



APPROVED MINUTES
VILLAGE OF NEW MINAS
RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (R.A.C.)

Regular Monthly Meeting
February 5, 2008, 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 Memorial Park on Tuesday, February 5, 2008 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

In Attendance:

Chair Dale Pineo
Commission Chair Dave Chaulk
Vice-Chair Maynard Stevens
Citizen Member Les Sequeria
Citizen Member Christopher Shields
Clerk Treasurer, Terry Silver
Recreation Director, Vince Forrestall
Greg Whynot, Business Owner/Resident

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dale Pineo called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2.0 APPROVAL OF AGENDA, February 5, 2008

It was moved by M. Stevens, seconded by L. Sequeria that the Agenda for the February 5, 2008 Recreation Advisory Committee Regular Monthly Meeting be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

3.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES, January 8, 2008

It was moved by M. Stevens, seconded by D. Chaulk, that the minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Recreation Advisory Committee held on January 8, 2008 be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

4.0 SPECIAL GUESTS:

4.1 BRIAN HEANEY

ACADIA UNIVERSITY ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

Director Vince F. welcomed Special Guest Brian Heaney, Athletic Director at Acadia University.

Brian gave a bio of himself: Acadia announced on July 12, 2007 Brian Heaney, new Director of Athletics. Brian Heaney is a 1969 graduate of Acadia, a Distinguished Alumni Award recipient, and an inductee of its Sports Hall of Fame. The current Oakville, Ontario resident started his position on August 15.

Heaney will continue rebuilding Acadia's varsity athletics with an emphasis on academic achievement and the athletic experience.

"I am pleased to be joining Acadia during such an exciting chapter in its athletics history," said Heaney. "With extensive renovations to Raymond Field and War Memorial Gymnasium, our athletes will have access to top-notch facilities in addition to excellent coaches and faculty. That is a winning combination."

Since graduating from Acadia University, Heaney has coached basketball teams at high school, university, and national levels, and served as an administrator of university athletic programs and, most recently, as a vice-president of two major insurance companies in Canada. He is also a well-known television personality through his regular appearances on TSN.

Heaney was involved with the University of Alberta in 1979, built field house and hosted student games, which were very successful.

Acadia saw a major expansion and modernization of Acadia's playing field and running track with grass playing field replaced by Field Turf, a premium artificial turf. The four-lane gravel running track was expanded to eight lanes and resurfaced to provide a softer cushioned all-weather track. The upgrades meet national standards to allow Acadia to host a broad spectrum of outdoor sports and events.

In addition, War Memorial Gymnasium had its playing floor replaced.

Brian pointed that he needs to work with all University Departments, Village of New Minas, Communities and Community Groups with open arms to allow community access. Brian will work with our organization and Valley organizations.

Dave Chaulk remembers the announcement and enthusiasm of the renovations and expansion at Acadia with the Turf Field, track & field and gym. Dave feels that it would be a great facility if it was going to be for the community.

Acadia has outgrown their facilities from 40 years ago. The Shower heads are old and sharing of locker rooms take place now. The gym is 30 years old, majority of facility needs work. Some items are out of control – fitness & recreation facility has too much equipment for its space, no room for fitness, but running it anyway!

Brian feels things to deal with: Open lines of communication and a community field at Acadia for the Valley with indoor activities, sport, recreation, university, etc.

Brian feels the University may not be able to meet all requests.

Community Use: Football Field – cost to use is reasonable, similar price as in Halifax. Building Contingency Fund, It will be difficult for community use when College teams are back. Opportunities of Arena are available. Gym – S.M.I.L.E program is important to Acadia and faculty. University is now dealing with scuffs on floor which shows up after programs. Need to protect the floor. Track & Field – ample opportunity for collegiate and community use.

Issues Brian is dealing with includes cluster of people to help everyone use, saying yes to everyone, but it doesn't work out, Leadership – face the heat if can't do it, in-house.

Brian has a vision of a community field house at Acadia that collegiate wouldn't need. It would be a great facility for the communities of the Valley. It would a multi-purpose facility and would include indoor track, courts, basketball and volleyball. It'll need provincial funding and commitment from the Province. Acadia has the land.

Brian and Committee felt that Brian's visit tonight was an introductory and will be back to visit the committee in the near future.

Chair Dale Pineo thanked Brian for visiting and sharing his background, issues, challenges, community access and vision for the future.

4.2 New Minas Sunrise Rotary Club

Director welcomed Greg Caldwell and Holly Thompson, representatives from the New Minas Sunrise Rotary Club. They discussed the last big successful project that they partnered with the Village – Skate Park.

They wish to do another big/major project in New Minas through a Strategic Plan through the old Wellness Survey or a new Survey.

The Club has 55 members with \$120,000 being spent in the County. They pointed out that they have the ability to raise a fair amount of money for a project.

They wish to partner with the Village on another big project. They wish to move forward by starting with an updated needs assessment for the area or use the Wellness Centre needs assessment.

Dave Chaulk pointed out that any big project comes with a price tag. Dave C. would like to see a project budgeted over a period of time/years – 5 to 10 years.

Dave C. would like to see an artificial turf in the area in partnership with the community (Soccer, Rotary, etc.). Holly pointed out that New Minas Soccer would like to see a turf field as well.

Discussion took place on a new assessment, which would cost \$7,500 (\$15,000 total) or use the same Wellness Centre Assessment from a few years ago which was very expensive costing over \$20,000. Vince F. to find out from N.S. Health Promotion & Protection, Valley Region if the Wellness Centre Needs Assessment can be used.

Dave pointed out that a major project would need to be like Berwick – to fundraise millions of dollars for Wellness Centre, which may be tough.

Holly T. and Greg C. pointed out that the Rotary club is very interested and that it would depend on how much they can raise to meet the present needs of the Village – Gym, Trail, Turf field, etc.

Vince F. pointed out that there are 2 opportunities for projects in the works for the Village in 2008. Golfview Multi-purpose Facility and King Arthur Court Park Development may be of interest to the Rotary Club.

Dave Chaulk appreciated the partnership and commitment of the Rotary Club with the Skate Park. It is well used and very popular. A nice addition to the Community.

5.0 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

No Business arising from the minutes.

6.0 DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

Director V. Forrestall presented his monthly report for January (attached to original minutes). He highlighted the following items:

Promotion – New road signage, pictures & website updates, press releases, radio event ads, paper ads, March Break Day Camp, February Family Fun Physical Activity Flyer, 40th Anniversary flyers, school flyers, event flyers, senior flyers: Minas Fifty Club (Presentation), Sentimental Journey, Daniel O'Donnell trip, etc. Program flyers: After the Bell, Golf & Badminton/Volleyball Academy's, Floor Hockey, Sports Night, etc. Check out Recreation on the New Minas Website (www.newminas.com).

Regular Monthly Meeting

February 5, 2008

Village Voice – Director submitted Information, articles, stories, etc. to the Valley Shopper for distribution this Saturday, February 9th.

Winter/Spring Registrations – All pertinent information for all registrants entered into excel program data base. Department continuously receives registrations for Winter/Spring and now the summer.

Road Sign @ Lockhart Ryan Park –Up and running effective January 17th. Partner Agreement to be drawn up with the New Minas & Area Lions Club.

Winter Programs & Events 2008 – Department now implementing winter programs and events 2008.

“Celebrating 40 Years” –Vince is Vice-Chair. Also, member of Apple Blossom 40th Anniversary Birthday Float Sub-Committee (Float design, materials, volunteers, etc.), attends Committee meetings and takes minutes. Critical Path set out for the year. Assisted in planning, developing, organizing, promoting and implementing New Years Levee (Invitations, food, Proclamation, entertainment, promotion, etc.) Jan. 1 at the New Minas Civic Centre (100 Participants) and Al Bernard’s 40 Magic Tricks N 40 Minutes event (41 in 36 min.). Advertiser created 40th logo which was approved by the committee.

