

Minutes of Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting Date: Monday, January 24, 2022

Remote Participation Via Web Conferencing

Present: Councillor Ron Elliott, Councillor Geoff Gunson,
Trevor Smith, Adam Blahut, Bill Raynard
Staff Present: Matthew Lubbers, Director of Community Services
Greg Mallett, Facilities Coordinator
Grace Wilson, Programs & Administrative Coordinator
Regrets: Scott Richardson, Ryan Fisk

Councillor Elliott called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Review of Minutes:

The minutes from the November 29, 2021 meeting were reviewed.

MOTION:

Moved by: Trevor Smith and Seconded by: Adam Blahut

THAT:

P.R.A.C. minutes from November 29, 2021 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

Council and Email Follow Up:

The minutes and motions from November 29, 2021 were accepted by Council.

Norgan Theatre Update:

Programs & Administrative Coordinator Wilson reported that December went well, with the last weekend of operation being December 18th-20th. The live Christmas show in December ran smoothly and was well attended. The theatre was set to close for Christmas and then due to provincial COVID restrictions, remained closed until January 31st. Private rentals will resume but weekend shows are not due to return until the end of February or early March. Wilson also reported that plans were in the works for Party in the Park to return in June 2022.

Parks and Facilities:

Facilities Coordinator Mallett reported that during the January shut down staff have been busy with online trainings through ORFA and were also busy with facility maintenance. The maintenance completed during the January shut down will help alleviate some of the tasks that need to be completed at the beginning of April. Mallett reported that they still plan to have the ice out in early April but can adjust plans if necessary.

All user groups can return to the ice the week of January 31st. Mallett is currently working with Minto Minor Hockey and broomball groups to plan what tournaments can run and how they will look once regulations are released. Both the Minto 81's and Minto Minor Hockey will return to play and jump right into playoffs. Enhanced proof of vaccination is now required for anyone aged 12 and up and must be provided and confirmed using the Verify Ontario app. Starting January 31st facility staff will be stationed at the arena doors to check for proof of vaccination; contact tracing is no longer required. Security may be brought back as needed and for tournaments or special events.

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Programs and Admin:

Programs & Administrative Coordinator Wilson updated the committee on the status of the programs. After school programs resumed operations the week of January 17th and all other programs are set to resume the week of January 31st. Grassroots Hockey will be extended into March.

MOTION:

Moved by: Bill Raynard and Seconded by: Trevor Smith

The Community Services Updates be accepted.

CARRIED

Reopening Facilities and Resuming Programming

All facilities and programming can open and resume as of January 31st with restrictions as outlined in the Provincial regulations. Upon resuming pickleball, a platform call Pickup Hub will be used as a pilot project. The platform is easy to use and will ensure there are enough players present and streamline how staff can communicate with participants. Staff will work with participants who have any concerns moving forward and mitigate them where possible.

Program Registration and Facility Booking Software

Community Services Director Lubbers did research on different registration and facility scheduling software that would work well for the needs of the Community Services department. The new software approved by Council is called Active Network. Staff will begin training on the new software in February with plans to start using it for program registrations for the summer of 2022.

Palmerston Arena Project Update

Lubbers reported that the arena project was awarded to Domm Construction Limited. They have begun the process of ordering supplies and plan to start work April 1st and finish by September. The new ball diamond should be ready for use this spring.

Committee Renaming

Members of the committee feel that the committee should change their name now that the Recreation Department is known as Community Services Department.

MOTION:

Moved by: Bill Raynard and Seconded by: Trevor Smith

THAT:

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee be renamed to the Community Services Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

New Business

Members of P.R.A.C have asked about when the Master Plan process will resume. Staff would prefer to resume the study when it is safe to meet in person so that Minto residents are able to voice their opinions in person.

Next meeting: Monday, February 28 at 5 p.m., location TBD.

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MOTION:

Moved by: Ron Elliott

THAT: The P.R.A.C. meeting adjourn at 6:30 p.m.

CARRIED

Grace Wilson
Programs & Administrative Coordinator
Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee