

**Minutes of Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Meeting Date: Monday, May 30, 2016**

**Meeting Location: Drew Community Hall**

**Present:** Councillor Ron Elliott, Ryan Fisk, Bob McEachern, Geoff Gunson, Councillor Dave Turton,  
**Staff Present:** Allan Carr, Recreation Facilities Manager  
Matthew Lubbers, Recreation Services Manager  
Grace Wilson, Recreation and Facilities Assistant  
**Host:** Gerald Koeslag  
**Regrets:** Bill Raynard, Dorothy Grotenhuis

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

Review of April 4, 2016 Minutes:

P.R.A.C. minutes from April 4, 2016 minutes were reviewed.

**MOTION:**

Moved by: Geoff Gunson and Seconded by: Ryan Fisk

THAT:

The P.R.A.C. minutes of April 4, 2016 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

Council Follow-Up:

The Council of the Town of Minto approved the five-year beverage agreement proposed by PepsiCo Beverages Canada.

Service Manager's Reports:

*Norgan Theatre*

The Norgan Theatre Board received an advertising proposal from 88.7 The River. The Norgan Board felt that currently they don't have room in their advertising budget but would consider advertising in the future for special live events. Services Manager Lubbers also reported that weekend showings have been well attended and the debt should be paid off by the end of the year. The Norgan Board is also in the process of brainstorming ideas for when the debt is paid off.

*Program Progress Report*

Services Manager Lubbers reported that he did a slideshow presentation on the recreation programs offered in Minto at the May 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of Council. The slide show outline was reviewed by PRAC and it showed why and how recreation is important in our community and initiatives taken to provide a variety of programs throughout the year. Ryan Fisk talked about the decline in interest he's seen with fastball and the increased popularity of hardball. He asked if staff could look into the possibility of bringing hardball to Minto, and whether our diamonds would be able to facilitate it if there was enough interest.

*New Summer Program*

The Blessings to You Centre in Palmerston has contacted Services Manager Lubbers about funding a summer program for youth. Lubbers is currently working with summer staff to create a free program for youth ages 10-14 in Palmerston that will center around different activities every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from 4:00pm-5:30pm.

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### *Party in the Park*

Planning for the Party in the Park in Palmerston Lions Heritage Park is underway; once again Lulu's Roadhouse band will be performing and a large crowd is expected. The event will take place on Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup> from 7:00pm-12:30am. Prior to the event, the neighbours will be notified about the event hours and noise. An exemption to the Noise By-Law is not required as the Town is helping facilitate this event through the involvement of the Norgan Theatre Board.

### Facilities Manager's Report:

#### *Facilities Update*

Facilities Manager Allan Carr reported that all three arenas are now facilitating a wealth of summer rentals. General maintenance such as painting, dressing room repairs, health and safety inspections, new board advertisement installations, header trenches oiling and Olympia care is ongoing. The sound system was upgraded at the Harriston-Minto Community Complex and exterior doors and windows were painted. New refrigerators and floor scrubbers were purchased for the facilities in Harriston and Clifford. Outdoor facilities, parks and fields have been cleaned up, playgrounds inspected and garbage cans placed. The Barb Wright Diamond in Palmerston had a new backstop and dugouts were upgraded. The Palmerston Lions Heritage Park now has fencing along the train tracks. Preparations for the pool season are underway and a new pump for the Harriston Pool was installed. A new tractor bucket has been purchased that will be shared with Public Works for smaller jobs. At our satellite facilities, the EMS building in Harriston had a generator installed and the Harriston Medical Centre had the gardens and yard cleaned up and graded in preparation for the Harriston Firefighters monument that was moved over to the site earlier in the month.

Staff training last month included all arena staff attending a propane course. Facilities Manager Allan Carr attended an ORFA course in leadership and Palmerston Lead Hand Greg Mallett attended an ORFA course in building management and operations.

#### *Usage Update*

Now that the warm weather has arrived, ball diamonds, soccer pitches and parks are now in use. Playgroups are still taking place at the Palmerston Arena and Harriston Train Station and will move outside in June. All Minto facilities have been busy with end of year banquets, meetings and special events.

#### *Concession Proposal Intakes*

Facilities Manager Carr reported that no sports groups or service clubs submitted proposals to operate the concession booths at the arenas in Harriston or Palmerston. The next step will be to offer it to the general public. If no intakes are received by September, the concession booths will once again be run by arena staff.

#### *Canada 150 Grant*

The Town will be applying during round 2 of the Canada 150 Grant, which focuses on renovation, expansion or improvement of existing community infrastructure assets. The Harriston Pool and Harriston Fairgrounds are two areas being considered.

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**New Business:**

Councillor Elliott thanked Gerald Koeslag a past P.R.A.C. member and an existing member of the Drew Community Board for hosting the meeting. He encouraged all members of P.R.A.C. to attend their annual pork chop barbeque on Saturday July 9<sup>th</sup> at the Drew Community Centre. This year's proceeds will be given to Jolene Shannon, a Drew resident who was injured in a car accident on County Road 2 earlier this year.

**MOTION:**

Moved by: Councillor Ron Elliott

THAT:

P.R.A.C. adjourn at 6:20 p.m.

The next meeting is Monday, June 27<sup>th</sup> at the Clifford Rotary Pavilion.

Grace Wilson  
Recreation and Facilities Assistant  
Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee