

APPROVED MINUTES
VILLAGE OF NEW MINAS
RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Regular Monthly Meeting
October 9, 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 Memorial Park on Tuesday, October 9, 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
Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver
Recreation Director Vince Forrestall

Welcome – Stephen Bishop, Festival of Lights/Light-up the Strip Presentation

Chair Dale Pineo welcomed Stephen Bishop, Festival of Lights/Light-up the Strip. Stephen presented on how the Light-up the Strip got started and how it led to the 1st Annual New Minas Festival of Lights:

Stephen has been a New Minas resident for a long time. He has noticed that small towns work hard to dress up their communities for Christmas, while for chain stores they do not take the time.

When he bought his homestead, he wanted to make the community look better. In November 2006, he visited Berwick and noticed how nice it looked for Christmas.

He started a Christmas Business Lighting Contest in New Minas last year (2006). He walked Commercial Street and tried to get businesses participating. He invested his own time and money. Last year saw 14 official entries.

Jordan's Home Furnishings, Valley Power Products and Wacky Wheatley's bought their own lights and participated.

Vince, who had experience in holding such lighting contests in other communities, approached Stephen to see if there were ways the Village could partner in this event.

Stephen and Vince began talking and it was agreed to form a partnership which would include a Residential & Business Lighting/ Decorating Contest for 2007 and include an award for the People's Choice Award.

Ballot boxes will be available at different points in New Minas for people to vote their most popular decoration. Entry Forms will be made available for business and residential to register for the event. Stephen feels that he is already two months ahead of last season.

The media and especially Kirk Starrat, Advertiser, took an interest in the event and covered last year's event with a story. Stephen would like to see New Minas as the busiest commercial development.

Stephen has worked with Vince and community groups to make this special event bigger and better every year - named: New Minas Festival of Lights, November 17, 2007 to January 1, 2008.

Old events under the Festival of Lights umbrella will include the Santa Parade (Nov. 17), Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, and Children's Christmas Party (Dec. 5), Flick the Switch, Light-up the Strip (Dec. 24), etc. New events the Department has included: Children's Gingerbread Decorating Contest, It's getting Chili Cook-off and Children's Winter Art Display Contest (Dec. 15).

Stephen's goal is to move the current Santa Parade in the evening, rename to Parade of Lights and make it a longer Parade.

Stephen pointed out the potential of the event to grow into one of the biggest events in New Minas and the Valley (Similar to Pumpkin People). Funds are needed for the development and infrastructure. As the event moves forward, he wants businesses to build scenes. He wants more businesses participating (i.e. Michelin, Service Clubs, GE, lighting companies, etc.).

2007 will be another infrastructure year for Flick the Switch. New initiatives hopefully will to have banners placed at each end of New Minas and Intersection 12.

Chairman Dale thanked Stephen for his presentation, time and efforts and acknowledged Stephen's creativity. Dave Chaulk thought that it was a wonderful idea. Dave was overjoyed that someone from the business community got it off the ground and thanked Stephen.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Pineo called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA, October 9, 2007

It was moved by C. Shields, seconded by L. Sequeira that the Agenda for the October 9, 2007 RAC Regular monthly meeting be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, September 4, 2007

It was moved by D. Chaulk, seconded by L. Sequeira, that the minutes of the Regular Monthly meeting of the RAC held on September 4, 2007 be approved as circulated.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- A. **Fall Programs & Events 2007** – Director Vince reviewed the Fall Calendar (Sept. to Dec. '07) and the various participation numbers of Programs and Events offered in the Village:

b-Active Fall Programs & Events 2007

<u>Program / Event</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Participants</u>
New Minas & Area Parent/Tot Playgroup	Mondays	Civic Centre	12 Avg.

New Minas Life Quality Improvement Program (Seniors Fitness)	Tuesdays & Thursdays	Civic Centre	10 avg.
Born to Swing Development Golf Academy	Fall '07 to Spring '08	Ken-Wo & Glooscap	76
Kings County Basketball Academy	September 10 – October 10	Glooscap	120
Young at Heart in Action	Starts October 14th	TBA	TBA
Art "For the Fun of It"	October 13 to December 15	EMS Cafeteria	3
New Minas Fall 2007 Volleyball Development Academy Classic	September 30 to December 9, 2007	EMS	17
After the Bell	1st Session: Sept. 24 to Nov. 2	NMES	41
After the Bell	2nd. Session: Nov. 5 to Dec. 14	NMES	16 (Still Registering)
Power Hour (Recreation After-school)	TBA	EMS	TBA
Grades 7 & 8 Girls Instructional Volleyball	September 22 – December 8	NMES	19
New Minas Volleyball Academy (Grades 4, 5, 6)	Sept. 21 – Dec. 8	NMES	17
Grades 7 & 8 Boys Instructional Volleyball	Sept. 22 – Dec. 8	NMES	10
New Minas Badminton Academy (Grades 4, 5, 6)	Sept. 21 – Dec. 8	NMES	9
Sentimental Journey Seniors Dance – Loreen Fevens	October 25	NMVFD	TBA
Adult Co-ed Basketball	Oct. 16 to Dec. 23	EMS	18 (Full)
Adult Co-ed Volleyball	Sept. 12 – Dec. 19	EMS	14
Halloween Spooktacular (Up to 12 years of age)	October 27	NMVFD	TBA
Youth Floor Hockey (Ages 12 & under)	Sept. 24 – Dec. 17	EMS	20
Learn the Secrets of Magic With Al Bernard (Ages 6-12)	1st session: Oct. 20	EMS Cafeteria	15 (Sold Out)
Learn the Secrets of Magic With Al Bernard (Ages 6-12)	2nd. Session: Nov. 17	EMS Cafeteria	4 (Still Registering)
1 st Annual New Minas Family Fall Fun Harvest Fest 2007	October 7	LRP	600
Sports of All Sorts... Saturday Fun Night (ages 12 & under)	Sept. 22 – Dec. 8	NMES	8 Avg.
Youth Open Gym (Ages 12 & up)	Sept. 27 – Dec. 13	EMS	Cancelled – not enough participants

Tumble Bugs Gymnastics Program (Ages 3 – 5)	TBA	TBA	TBA (Leader Training Needed: Leader, Kristi Arsenault)
Festival of Lights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Santa Parade ✓ Flick the Switch ✓ Christmas Tree Lighting ✓ Children's Christmas Party ✓ Business & residential Christmas Lighting Contest ✓ It's Getting Chili Cook-off ✓ Winter Art Contest & Display ✓ Gingerbread House Decorating 	Nov. 17, 2007 to Jan. 1, 2008	New Minas Area	TBA

Dave pointed out that it was nice to see participation numbers for the various programs & events, but wanted to know if they were holding their own. Director mentioned that for the most part they are. Some programs have been cancelled due to not meeting minimum participation number requirements, while others have exceeded all expectations.

B. Kings County Recreation Steering Committee

Draft version report received by Jim Morgenstern of dmA Planning and Management Services. It will be presented at the Old Orchard Inn on Friday evening, October 12 at the Old Orchard Inn beginning at 5:00 pm. Dale, Les and Vince to attend.

Members felt this was not a particular good time to hold a meeting. Vince pointed out that it was tough to come up with one night to accommodate all communities and felt that a Friday Night would be a good time where there would not be any Council/Commission and/or Committee meetings.

C. RNS Awards Nominations

Letter received from RNS Executive Director Dawn Stegen thanking the Village for bringing forth nominations for the 2007 Recreation Nova Scotia Awards Program (Holly Thompson, Dave Harris and the New Minas Invitational Soccer Tournament Committee) unfortunately the nominations were missing letters of reference and support materials and we were unable to complete the review of our applications.

She strongly encouraged us to bring forth the nominations for the 2008 RNS Awards Program. The Committee agreed to bring forth the same names for consideration next year.

D. 1st Annual "Family Fun Fall Harvest Fest" 2007

Director reported that the new community special event held October 7, 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm, was a huge success and very successful with roughly 600 participants. It was bigger than Canada Day. It was recommended to hold next year during the same date, but from 1:00 – 4:00 pm. Participants enjoyed wagon and pony rides, corn boil, b-b-q, ice cream, apple cider, apples, contests, cotton candy, emcee Denny Myles, Great Pumpkin Magic Show, Meghan O'Brien entertainment, fall clown, The Castle (Bounce Kingdom Inflatable), and 3 entries in the apple pie baking contest! Thank you to all you assisted, especially Greg's and Peter's Staff (Set-up, tear down and day of duties).

E. CPRA @ Ottawa

Director attended national conference September 26 – 29, 2007 in Ottawa at the Crown Plaza. Director stayed in Gatineau at Holiday Inn. Director thanked everyone who supported his attendance for this very beneficial conference. Director attended a pre-conference session: New Construction or Retrofit – Role and Responsibilities of on-site management and staff; Opening Keynote address by David Chilton, Author of the Wealthy Barber; Keynote addresses by John Furlong, CEO of 2010 Winter Olympic Games (Vancouver), Dr. Dalton Kehoe, Executive development Program at Schulich School of Business and Chantal Petitclerc, Wheelchair gold medalist at Paralympic Games. Sessions attended included: Putting people in parks: programming and community engagement for public open spaces; Investing in Natural capital: the value of parks in your portfolio; Sports Field Master Plan: developing a comprehensive master plan to improve facilities and reduce field over-use; Changing demographics, attitude shifts and parks; Community partnerships 101: How to successfully partner with the community; Excuse me for being human, but it's the pre-requisite to being a good leader. A number of functions and socials were held throughout the city: Canadian War Museum and Canada Aviation Museum. Minister announced Participaction to be launched again this month!

F. Kings County after-school Program – Power Hour * 2 at EMS

Director reported on a new initiative in Kings County – Kings County After-school Program. The Department has worked in partnership with Evangeline Middle School, NS Health Promotion & Protection and Healthy Promoting schools to offer a POWER HOUR * 2 (after-school) Program. It is a non-licensed, recreation and structured program designed for children girls and boys, in grades 6 at Evangeline Middle School to provide after school supervision in a safe and enjoyable recreational atmosphere built around youth-centered physical activities that helps youth develop positive long-term leisure skills of working parents.

The program that will provide a safe place for youth to be after school while encouraging physical activity, leisure, recreation, healthy eating, social skills (meeting new and old friends), teamwork, competitive and non-competitive activities and discipline.

The New Minas Recreation Department is committed to improving the lives of youth in the community by operating an affordable after school program offering enrichment and recreation in a safe and supervised environment.

Activities will include: sports, recreation and games and activities, Arts & crafts, dance, active and passive games, indoor and outdoor games (weather permitting), special events, fitness, guest speakers, dance dance revolution, etc.

A quality after-school program can bring stability, security and great opportunities to our youth in the community. It will hopefully allow participants a chance to play and improve their physical activity levels. 2nd 6 week Session: Begins January 9, 2008; 3rd 6 week Session: Begins March 19 to April 23, 2008. Schedule: Wednesdays 3:00 – 4:00 pm Grade 6 Group 1; 4:00 – 5:00 pm Grade 6 Group 2. There is no fee to register for a six-week session for one day!

DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT

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

- Promotion
- Village Voice
- Fall Registrations
- 9th Annual James Bayer Memorial Golf Tournament

- Baby Expo
- Road Sign @ Lockhart Ryan Park –Design set
- Fall Program & Events Leaders
- “Fall Harvest Fest Activity Day” @ NMES
- Healthy Choices Day @ EMS
- KCBA Program Registration
- Youth Skills
- Fall Programs & Events 2007
- 1st Annual Family Fun Fall Harvest Fest
- Grants/Assistance
- Excel Seminar
- Rotary Club – Partnerships
- Letter to Bruce M. - Villages commitment to the Kings Co. After-school Program (EMS & NMES).
- VRCDA – Director attended meeting @ Berwick on September 19th
- Summer Volleyball Academy Classic – completed Sunday, September 23rd at EMS.
- 1st Annual New Minas Festival of Lights
- CRPA Conference @ Ottawa – Director attended national conference September 26 – 29, 2007 in Ottawa.
- NMES Playground Opening & Recognition

It was moved by L. Sequeira, seconded by D. Chaulk to accept the Director’s Monthly Report as submitted. MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) **Dave Morgan, Special Projects & Conference Officer, RNS** – Director received a letter: Recreation Nova Scotia would like to extend a warm and heartfelt thanks to all our campaign supporters for helping make June is Recreation Month 2007 a great success! To show our appreciation for your hard work and commitment, we are sending you this *Certificate of Thanks*.
- (b) **Colleen Hunt, Program Officer, NS Office, Canadian Heritage** – Thank you for your 2007 Celebrate Canada! Final activity report. We wish to recognize the contribution of your organization to the celebration of Canada and its symbols and hope that you will continue in your efforts to promote knowledge of and pride in Canada throughout the year.
- (c) **Gordon Morse** – Letter to Terry Silver, Administrator, impressed by the latest Village Voice explaining all the things that are available to young and old, families and children at various facilities in this Village. This kind of activity is certainly the way to keep kids off the street and for people to learn how to have fun rather than get into trouble. And also it’s impressive to see that so much can be done without spending millions to create more real estate and to make full use of all the facilities that are available. We are fortunate to have such a high quality commissioners and others who look after the affairs of New Minas. Would you mind passing along my thanks to all of them for a job being done right.
- (d) **Trudy Willoughby, Parent/Teacher at NMES** – E-mail to Director mentioning what a great line up of activities you have organized for New Minas.
- (e) **Pat Murphy, Vice – Principal at Coldbrook & District School** – e-mail to Director: I think you are doing a great job! On behalf of my kids, thanks.

- (f) **Eric Trahan, Principal at NMES** – E-mail to Director: Let me just say that you are doing a great job and I appreciate all of your support and partnerships with our school.
- (g) **VANSDA** – *Certificate of Appreciation for valuable contributions to the Youth Skills Program 2007.*
- (h) **Mike Trinacty, Valley region Rep, NS Health Promotion & Protection** – E-mail to Vince congratulating the Organizers on the success of the 1st annual family Fall Fun Harvest Fest – very impressive, great to see. You and the rest of the organizers should be proud.
- (i) **Stephen Bishop, Raymond James** – E-mail from Stephen Bishop congratulating the Director on the 1st annual Family Fall Fun Harvest Fest – good work Vince.

NEW BUSINESS

A. 40th Anniversary of the village: Ad Hoc Committee / Sub-committee / Chair

It was moved by D. Chaulk, seconded by L. Sequeira that Maynard Stevens be nominated Chair of the 40th Anniversary Committee.

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

In Motion of M. Stevens, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Vince Forrestall,
Recreation Director**

Dale Pineo, Chair

Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer