

Minutes of Community Services Advisory Committee Meeting

Meeting Date: May 27, 2024

Palmerston Arena

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

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

Review of Minutes:

The minutes from the March 18, 2024, meeting were reviewed.

MOTION:

Moved by: Scott Richardson and Seconded by: Councillor Zimmerman

THAT:

C.S.A.C. minutes from March 18, 2024 be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

Council and Email Follow Up:

The minutes from March 18, 2024 were accepted at Council on April 2, 2024.

Norgan Theatre Update:

'The Sandpipers' event at the Norgan Theatre went well on Thursday April 11th. The short films showing, as part of the SPARC weekend, went well. Party in the Park is just under two weeks away and will take place on Saturday, June 8th. Weekend attendance for feature films is steady.

Parks and Facilities Update:

April and May were busy with Ag Society events, Life Outdoors Show and Firefighters' Supper in Clifford, large camping group and Hospital Gala in Harriston, ball hockey tournament and Marlins 30th Anniversary events in Palmerston, among many others.

Upcoming events include Harriston Firefighters' Breakfast and Garden Festival in Harriston.

Splash Pad opened for the season on May 17th and will run from 10:00 AM – 7:00 PM daily.

Staff are looking at streaming services for the Palmerston Arena as early as the next ice season.

The ice schedule is being worked on for the 2024-25 season.

U8, U10, and U12 soccer is being played at Norwell DSS this summer. All Town-owned diamonds and pitches are well-used.

Programs and Admin Update:

Recognition Night at Council went well on Tuesday May 21st with Leah Herrfort, four Minto 81's players and a Minto Selects coach in attendance.

The inaugural Grassroots Volleyball program wrapped up on May 15th. The program was so popular that a second session was offered to accommodate all 30 participants.

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Learn to Roller Skate wraps up at the end of month, along with drop-in roller skating, at the Clifford Arena. More sessions may be added in June and early July. Pickleball continues to be offered 5 times per week.

Grassroots Basketball and Grassroots Soccer started last week, and outdoor shuffleboard is set to start tomorrow. There's been an increase in demand for use of arena floor in Clifford for birthday parties with lots of floor space options.

Recreation Master Plan process is ongoing with online survey active until the end of the week.

MOTION:

Moved by: Karisa Downey and Seconded by: Mike Manto

The Community Services Updates are accepted.

CARRIED

New Business:

There was discussion about outdoor washrooms and hours of operation in the parks. Staff would like to explore options, including timed locks, to find a balance between levels of service and avoiding vandalism. Staff will report back to the committee.

There was discussion about converting to clay on the infield of the new ball diamond in Palmerston, that is currently stone dust. The diamond is still new, and the playing surface is firm. Staff will review maintenance options. It's used for practices, tournaments, and is the home diamond for one Minto Minor Ball team.

There was discussion about plans for the Clifford Arena and if anything should be installed this summer, such as heat, if non-ice programming will be offered again this fall and winter. Staff would like to wait until the Recreation Master Plan process is complete before any major capital work is completed.

There was a discussion about outdoor pickleball courts. There are currently lines on the tennis courts in Palmerston, and the outdoor sports pad in Harriston will have them upon completion.

There was discussion about pool hours of operation and if weekend swims can be offered at both pools on Saturdays as well as Sundays. The current plan is to offer weekend swimming on Saturdays in Palmerston and on Sundays in Harriston due to staffing levels.

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 September 30, 2024, at the Clifford Arena.

Matthew Lubbers
Director of Community Services
Community Services Advisory Committee