Village of New Minas Curling Team –The Village has a team participating in the Wolfville Commercial Curling League: 7 members, led by Gordon Silver, including Director. Team will also compete at the upcoming Municipal Curling Challenge Saturday, February 16, 2008.

Acadia Student – Performing OJT with the Department – Acadia Student, Candice Sharp, is scheduled do her OJT placement with the Department March 10 to April 18, 2008. She’ll be offered many valuable hands on experiences including “Celebrating 40 Years”, March Break, Programs, Volunteer Recognition Reception, etc.

“Luck of the Irish” with Daniel O’Donnell Trip & Tour, May 30, 2008 – SOLD OUT (45 participants). Planned, developed, organized and promoted.

Tattoo Trip 2008 – Department has partnered with the County to offer the annual trip to the Tattoo scheduled for July 3, 2008. Planned, developed, organized and promoted.

Video Ensemble Program – Department partnered with Kingston, Canning and the County to offer a County-wide Video Ensemble Program for ages 16 & up. Director attended various meetings to plan, develop, organize and promote in partnership. A workshop was held on Jan. 26th at the New Minas Baptist Church (Church has given facility free of charge) as an introduction to the Program. 9 participated.

“Freezins the Reason to Celebrate 40 Years” Winter Carnival (Feb. 21-24) - Planning, developing, organizing and promoting. Corporate Sponsorship Packages sent out. Logo and banner created. Theme and theme days created. Buttons created and received, etc.

Volunteer Week/New Minas Volunteer Recognition Reception – Nomination and Invitation Packages/Letters sent out to the various groups & organizations in New Minas. Volunteer Awards Day in Halifax (April 24) and New Minas Volunteer Recognition Reception (April 28).

VRCDA Bursary Committee – Member of the Committee and have assisted the Committee in the creation of the 2008 application, promotion, etc.

Kings County Physical Activity Strategy – Director attended and participated in the Physical Activity Strategy Workshop #1 held January 16. Workshop # 2 will be held February 11.

Kings Co. Recreation Partnership Steering Committee – Director and Terry attended meeting January 22 of the Villages to review recommendations and to further provide input.

Tourism Management-NSCC/New Minas Recreation – Director approached instructors of the Tourism Management Program at NSCC Kentville to see if there is a possibility of a partnership to provide a student to the Department on OJT to enhance our offerings.

Active Kids Healthy Kids – Department sent out packages to our local community groups and organizations for possible funding. Deadline is February 15.

February Family Physical Activity Challenge 2008 – Tally sheets and information packages distributed through local schools (NMES & EMS), on the website, mall, etc. Department is looking to Take the Roof Off Winter by having family members participate in 30 minutes of physical activity 4 days a week. The 4 week Challenge runs from February 4 to March 2.

New Minas Recreation Thunder/Lightning Team Programs Fundraiser Event – Volunteers and representatives of our Thunder and Lightning Teams held an auction dinner at Boston Pizza on January 31 with \$12,000 being raised to offset expenses associated with running the teams and participating in tournaments.

King Arthur Court Park Development Project 2008 - King Arthur Court representatives (Vince out sick) met with Mike Trinacty, Valley Region Rep., NS Health Promotion & Protection,

on January 7th. Mike was very impressed by the work and presentation of the group that the province has indicated it will support the Project. The County (Bob Suffron) has also indicated that it will support the Project.

Dan Watters Memorial Park Project 2008 - Outdoor Multi-purpose Sports & Physical Activity Centre (Golfview Homeowners Association) – Application and letters of support submitted to the Province – Mike Trinacty, Valley Region Rep., NS Health Promotion & Protection, on February 5. The Province has indicated that it will support the project, while the County has also indicated that they'll submit it as well.

Recreation Leadership Focus Group Coffee Shop Meeting – Chair and Director held inaugural meeting on February 1st with our recreation leaders to see how we are doing in New Minas for the betterment of the Community. The focus is to get direction on what they are hearing out in the community and ways we can be more efficient as a recreation delivery system to meet the needs of the community. This group holds no power or authority, but allows them to give us feedback on what we are doing right and/or wrong. A second meeting is scheduled for April or May.

Dave questioned the Kings Co. Recreation Partnership Steering Committee and if the Village was getting its fair of recreation funding from the County as we have one of the most active departments in the Valley. Terry S. and Vince F. pointed out that they were very happy with the recommendations of the Steering Committee, especially with an expected up to \$20,000 for the Village employing a Recreation Director.

The Village received increased monies last year under C.R.A.F, while also received money from Special Projects (Lockhart & Ryan Memorial Park Project 2007) and Community Park Development Programs.

It was moved by D. Chaulk and seconded by M. Stevens, to accept the Director's January Monthly Report as submitted.

MOTION CARRIED

7.0 CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Misty-Lee Atwell, Program & Event Leader – Director received e-mail from Misty-Lee Atwell: Thank you for all the great opportunities with New Minas Rec. It has been a wonderful experience for me. I hope to work with you again in the future.

7.2 After the Bell / New Minas Volleyball Academy Funding - Director received letter from the Province informing us that we received our remaining funding (20%) for the After the Bell and New Minas Volleyball Academy Programs.

7.3 Tracey Roberts, Valley Region Office, NS Health Promotion & Protection – Director received e-mail from Tracey Roberts: Thank you for organizing so many programs. Our boys are enjoying the Born to Swing Golf and will continue to participate in your programs offered.

7.4 Letters of Support (4) – Dan Watters Memorial Park Project 2008 – Director received four letters of support for the Dan Watters Memorial Park Project 2008: Steve Dalziel (Resident), Bob Suffron (County), Max Noseworthy (President/Business) and a local RCMP Officer.

7.5 Thank You Card – Greg Coldwell, Rotary Club of Sunrise New Minas – Director received a thank you card and \$150.00 towards recreation from Greg Coldwell, Rotary Club of Sunrise New Minas for having access to our bleachers for the RCMP Musical Ride Event.

8.0 NEW BUSINESS:

8.1 New Minas Parks & Recreation Department Logo –

Director presented a new Parks & Recreation Logo for approval. Director informed the Committee that the new logo means a circular, continuous recreation department, green for parks, environment and open space while promoting active and healthy lifestyles. Activity symbols shows what the department has to offer, but also what other community groups are offering as well.

Discussion took place on the new logo including the need for another logo for the Village, too busy, etc.

Director was directed to add a hiker and include Parks (& Recreation) to have the full meaning of what Parks & Recreation is in the Village presently.

8.2 Princess New Minas Apple Blossom Float / Parade Committee

Chair Maynard S. approached the Committee with a pre-approved budget recommendation request to the Village Commission of \$3,000 from next year's budget (2008-09) as a special 40th Anniversary Float.

Village will be entering a "40th Anniversary Birthday Float" in the annual Apple Blossom Parade this year - May 31, 2008.

Cost of materials without lumber, etc. will cost roughly \$2,000. It was noted that the Commission funds Princess New Minas annually of \$2,000. Committee needs to order supplies now so that they are here and ready to go when the float is being assembled by Vernon MacDonald and Committee.

Terry S. informed the Committee that it would come out of next years budget: 2008-09.

\$3,000 Pre-Approved Budget for Apple Blossom Float 2008

- **It was moved by L. Sequeria, seconded by M. Stevens that Celebrating 40 Years Anniversary Committee Chair Maynard S. approach the Village Commission for advance funding (2008-09 budget) of \$3,000 for the 40th Anniversary Apple Blossom Float 2008.**

MOTION CARRIED

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

In Motion of C. Shields, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Vince Forrestall,
Recreation Director

Dale Pineo, Chair

Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer