

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE (R.A.C)
Regular Monthly Meeting Approved Minutes
September 1, 2009, 7:00 p.m.
New Minas Civic Centre – Upper Level

Attendance: Dale Pineo, RAC Chair; Dave Chaulk, Village Chair; Maynard Stevens, Commission; Jennifer Pineo, Resident Member and Vince Forrestall, Director of Recreation

Regrets: Leslie Sequeira, Resident Member; Terry Silver, Clerk Treasurer

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was Called To Order by Chair Dale P. at 7:15 p.m.

2.0 Approval of Agenda – September 1

Moved by Dave C. and Seconded by Jennifer P. the Approval of the September 1 Agenda

Motion Carried

3.0 Approval of Minutes – July 7

Moved by Dave C. and Seconded by Jennifer P. the Approval of July 7 Minutes

Motion Carried

4.0 AVESTA – Annapolis Valley events & Sport Tourism Association

Director introduced Liam Reed, Coordinator, of AVESTA. Liam made power point presentation to the committee on information pertaining to AVESTA and also briefed the Committee on the Economic analysis study carried out at the 24th Annual New Minas Invitational Soccer Tournament by partners AVESTA, New Minas, Acadia University, New Minas Invitational Soccer Tournament Committee which will be presented at the Annual Municipal Workshop in October:

What is AVESTA

- ✓ The Annapolis Valley Events & Sport Tourism Association exists to promote the Annapolis Valley region as an event destination by facilitating, identifying, and supporting the retention and expansion of cultural, festival, sport and unique events.
- ✓ The Annapolis Valley Events and Sport Tourism Association (AVESTA) was formed in the spring of 2007 to facilitate the Annapolis Valley in becoming a leading destination for sport and event tourism in Atlantic Canada.
- ✓ Spanning West Hants, Kings and parts of Annapolis County, AVESTA is comprised of representatives of local municipalities, sporting associations, educational institutions, businesses, provincial representatives and economic development associations.

The Importance of Sport Tourism

- ✓ Sport Tourism in Canada is a 2.4 billion dollar a year industry and is one of the fastest growing market segments.
- ✓ Sport tournaments and events bring tourists to the valley who spend money on:

> Travel

- > Dining
- > Accommodations
- > Other travel expenditures
- ✓ These tourists are participants, coaches, families, and event volunteers who would have not visited the valley for reasons other than the tournament.
- ✓ While events like the Olympic games tend to receive most of the media profile, the critical mass of activity continues to occur at the community level.
- Why do we need Avesta
- ✓ Sport tourism industry information and advice
- ✓ Lists of local sport programs, groups, and contact information
- ✓ Accommodations, art galleries, sport facilities, and dining databases
- ✓ Economic assessment models
- ✓ Event planning template
- ✓ Bid template
- ✓ Funding opportunities
- ✓ Tourism packages, maps, and brochures for event participants
- Short Term Objectives
- ✓ To raise awareness of AVESTA and the sport tourism industry
- ✓ To enhance our local image and profile
- ✓ To facilitate networking, educational and communications opportunities
- ✓ To build on current Economic Assessment Models
- ✓ To create a list of Annapolis Valley sporting events since November 2007
- ✓ To help local organizations in tournament capacity assessment and possible hosting information
- Long Term Objectives
- ✓ To establish the Annapolis Valley and Atlantic Canada as a preferred sport tourism destination
- ✓ To develop and facilitate access to industry tools
 - ✓ To build investment in sport tourism from the public and private sectors

Jennifer Pineo commented that she was not aware of the Association, but would be very helpful in assisting local school bids for school provincials, etc.

Dave C. inquired to see if the Association was involved in identifying facilities needed in the area to host national events that the area does not currently have.

5.0 **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

There was no business arising at this time.

6.0 **DIRECTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT (July & August)**

Director presented his monthly report for July & August 2009:

- **Fall Registrations Data Base '09** Created and updated
- **Fall Programs & Special Events** – Planning, developing, organizing, budgeting, promoting, implementing and evaluating (upon completion).
- Fall Events '09:**
- **Sentimental Journey "Fall Harvest"** - Seniors 50+ Dinner, Social & Dance Thurs, Oct 1, 6-9p.m. NMVFD (New Minas Volunteer Fire Dept) Hall
- **3rd Annual Fall Harvest Celebrations** - "Family Fun" Day October 4 1:00-4:00 p.m. at Lockhart & Ryan Memorial Park.
- **Olympic Torch Relay in Village** - The Flame will travel through New Minas on Fri, Nov 20/09.

- 3rd Annual Celebration of Lights (Christmas) November 20-December 31
 - Nov. 20 Olympic Torch Relay
 - Nov. 21 Santa Parade (Night)
 - Dec. 2 Tree Lighting Ceremony & Children's Party
 - Dec. 12 Family Holiday Fun Day (Chili Cook-off, Art Contest, Gingerbread House Contest)
 - Dec. 18 Sentimental Journey
 - Dec. 19 Light-up the Strip Business Lighting Contest
 - Dec. 19 Residential Lighting Contest
- 3rd Annual Winter Carnival Celebrations February 17-21, 2010
- **Fall Programs '09:**
 - New Minas & Area Parent / Tot Playgroup
 - Sports Start for Kids (Grades 1-3, co-ed)
 - New Minas Basketball Skills Development Program (KCBA)
 - Recreation After-school Programs: Power Hour * 2 (EMS) and After the Bell (NMES) (Village received \$1,623 as a partner in 2008-09)
 - New Minas S.T.A.R.S Volleyball Fun 4-on-4 League
 - New Minas Badminton Skills Development Program
 - New Minas Volleyball Skills Development Program
 - Grades 9 & 10 2-on-2 Skill Development Fun League—Only \$20 ea
 - Older Adults Life Quality Improvement Program (Seniors 50+ Fitness Program)
 - Coach Tim Kendrick's Specialized Basketball Skill Sessions
 - Adult Basketball
 - Adult Co-ed Volleyball
 - Oil Painting Classes
- **Summer Programs & Events '09:**
 - STARS Volleyball Fun League - summer (16); Parent/Tot Playgroup (12 avg., year round); Junior Volunteer Leadership Summer Program (10 participants); "Play Days" Playground Program; 2nd Annual Kings Geocache Event – 30 participants. Held Aug 15 at Lockhart & Ryan Memorial Park & New Minas Baptist Church. Partnership with County, Canning, Village, AVRSB, etc. Participants enjoyed instructions on geocaching and how to operate a gps, a b-b-q and looked for roughly 10 geocaches in the park.
 - **New Minas News For You** – working on Sept/Oct edition with the goal of distribution September 10th. Director has submitted first draft to Terry, Lynn S & Shelly. Shelly & Vince reviewed Draft 1 on Sept. 1st. To be distributed through flyer services.
 - **Special Events Road Sign @ Lockhart Ryan Park** – Director keeps sign up to date with department information.
 - **New Horizons Grant / Seniors Strategic Session** - Director applied for \$25,000 funding for seniors through the New Horizons Grant (Federal) – led by seniors for seniors. Grants name & logo: **"Beacon of Light-Youth & Seniors partnering Hand in Hand"**. Will be notified/results December 18th. Our application has gone to review Committee and will make recommendations to go to Minister.
 - **Horton 50th Anniversary Reunion, 2009** –Department assisted them in the promotion of the event and the area (Flyers, website, etc.).
 - **5 Summer Day Camps** – led by Clarissa States, Pre-school Director; Monique Ouellette Village Visual Arts Camp Director; Jeanette Corporan, Junior Day Camp Director and Kelsey Myles as Senior Day Camp Director. Director confirmed Camp Director's access to soccer building & Rec Office, LRP to plan and organize their respective camps. Director also confirmed camp facilities through meetings and community use requests: NM Baptist Church (facility orientation with Directors June 8th), EMS (facility orientation June 23 & extra week), Civic Centre, Hope Church (Director created community use agreement), etc. Director confirmed Day Camp Directors borrowing NMES equipment for the summer through Lynne Fuller, Phys. Ed. Teacher. New Minas Baptist Church gave each Director a welcome package/basket to each camp accessing their facility. Vince & Lynn S. met with Directors on June 8 re: Po's, cheque warrants, petty cash, weekly time pay sheets, etc. Terry, Lynn & Vince met with Camp Directors on June 25 to review their Action Plans, Calendars, and Schedules & Budgets for the summer. Lynn S. took over management of the camps

- July 21st. (Dept received \$1,000 from Jump Start & Kick-off Programs for underprivileged participants).
- **New Minas Princess Float** – Princess New Minas Nicole Pyke and Child Attendant Grace MacEwan have been keeping busy representing the Village at various community events in the Valley this summer. Nicole has attended many community events and parades in the Valley this summer including the 77th Apple Blossom Festival, Kingston Steer B-B-Q, Digby Scallop Days, Windsor Summer fest, Annapolis Royal Natal Days, Middleton Parade, Hantsport Grand Street Parade, etc. Director has been submitting applications for them to participate in the respective parades, along with availability of the Village truck & float.
 - **Valley / South Shore Meeting @ Digby Pines** – to be held September 17 & 18th. Agenda, tba.
 - **Chair-Occupational Health & Safety Committee** – Director chairs Village O H & S Committee. Agenda, minutes, etc. Meeting held August 20th.
 - **2nd Annual Tall Ships Trip** – Planned and organized on Friday, July 17th. 30 participated. Participants received transportation to and from, meal at the Bluenose Restaurant and a boarding pass. Received nice comments from participants - testimonials.
 - **3rd Annual Tattoo Trip** –Held on July 8th. 35 participants had transportation to and from, ticket to the Tattoo and meal (On own) at Cousin's Restaurant. Received nice comments from participants - testimonials.
 - **Sun Safety Policy** – Director working with Sun Safety NS, O H & S Committee and Terry to have policy for sun safety in summer '09 for all staff. Draft presented at last O H & Safety Meeting.
 - **CHAP (County: Community Hall Assistance Program)** – Director, Peter & Gordon Kelsey submitted Grant to County for improvements to the Civic Centre: Windows, kitchen floor, back entry, etc. Village has not received any feedback on approval as of yet.
 - **King Arthur Court Park Development** - Director, Peter & Gordon Kelsey prepared Grant to County for King Arthur Court Park Development and received \$5,000 from the Province. Director prepared grant to the County for \$9,000+ dollars that was going to a meeting in the County Sept. 1st.
 - **Economic Stream Committee (RNS Conference 2009)** – Director on Economic Steam Committee planning keynotes (Recruited Bill Schurman, Moncton Wildcats) & sessions for the upcoming RNS conference.
 - **Active Transportation Movement** – Director working with AT Champion John Owen on AT for the Village and keeping him up to date on committees, surveys, info, railway bed discussions, upcoming workshops, conferences, etc. Attended meeting on development of the railway line bed in New Minas with a cost of \$94,735.00.
 - **24th Annual Celebration Days (Aug. 6-9)** – Director secured Jungle Jim's as a platinum sponsor (donated 300 Frisbees for programs & events). Director worked with the Advertiser on paper insert. Vince promoted at Wolfville & New Minas Tourist Info. Vince emceed on Sunday, Vince & Haley worked with Vicki, K-Rock on promotional, tent, etc. sponsor. Celebration Days continues to be a very popular family event for the Village after 24 years. Participants of all ages enjoyed a full weekend of activities as the marquee event for the Village celebrates 25 years in August 2010. 33 Participants enjoyed seniors Sentimental Journey (New) – subway donated the sandwiches for the seniors. Fireworks, entertainment, soap slide, food, bounce inflatable's, outdoor bingo, washer toss, face painting, candy toss, magician, bbq (wal-mart donated hot dogs & rolls) park clowns, etc. were also enjoyed. Hats off to staff, volunteers, sponsors, fire auxiliary, Peter's staff, etc. for contributing to the success of the event.
 - **Facilities Project** – Director has been busy meeting with community members on what the Village needs:
 - ✓ **Doq Park (Old Horton school)**
 - ✓ **Commercial Street Beautification**
 - ✓ **New Facility (Civic Ctr.)** – sell property and put somewhere else (LRP).
Appropriate new office space. Lots of storage space. Need hall for physical

activity, social, meeting rooms (community groups), do not need gym space (schools). Recreation offices separate.

- ✓ **Indoor/Swimming Pool** – swimming lessons, etc.
- ✓ **Bigger Newer Hall** – for community groups with multi-purpose rooms
- ✓ **Artificial Turf/Field** – Active Living Field with Track.
- ✓ **Park for younger children (small)** – wading pool, trees, grass, etc.
- ✓ **New Centre** – Used by seniors (am), youth (pm). Solar/Wind Powered.
- ✓ **Old Civic Centre** used by youth groups to meet.
- ✓ **Roller Skating Rink**
- ✓ **Large Arcade**
- ✓ **NMES Field Renovated** – to meet needs of soccer for u6 & 8. (rip, loosen top soil, seed, irrigation)
- ✓ **Review last Community Centre ('93)** proposal and upgrade
- ✓ **Wellness Centre** (As proposed earlier)
- ✓ **Soccer Dome** (Like Kentville)
- ✓ **Bigger Civic centre to give presence/to do business** – own building, looks nice. "Sense of Community"
- ✓ **Walking Trails (Trail Line)**
- ✓ **Bicycle Lanes**
- ✓ **Community Gym** – squash, basketball, volleyball, etc
- ✓ **Outdoor Pool**
- ✓ **Community Gardening/Community garden project**
- ✓ **YMCA idea** – Gym, Pool, activity room, gym, etc.
- ✓ **Hockey Arena/Rink**
- ✓ **Exercise Gym** – weights, aerobics, etc.
- ✓ **Outdoor rink** – used for ball hockey in off season. Boarded Rink/Ball hockey
- ✓ **Multi-functional whole sports complex** – Wellness, Gym, meeting place, walking trails, seniors (exercise programs)
- ✓ **2 Soccer Fields** – at Dykelands (Millette)
- ✓ **Recreation Centre** (New & enlarged)
- ✓ **Increased space for Village Offices and combined multi-use social facilities** – adequate parking
- ✓ **Nature trails** (with info signs)
- ✓ **Place for seniors** – card games, it's a wonderful recreation activity for seniors who are not always able to take part in other recreation events.
- ✓ **New Bigger Space** – somewhere in New Minas.
- ✓ **New Minas Civic Centre** – bigger space
- ✓ **Community walking track**
- ✓ **Permanent park staging for concerts**
- ✓ **Youth Centre** - Civic Centre
- ✓ **New Centre** - Gym, fields, Basketball, Boardroom, offices, computers, Wheel chair access, classes- aerobics etc.) Kitchen, class room/ Training room. CAP site, staging, Dances, drama, kitchen with serving window, green area with play equipment, smaller rooms to be used by camps, Youth room.
- ✓ **Outdoor Basketball nets**
- ✓ **Library**
- ✓ **Office**
- ✓ **Tourist bureau**
- ✓ **Street parks- ramps for skate park etc.**

- **Economic Analysis of 24th New Minas Invitational Soccer Tournament** – Economic Analysis Study of the annual soccer tournament was carried out. Will provide valuable information for hosting soccer tournaments or other sporting events in the future, especially when it comes to sponsorship and support. Partners: Village, soccer committee, AVESTA, Acadia University, etc.
- **Evangeline Recreation Society Canteen @ LRP** – assisted Trina Long at the Evangeline Recreation Society to get the Canteen up and running at LRP this summer, fall. Special event dates from Greg Messom to Trina and had Greg & Trina meet to review facility needs, etc. Valley Kick-off featured a lot of rain and the canteen did not operate as there would have not been a lot of money to be raised, participants stay

away from the canteen during rain days. Celebration Days/Invitational Soccer weekend saw them raise roughly \$1,000 even though they ran into some damage issues.

- **NS Senior Games 2011** – Director, AVESTA, County, Canning, Province, etc. involved in preliminary discussions in the Valley Region hosting the 2011 Provincial Games. Yarmouth is hosting this year (2009) and the games will be held in 2011 again, every 2 years. Deadline for submitting the bid is October 30th., while presentation of the bid will be held mid-November.
- **K-Rock Athletes of the Week** – Requested by Tina to submit names, especially during a slow summer: *Susan Carbyn—Milne Avenue, New Minas* finished 3rd Overall Women at the Bluenose Marathon to qualify for the Boston Marathon in 2010. Susan's mom also qualified. First in the Halifax Bridge Mile for the AGE 40-49 category and won the Barrington Half Marathon. *Tim Kendrick—New Minas*, coached the NS Canada Games Boys Basketball Team to a Silver Medal on PEI. *Plus...Under15 Provincial Basketball Teams to B.C included New Minas Residents: Lorenzo Parker—1009 Maple Drive, New Minas (Parent: Lawrence Parker); Candace Smith—1020 Evangeline Court, New Minas (Parent: Bobby Smith).*
- **Destination Southwest Nova Tourism Association** – Director applied for funding for four Village events. Director and Maynard S. attended a conference at Kentville Tourist information Centre on August 5th as the Village received \$3,300 for our 4 main events. General Manager Madonna Spinazola presented a cheque to the Village Celebration Days, Fall Harvest Celebrations, Celebration of Lights and Winter Carnival Celebrations 2010.
- **Recreation After-school Programs: Power Hour * 2 (EMS) and After the Bell (NMES)** – Director attended Kings County meeting on August 26th. AVRSB Office, 2nd floor.
- **Acadia University Students** – Director met with Professor Alan Warner at Acadia University to have NMRD access 3 students for a Fall program. Director to present to students September 14th. and met with the team of three on September 21st.
- **CPDP (Community Park Development Program)** – Director assisted Peter P, Greg M and Gord Kelsey to submit annual grant application for park maintenance and improvements for \$12,000.

Thank You. Respectfully submitted, Vince Forrestall, Director of Recreation - Sept. 1/09

Commissioner Stevens inquired to see how the numbers were for the various day camp programs that ran during the summer. Director informed him that the numbers seemed to be good, but revenues were down/short of projected in the Budget. Director informed that Lynn S. would have these as she managed the Day Camps the last part of the summer.

Moved by Jennifer P. and Seconded by Maynard S. the Approval of Director's July & August Monthly Report as presented.

Motion Carried

7.0 **Active Transportation Report—John Owen (Active Transportation Champion). John Owen presented a written report:**

Village of New Minas - Plan is to develop a map of trails for New Minas to be ready for next Spring.

On the map points of interest would be connected and the distance indicated. Points of interest would be playgrounds, shopping areas, connections to the New Minas Rail Trail, etc.

The trails would be for walking, running, cycling and indicate connections to other trails outside New Minas.

The Trail Map would include the location of "rest" benches and bike racks.

This would be a map to be available to residence and visitors of New Minas.

Windsor & Hants Rail Line....

Attended a meeting at HPP in Kentville on July 31, 2009...

Meeting was called by Mike Trinacty, HPP Valley Regional Representative.

Meeting attendees: Mike Trinacty, Rick Jacques (Annapolis Valley Trails Coalition Trail Coordinator), Bob Suffron (Kings County), Vince Forrestall and John Owen.

Rick had some discussion with the manager of the rail line through New Minas and there may be some willingness there for a portion to be developed. The section under discussion is from the end of the Kentville rail trail to ACA. The manager of the rail line wants to know who will be doing the development and to what extent the line will be developed.

Rick Jacques presented a cost estimate for the section to be developed. Bob Suffron indicated that this could be done through the County with the project managed and executed by the Village. Bob also indicated that he would bring this up at the August meeting of the Kings County Trails Committee.

Kings County Trails Committee.....

A).Vision and Strategic Plan for Trails for County of Kings

On June 22/09, I attended public review of the Vision and Strategic Plan in Port Williams. There appeared to be a low turn out. This was basically a question and answer for the document and various maps were available.

B). Monthly Meetings

Attended the June and August monthly meetings as an observer:

Items of interest

-Approval of their "Vision and Strategic Plan for Trails for the County of Kings"

-Project for the Rail Trail through New Minas....

August meeting....

Rail Trail for New Minas was not on the Agenda. Early in the meeting the Chair asked why I was at the meeting and I told him that I was there for the Rail Trail through New Minas and the Vision and Strategic Plan. The Rail Trail for New Minas was not on the agenda and Bob Suffron was not at the meeting. Chair asked for some follow up and indicated that it would be an agenda item for the next meeting.

Presentation for the Vision and Strategic Plan did not take place as the presenters were not in attendance and no communication to the committee to say that the presentation would not take place.

8.0 **Correspondence**

8.1 **Anna Sherwood, Valley Youth Fun Run 2009 Committee Chair** – Letter & an official run ribbon received:

On behalf of the Valley Youth Run Committee, I would like to thank the Village of New Minas – Recreation Department for their support at our first Valley Youth Fun Run. Your support at our event helped to make our day a positive experience for children and youth in the Annapolis Valley. Vince Forrestall was a tremendous help in having our event be such a success. The park staff at Lockhart & Ryan Memorial Park were extremely helpful and much appreciated.

The 1st Annual Valley Youth Run held May 23, 2009 had an impressive 138 participants and 40 volunteers who also contributed to its success. The Valley Youth

Run Committee is committed to encouraging youth to participate in physical activity and have fun doing it.

Please pass along our appreciation to the Village of New Minas – Recreation Department and Park Staff.

8.2 **Middleton Centennial Committee Society** – Certificate of Appreciation (1909-2009). Thank you for taking part in Middleton’s Centennial Grand Street Parade. See you next year! The Centennial Committee Society.

8.3 **Frito-Lay Canada** – Letter from Sheila Lawrence, Local Pride Committee: Each year Frito Lay Canada awards the Local Pride Award to one of their facilities across Canada whose activities over the past year best strengthens ties to the local community through volunteering and sponsorship.

I am pleased to say that our Kentville facility won the “2008 Local Pride award”. The winning of this award also includes a monetary prize which the site could donate to a charity of their choice.

This year we have chosen to disburse our winning to local charities/events. I am pleased to enclose a cheque in the amount of \$500.00 to be used as best needed by New Minas Recreation c/o Any Child Can Participate Program.

8.4 **Direct Digital Office Solutions** - Giving back keeps everyone moving ahead – Letter received: We have all been affected by the recent slide in the economy. Non profit organizations, church’s, schools are hurting more than ever and unfortunately even fewer people will be able to lend assistance due to their own financial situation.

Direct Digital Office Solutions Inc is grateful to be in position to help out our friends, so in celebration of your support to us, we plan to do just that. You don’t have to anything different, just keep doing business with Direct Digital Solutions Inc. We will be donating 2% of our service and supplies to a charity. But here is the best part...you can pick which charity you want to support. Local charities donated to: New Minas Recreation, Kings Co. Big Brothers Big Sisters, Flowercart, Brigadoon and Fundy Interchurch Food Bank.

9.0 **New Business**

9.1) **Destination Southwest Nova Association (DSWNA)** – Event dollars: Director reported that he and Commissioner Stevens attended the press conference in Kentville on August 5th announcing DSWNA’s tourism dollars to local groups including the Village which Director of Recreation applied for. The Village received four grants, of the twenty two grants awarded, towards the Village’s four events: Celebration days, Fall Harvest celebrations, Winter Carnival Celebrations & Celebration of Lights totaling \$3,300.00. Director thanked Commissioner Stevens for his attendance and participation-greatly appreciated.

10.0 **Adjournment**

With no further business, it was Moved by Dave C. to Adjourn the Meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Motion Carried

Dale Pineo
Chair
Recreation Advisory Committee

Vince Forrestall
Director of Recreation
Village of New Minas