee we are currently waiting on a permit from the province, which is expected to arrive in the coming weeks. The Director indicated this project will see the closure of the community park for several days, and the work will take place prior to the end of September.

1.b Early Morning Ice time

The Committee discussed the possibility of adding additional ice time. The Director provided a cost estimate that would be incurred in order to proceed with adding additional times. The Committee concurred to move forward with adding additional ice time as a pilot project until January 2024 when it will be reevaluated.

1.c Provincial Agri-food and Garden Show

The Director of Recreation provided an update to Committee that the Provincial Agri-food and Garden Show have received their funding and will be moving ahead with the show. The annual show will take place at the Conception Bay South Arena from September 25 to October 1. The annual show runs for three days (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday). The plan on Friday is for school tours to take part in the amazing agriculture adventure. There will be a petting farm, cooking demonstrations, food samples, and storefronts for vendors to sell agriculture products. There will also be a number of agriculture information booths. It is anticipated that the show will see 5000 people attend this event.

1.d NL U18 MHL Kick- Off Tournament

The NLU18MHL will host their kick-off tournament at the CBS Arena from Sept 8-10. The tournament will feature the top U18 Male hockey players from across the province with 5 teams taking part. The schedule was attached for the information of the Committee.

1.e Registration for Fall Set 1 2023 Swimming Lessons

The Director of Recreation provided an update to the Committee on the most recent swim registration. With recent improvement to the current registration system, there was positive feedback and the process to register has improved. The Director updated the Committee on registration numbers for the fall set 1, all private lessons are full, but there is still space available in public lessons.

1.f Canada Games Facilities Tour

This item was deferred to end of meeting due to conflict being declared.

1.g Annual Pool Shutdown Update

The Director of Recreation provided an update to Committee regarding the annual pool shut down. The shutdown is on schedule and the pool is set to reopen on anticipated start date of September 5, 2023.

Councillor Tilley vacated the meeting.

2. Events & Programs

2.a 50th Anniversary Concert

The Director of Recreation provided an update to Committee regarding the 50th Anniversary Concert. The Director informed Committee that he had met with a promotor regarding potential musical acts for the concert. The Committee had discussion around potential bands and the Director will work with the promotor on availability and cost.

Councillor Tilley returned to the meeting part way through this discussion on this item.

2.b Glow Walk Event

Mayor Bent brought forward the idea of a Glow Walk event to Committee. Glow walk events have become more and more popular recently. The event would take place in the area of the Community Garden and Sgt. Ned Nugent's Park. The walk would consist of glow features along the trail and participants are encouraged to bring their own glow devices. Chairperson Moores suggested that the event take place during the week of Savour CBS. The committee concurred with this date.

2.c Trunk or Treat Event

The Director of Recreation proposed a new event to Committee. The Trunk or Treat event would take place close to Halloween and would consist of families and Community groups registering to take part. Participants would be asked to bring along treats and decorate their vehicle and wear costumes. The event would take place over the course of a couple hours and participants would have the opportunity to go trunk to trunk trick or treating. Prizes would be given out for best dressed costumes and vehicles. Committee concurred to proceed with this new event.

2.d Pancake Breakfast with Santa

The Director of Recreation proposed a new event to Committee, a 50th Anniversary breakfast with Santa. The Committee concurred to proceed with this event. Also, this event would become an annual event in years to come. The Committee requested staff reach out to other organizations who maybe organizing similar events in an effort to not conflict.

3. Other Departmental Items

3.a Pirate Boat for Pirate Day

Program Supervisors provided an update to Committee on a recent meeting that was held between the Murphy Family and Staff regarding the pirate boat used for pirate day. Staff were informed by the family that the current condition of the boat is not seaworthy. Major repairs are required to use the boat in the future. Staff advised that the Murphy Family are unable to undertake the repairs for the boat and maintenance. The Murphy Family inquired if the Town were willing/able to repair the boat and take over maintenance. They indicated that if this is not the route that is chosen, they would likely sell the boat. After much discussion, the Committee concurred that the Town will not take on this responsibility of the boat. In addition, staff suggested a different option for keeping the Murphy legacy alive would be to add a pirate theme playground component to Topsail Beach. The Committee asked for staff to do more research on what the cost would be for a playground of this sort and report back to Committee.

4. Important Dates

- August 29 - Concert Series in the Park
- August 31 - Concert Series in the Park
- September 5 - Concert Series in the Park
- September 6 - Walking for Wellness
- September 7 - Concert Series in the Park
- September 17 - Terry Fox Run
- September 25 - 29 - Senior Week

- September 27 - 50 Anniversary Clothing order #2 deadline
- October 29 - Halloween Skate
- October 31 - Seniors Halloween Social
- November 5 - Bonfire Night
- November 11 - Remembrance Day
- November 20 - Final 50th Anniversary Clothing deadline
- December 2 - Santa Claus Parade
- December 2 - Tree Lighting Ceremony
- December 7 - Seniors Christmas Social
- December 31 - New Year's Eve Family Skate

5. Additional Items

5.a Score Clock Advertising

Mayor Bent brought forward this item for discussion. The Committee discussed the score clock at the Conception Bay South Arena, as it relates to advertising. The Committee concurred that until there is interest in any future advertising options. The current advertisement will remain in place.

5.b Notifications of Events

Mayor Bent brought forward this item for discussion with Committee. The Mayor wanted to stress the importance of internal communication and ensure all Council are up to date on Town events happening in the Community. During this discussion, it was communicated that there were some concerns regarding social media as it relates to events. Staff ensured that this concern would be followed up on.

Deferred Item

1.f Canada Games Facilities Tour

The Director of Recreation provided an update to Committee regarding a facility tour of Topsail soccer turf with Canada Games officials. The Tour took place on August 17th 2023, Officials from Soccer Canada were also in attendance. Following the meeting the Director of Recreation received feedback from the Canada Games Officials and Soccer Canada that the turf soccer field currently does not meet the standards required to host the Canada Games. Councillor Connors asked what it would cost would be associated with bringing the field up to satisfaction. The Director informed Committee that the entire turf field would likely have to be replaced, The Director will research cost estimate.

Mayor Bent declared a conflict on this item (due to his employment with the Conception Bay South Soccer Association). He vacated of the meeting.

7. Recreation and Leisure Services Committee Report

Be it so resolved that the recommendations and decisions of the Recreation and Leisure Services Committee meeting of August 29, 2023 be accepted as presented.

- Community Park Paving Project
- Early Morning Ice Time
- Provincial Agri-food and Garden Show
- NL U18 MHL Kick Off Tournament
- Registration for Fall Set 1 2023 Swimming Lessons
- Canada Games Facilities Tour
- Annual Pool Shutdown Update
- 50th Anniversary Concert
- Glow Walk Event
- Trunk or Treat Event
- Pancake Breakfast with Santa
- Important Dates

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Councillor Moores, Chair

Nick Miller, Director of Recreation
and Leisure Services