

**APPROVED MINUTES**  
**VILLAGE OF NEW MINAS**  
**RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Regular Monthly Meeting**  
**September 4, 2007, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Recreation Office, Lockhart & Ryan Memorial Park**

The Regular monthly meeting of the Village of New Minas Recreation Advisory Committee was held at the Recreation Office at Lockhart Ryan Park on Tuesday, September 4, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

**In Attendance:** Chair Dale Pineo  
Vice-Chair Maynard Stevens  
Commission Chair Dave Chaulk  
Citizen Member Les Sequeria  
Citizen Member Christopher Shields  
Recreation Director Vince Forrestall  
Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver

**Welcome New Member**

Chair Dale Pineo welcomed new Resident Member Christopher Shields to the Committee.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Pineo called the meeting to order.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA, September 4, 2007**

It was moved by M. Stevens, seconded by C. Shields that the Agenda for the September 4, 2007 RAC Regular monthly meeting be approved as presented.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES, July 3, 2007**

It was moved by D. Chaulk, seconded by L. Sequeria, that the minutes of the Regular Monthly meeting of the RAC held on July 3, 2007 be approved as circulated.

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

- A. **Summer Programs & Events 2007** - V. Forrestall reviewed participation numbers of the various programs and events offered in the Village this past summer. Based on all accounts, the summer was very successful. Many venues were used for the camps and the various programs & events. Program and event evaluations were carried out, along with staff performance reviews. The summer staff was top-notch and contributed to the successes of the summer. Day camp numbers continue to grow as they were up this summer.

**Summer Programs & Events 2007**

<u>Program / Event</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Participants</u>
Go Skateboarding Day	June 21	Skate Park LRP	65
2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Adult Ball Hockey League	June 25	LRP	5 teams
Canada Day Celebrations	Sunday, July 1	LRP	500
4 Summer Day Camps (Pre-school Adventure, Junior, Senior & Sports)	July 2 – August 24 8 weeks	EMS Fire Hall Baptist Church NMES	Please see below
Playground Supervision Activities	July 2 – August 24 8 weeks	Jones, Milne, Meadow Terrace & Golfview Parks	3 - 20
Tattoo Trip & Tour	July 4	Halifax	45
Night Sessions	July 6, 20, August 3	Skate Park	12
2 <sup>nd</sup> Annual Bowl Jam	July 8	Skate Park	100+
Tall Ships Trip & Tour	July 13	Skate Park	45
Bike Competition	July 22	Skate Park	6
Summer Sickness Skate & Bike Competition	August 12	Skate Park	50
Seniors Day "Hazy Lazy Crazy Dayz of Summer" Luncheon	July 31	N.M.F.D	55
Celebration Days	August 10 <b>"Kick-off with a Bang"</b> Day – Fireworks, Golf drop, etc.	LRP	1,000
	August 11 <b>"New Minas" Day</b>	LRP	250
	August 12 <b>"Family Fun" Day</b>	LRP	500
Skateboarding Learning Programs	On-going	Skate Park	6
Summer Volleyball Academy Classic	July 1 – September 22	E.M.S	23
Co-ed Beach Volleyball Program	June 20 – August 22	LRP	10

**Pre-school Adventure Day Camp**

**Participant Summary:**

WEEK 1	17
WEEK 2	20
WEEK 3	26
WEEK 4	13

WEEK 5	21
WEEK 6	16
WEEK 7	16
WEEK 8	19

**Senior Day Camp  
Participant Summary:**

WEEK 1	17
WEEK 2	15
WEEK 3	17
WEEK 4	31
WEEK 5	12
WEEK 6	19
WEEK 7	23
WEEK 8	29

**Junior Day Camp Participant  
Summary:**

<i>WEEK 1</i>	24
<i>WEEK 2</i>	33
<i>WEEK 3</i>	37
<i>WEEK 4</i>	40
<i>WEEK 5</i>	33
<i>WEEK 6</i>	28
<i>WEEK 7</i>	36
<i>WEEK 8</i>	39

**Sports Day Camp Participant  
Summary:**

<i>WEEK 1</i>	19
<i>WEEK 2</i>	29
<i>WEEK 3</i>	28
<i>WEEK 4</i>	23
<i>WEEK 5</i>	35
<i>WEEK 6</i>	27
<i>WEEK 7</i>	33
<i>WEEK 8</i>	39

**B. Fall Programs & Events 2007**

V. Forrestall presented the Committee with the Village's various offerings for recreation and leisure activities, programs and events planned for the fall:

- ✓ Kings County Basketball Academy (K.C.B.A) for grades 4 to 12, co-ed at Glooscap.
- ✓ New Minas Volleyball Academy for grades 4 to 6, co-ed
- ✓ Sports of all Sorts Fun Night, ages 5 to 12, co-ed
- ✓ Adult Badminton

- ✓ Adult Basketball
- ✓ Adult Co-ed Volleyball
- ✓ Tumblebugs (Gymnastics) ages 3 to 5, co-ed
- ✓ After the Bell (after school) Recreation Program NMES, Primary to Grade 5
- ✓ Learn the Secrets of Fall Magic" with Al Bernard
- ✓ Grades 6 - 8, Instructional co-ed Volleyball.
- ✓ New Minas Badminton Academy for grades 4 to 6, co-ed
- ✓ Sentimental Journey Seniors Dance (s) 55+
- ✓ Halloween Extravaganza, children up to age 12
- ✓ Art "for the Fun of It" for children ages 5 to 12, etc.
- ✓ New Minas & Area Parent/Tot Playgroup
- ✓ New Minas Life Quality Improvement Program (Older Adults - Fitness)

**1st Annual New Minas "Festival of the Lights"**

- Santa Parade (Nov. 17)
- "Flick the Switch" Commercial Street Business Displays (5:00 pm., Nov. 24)
- Business Christmas Lighting Contest
- Residential Christmas Lighting Contest
- New Minas Children's Christmas Party
- It's Getting Chili Cook-off
- Children's Winter Art Contest & Display
- Children's Gingerbread House Decorating & Display, etc.

**C. Road Sign at Lockhart & Ryan Memorial Park**

V. Forrestall reported that the New Minas & Area Lions Club have partnered with the department. Everywhere Signs in New Minas has the job for this project and they'll have the sign ready in the next 1 ½ weeks. It will take 1-2 weeks installation. Director pointed out that this new sign is going to replace the mobile yellow sign at the right time as the mobile sign has had instances of tampering with – moved, letters moved, obscene gestures, etc.

**D. Lockhart & Ryan Memorial Park Project 2007**

V. Forrestall reported and updated the committee that the project will be starting shortly, after usage slows down.

**E. Recreation Mapping (Pricing)**

V. Forrestall highlighted the benefits of having of recreation mapping available to the department and staff. The mapping will be done by Hiltz & Seamone Engineers & Surveyors as they have a lot of New Minas items already on file. The \$225.00 expense will be taken from the stationary expense item in the budget.

**F. Grants: VANSDA**

Department partnered with Valley African Nova Scotia Development Association (VANSDA) to provide two positions over the course of the summer and into the fall: Amellia Owen, Administrative Assistant and Matt McMullin, Sports Camp Leader. Director pointed out the article the Advertiser had in its August 28<sup>th</sup> edition re."Skills

program builds contacts, confidence” and the beneficial partnership to all involved at no cost to the Village.

### **G. Recreation Nova Scotia (RNS) Conference at Digby, NS**

Chair Dale & Director Vince have registered and will be attending the 10<sup>th</sup> Annual “Pathways for People” Recreation Nova Scotia Conference to take place at Digby Pines October 17 – 20, 2007. Active Transportation will be the main focus of this year’s Conference.

### **H. All Weather Turf Needs Assessment**

Vince reported that he met with Mike Trinacty, Valley Regional Representative for the NS Office of Health Promotion & Protection. Acadia University has been approved for an All Weather Turf and is expected to be in operation very soon, this fall. The Village agreed and budgeted to pay \$7500.00 for a needs assessment for a turf in the Village. Mike Trinacty has asked the Village to postpone the assessment for one year to give Acadia a year to see what type of community users is using this and how accessible it is for community users and groups. The history of having access to Acadia by the community has not been good, but it was felt that Acadia has hired a new Athletic Director and things may change. The committee agreed to wait until next season to carry out a needs assessment survey. It was agreed upon that the wait will be from six months to the start of the summer season 2008.

### **I. Golfview Park Project 2008**

Director recommended that because the All Weather Turf Needs Assessment is going to be delayed that maybe the Golfview Park Project (Golfview Homeowners Association Park Improvements/Renovations Wish List) can become a priority for the 2008/09 budget. The committee felt that we’d like to make it a priority, but it will depend on budgets. If cost-shared, the committee can make it a priority.

Chair Dale informed the committee that the residents of King Arthurs Court are also looking at park development in their sub-division. The group is looking at walking trails, playground equipment, etc.

## **DIRECTOR’S MONTHLY REPORT**

V. Forrestall presented his monthly report for July & August (attached to original minutes). He highlighted the following items as well as other items:

- Promotion of programs, events and facilities
- 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Summer Active Challenge
- Road sign at Lockhart & Ryan Memorial Park
- Tall Ships Trip & Tour
- Summer Day Camps, Playground Program, Events & Facilities
- Tattoo Trip & Tour
- Fall Harvest Fest Activity Day at New Minas Elementary School
- Celebration Days (Aug. 10 – 12, 2007)
- Summer Adult Ball Hockey Program
- Active Communities Coordinator for the Valley
- Certificates of Appreciation

- Youth Skills Program
- Princess New Minas Float – Princess New Minas
- Bleachers Lent to the RCMP Musical Ride
- Kings County Recreation Partnership Steering Committee
- Berwick Days
- Director’s & Coordinator’s Coffee Shop Meeting & Employee Evaluations
- Village Voice
- Seniors Day Luncheon
- 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual New Minas Invitational Soccer Tournament Committee
- Fall Programs & Events – Planned, developed, organized, promoted
- 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Family Fall Fun Harvest Fest 2007
- Grants
- Fall Community Use
- Healthy Choices Day at Evangeline Middle School (EMS)

**It was moved by L. Sequeria, seconded by C. Shields to accept the Director’s Monthly Report as submitted. MOTION CARRIED**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

- (a) **True Sport Application** – V. Forrestall received an e-mail from Jennifer Keith, National Projects Manager of True Sport Foundation. The department submitted an application for funding under this program for a New Minas Youngsters at Heart in Motion Program. Jennifer thanked the department for our interest in the True Sport Community Fund and for the important work that we do to provide values based sport opportunities for youth in our region. She pointed out that our application received a ranking of “excellent”, ranking in the top 25-30 out of over 250 received. She has asked us to reapply in which the Department will do at the end of October 2007 for \$5000 and \$25000 grants.
- (b) **Kelly Patton** – V. Forrestall received an e-mail from Kelly Patton who passed along how great New Minas Days were – lots to do for everyone. She asked about the change of days for the fireworks (Saturday to Friday) in which Director replied to her the reasons for changing. With 1,000 participants taking part in the fireworks, it was felt that the change was positive for the event.
- (c) **Allan Buchanan** – Vince received an e-mail from Allan Buchanan, Committee Member – New Minas Invitational Soccer Tournament. Allan thanked Vince for helping out their Committee. You were truly a big help and truly a morale booster for our team of volunteers. It’s always nice to have support of our community leaders.
- (d) **Rick Morse** – Marks Work Warehouse Platinum Sponsor. Thanked Vince. They heard a lot of positive things about the Days events and were glad we could be a part of it in this way. As an advertiser, we certainly feel we got “our money’s worth” in the publicity that came as a result.
- (e) **Kim, Mercedes & McKenzi Boudreau** – Passed on appreciation for the work Vince, the Directors, Leaders and others have done to make the day camps a great success. McKenzi had a fantastic time. He absolutely loved the leaders, and was tired from the activities and stimulation each day. Mercedes talked about how great the leaders were as well as the activities. I know the “Last Blast” was

rained- out, however it did not seem to matter to either of my children. They had a “BLAST”! I hope you consider the same camps for next year! I also look forward to a March Break Program.

