

Minutes of Community Services Advisory Committee Meeting
Meeting Date: March 18, 2024
Harriston Arena

Present: Councillor Ron Elliott, Michael Manto, Scott Richardson
Councillor Paul Zimmerman, Karisa Downey, Trevor Smith
Staff Present: Matthew Lubbers, Director of Community Services
Greg Mallett, Facilities Coordinator

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

Review of Minutes:

The minutes from the November 27, 2023, meeting were reviewed.

MOTION:

Moved by: Michael Manto and Seconded by: Councillor Zimmerman

THAT:

C.S.A.C. minutes from November 27, 2023 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

Council and Email Follow Up:

The minutes from November 27, 2023 were accepted at Council on December 19, 2023. Rates and fees for 2024 were approved by Council at that meeting.

Norgan Theatre Update:

Attendance figures in 2023 for weekend feature films were just under 10,000. The sponsored matinee over March Break sold out with over 200 in attendance. The Palmerston Lions Club present 'The Sandpipers' at the Norgan Theatre on Thursday April 11th. Last year's show was well received. Councillor Elliott mentioned the Norgan Theatre Board would like to explore upgrading the seats soon.

Parks and Facilities Update:

The last day of the ice season at the Harriston Arena will be Sunday March 24th. The ice at the Palmerston Arena will be in as late as Sunday April 7th with the Minto 81's in the OEHL finals against Tavistock. Both curling club seasons end on Easter weekend. There are lots of upcoming special events this spring and summer including the Life Outdoors Show in Clifford and Twenty-First Strarlight (Hospital) Gala in Harriston as well as John Deere Show in Palmerston. The ball diamonds and soccer fields are going to be very busy with high registration levels in our minor sports groups. It's the 30th anniversary of the Palmerston Marlins.

Programs and Admin Update:

Registration for summer day camp and private swim lessons opens on Tuesday April 2nd. After-school program numbers are healthy, and a second classroom is being explored at Palmerston PS. The day camp over March Break went well at the Harriston Arena and Palmerston Arena as well as shinny and public skating.

Family drop-in and roller-skating have been well-received at the Clifford Arena with additional weeknight roller-skating sessions being considered. Let it Grow presented by the Clifford Horticultural Society starts Wednesday April 3rd at the Clifford Rotary Pavilion and Grassroots Volleyball starts on Wednesday April 10th at Palmerston PS. A second volleyball session may be offered as there is a lengthy waitlist.

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An At Home Alone course is being planned for Monday April 8th from 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

There are 40 teams registered for the Kids Ball Hockey League, exceeding expectations, and exceeding the previous high of 24 teams. The first night will be at the Harriston Arena on Thursday April 4th.

MOTION:

Moved by: Trevor Smith and Seconded by: Karisa Downey
The Community Services Updates are accepted.

CARRIED

Harriston Fairgrounds Plan and Recreation Master Plan:

The Harriston Fairgrounds Plan was endorsed in principle by Council on Tuesday March 5th. The goal for 2024 will be the install of a sports pad with the help of the Harriston Kinsmen Club.

The Recreation Master Plan process will begin soon as the Town of Minto's Strategic Plan process was completed in February. The committee will be kept updated on any developments.

Recognition Night Possibilities:

The committee discussed potential recognition night possibilities as the end of the winter sports season nears. There are some local sports teams and some local individuals on external sports teams competing for provincial and national championships.

New Business:

There was a discussion about future ice rentals and forecasted demand for the 2024-25 ice season.

MOTION:

Moved by: Scott Richardson
THAT: The C.S.A.C. meeting adjourn at 6:00 p.m.

CARRIED

The next meeting will be Monday May 27, 2024, at the Palmerston Arena.

Matthew Lubbers
Director of Community Services
Community Services Advisory Committee