- (f) **Jackie Blackburn** - Summer Recreation Intern e-mailed Vince pointing out she immensely enjoyed working for the New Minas Recreation Department this summer. It’s been a lot of fun and I am really sad to be leaving. I hope you enjoyed your summer as much as I did. Thank you for a fun filled summer at New Minas Recreation and for all of your help with promoting Celebration days 2007!
- (g) **Advertiser Editorial (August 7, 2007)** – “**New Minas Recreation walks the walk**”. Vince pointed out the Editorial talking about e-mails received from Vince and the department about new programs or initiatives being offered. Mentioned Vince is on the job and that the best interests of area residents are at the forefront of his agenda. It doesn’t seem to matter what season, the messages, events and initiatives keep coming. “There’s no excuse whatsoever for residents of New Minas and the surrounding area to be bored...” New Minas tends to stick out because of Vince’s job of both organization and especially promotion and the fact that he and his offerings are so – well, visible. It would appear that becoming more active in the New Minas are shouldn’t require that much effort. Hats off to you, Vince, and your staff for taking the initiative to care about the physical well-being of your fellow residents, and hopefully encouraging everyone under your watch, both youngsters and adults, to become more active and healthy.

Vince commented that he can’t take all of the credit, as the Commission, RAC and Staff has been very supportive, great partnerships have been formed with community groups, schools and businesses, while the department has had great committed leadership running its offerings.

Terry pointed out the efforts and work of the Recreation Advisory Committee and they should be commended for a job well done.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Kings County Recreation Steering Committee**

Village representatives have met with the consultant, Jim Morgenstern (dma Planning & Management Services) and provided him with all the information required from New Minas. We are waiting to hear back on the next step.

### **B. E.M.S Community Use**

Vince made mention of the good relationship with EMS. The facility enhances our programs. The department is a School Board Group 4 User which indicates no fees for Children and youth activities. Because of this, NMES charges no fee. The Church had no fee, the fire hall had no fee, but EMS has charged for summer use for children’s and youth activities. RAC questioned who decides when we pay for it? School principal, Bruce Ross decides. Vince will write a letter and to meet with EMS principal to see if these can be waived in the future. Vince will advise verbally.

### **C. Village Promotional Banners**

Vince received feedback on placement of Commercial Street Season/Event Banners. A good response received on the banners adding to the Village – professional looking, etc. Requests to have Village extend and keep expanding over the years. RAC member Les Sequeira mentioned in the past that the banners should extend beyond Lockhart & Ryan Memorial Park, while Freida Burger wishes to have them extended beyond the lights heading towards Kentville as there are businesses on that side as well. It was mentioned it would be nice to have them extended to both entrances. It was felt to add new banners into future budgets so that it can go from Village entrance to entrance. Event corporate sponsors can also be included on new banners – less expense for the Village.

**D. RNS Award Nominations**

Director asked committee for choices for RNS Awards with a nomination deadline of September 14. Awards it was suggested we can nominate for included Bluenose Achievement Award (Holly Thompson & New Minas Invitational Soccer Tournament Committee) and The Honorary Life Membership Award (Dave Harris). It was agreed upon that Dave Harris, Holly Thompson and the New Minas Invitational Soccer Tournament Committee be nominated in their respective categories.

**It was moved by D. Chaulk, seconded by M. Stevens to Nominate Holly Thompson, Dave Harris and New Minas Invitational Soccer Tournament Committee for Recreation Nova Scotia Awards 2007. MOTION CARRIED**

**E. Certificates of Appreciation**

Department awarded Certificates of Appreciation to the New Minas Fire Department, New Minas Invitational Soccer Tournament Committee (22 years), Summer Staff and Junior Volunteer Leaders for their contribution to the department and community. *“In recognition of contributing and supporting an increase in the physical activity levels of New Minas residents through community use access to ... facility and partnering ...”*

**F. Recreation Flyer / Village Voice**

Vince has had recent issues with the Village Voice Publication the last couple of issues. Vince pointed out the historical significance of the Village Voice and its benefits to the community and that residents look for it and rely on it for their Village information. No matter if it was the Director before Vince or with Vince now, issues are still taking place. Most recreation departments have their own seasonal flyer, even though the Village Voice has all of the department information in it. For the July & August Edition Mike & Vince had a verbal agreement on 12 pages black and white being the same price as 8 pages with color, but the price was billed larger than agreed upon. For the September & October Edition, Vince received an e-mail from Mary Coffill Deveau, Editor, at 2:45 pm on August 30 that they ran into a few snags and a few unexpected delays on their end with sickness and other things out of their hands, but needed it proof read for the printers by the end of the day on this day. The process seemed rush. It was felt this is a Commission issue, but to leave it with Vince to try to work out with Mike L.

**G. 1<sup>st</sup> Annual New Minas Family Fall Fun Harvest Fest 2007**

During Celebration Days 2007, Chair Dale mentioned to the Director that New Minas could hold another family community event, especially during the fall harvest. Vince pointed out to Dale that this can happen as he has organized others in other communities. A date was picked (October 7, 2007) that would not conflict with Kentville, Wolfville or Windsor events as it was the goal to fit into the Valley Harvest Fest Celebrations with a family event being offered in New Minas. Corporate Sponsorship Packages were distributed to help in offsetting the costs. It will take place from 12-3:00 pm at Lockhart & Ryan Memorial Park. The date picked was questioned due to the 4 \* 4 NMVFD Rally that weekend, etc. October 13<sup>th</sup> was a date suggested, but a lot of promotion has taken place already for the October 7<sup>th</sup> date. This event was not budgeted for and will cost roughly \$2,000.00.

#### **H. Outdoor Rink (s) - Locations**

It was recommended to continue the outdoor rink at Lonnie Milne Park as it was very successful. It was also recommended to have one at Lockhart & Ryan Memorial Park (Miller Field) as it was built there before with skating taking place underneath the lights-picture distributed. Peter P. was also looking at a pond on Jones road. Peter P. will investigate. It was suggested to consider other parks in our sub-divisions as well. The recommended locations have the base to do an outdoor rink on, while Chris S. suggested it may be not a good idea to spread them around as people are expecting an outdoor rink at Lonnie Milne now.

#### **I. 1<sup>st</sup> Annual February Family Fun Physical Activity Winter Challenge**

It was recommended to hold an Activity Challenge, similar to the Summer Active Challenge, to get residents active by beating the February Blues. It will be held the whole month of February with events at Lockhart & Ryan Memorial Park, the outdoor rinks and during the Winter Carnival. There may be funding and partnership from NS Health Promotion.

**It was moved by L. Sequeira, seconded by D. Chaulk to proclaim February 2008 as Family Fun Physical Activity Winter Challenge. MOTION CARRIED**

#### **J. County: Community Park Development Program (CPDP)**

Application was included in member's packages. Vince has worked with Greg M. to submit an application (August 31 deadline) to Bob Suffron for the annual CPDP Grant available from the County that the Village maximizes every season.

#### **K. Kings County After-school Program**

Vince informed the Committee that there is a new initiative in the County with various partners: County, NS Health Promotion & Protection, Promoting Healthy Schools and the various Recreation Departments. The After the Bell Program at NMES also qualifies again and is entitled for more funds under the initiative. The Department will approach EMS to see if they are interested in an after-school program. \$1500.00 is available under the program. \$500.00 from each: Village, Health Promotion & Healthy Promoting Schools, for a total of \$1,500.00.

**L. CPRA at Ottawa**

Canadian Parks Recreation Association Conference to be held September 26-29, 2007. Vince has attended three past CPRA conferences (Most notably: 1995 in Ottawa, 2004 in Halifax) and has expressed interest in this one as it is an event that provides educational opportunities through program sessions, meetings, networking opportunities, exceptional keynote speakers, etc.? Les S. would like to see Vince attend. It was a budgeted item (Professional Development). It was recommended to have Vince attend the CPRA Conference in Ottawa.

**M. Regional Community Development Grants (Province)**

Department to apply for funding up to \$5,000.00 each and over a longer period of time under this newly named program for various new initiatives in New Minas: New Minas Badminton academy, Born to Swing Development Academy and Young at Heart in Action, etc.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**In Motion of L. Sequeira, the meeting adjourned.**

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**Dale Pineo, Chair**

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**Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer**