

**VILLAGE OF NEW MINAS**  
**RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting**  
**May 4, 2010**  
**7:00 p.m. – Civic Center**

The regular monthly meeting of the New Minas Recreation Advisory Committee was held on May 4, 2010 in the Civic Center at 7:00 p.m.

**In Attendance:** Chair Dale Pineo  
Village Commission Chair Dave Chaulk  
Village Commissioner Maynard Stevens  
Citizen Member Leslie Sequeira  
Recreation Director Saï Sherwood  
Clerk Treasurer Terry Silver (Minute Recorder)

**Also Present** John Owen, Active Transportation Representative

**Absent:** Citizen Member Jennifer Pineo

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Pineo called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending.

**Welcome – New Rec Director Saï Sherwood**

Saï Sherwood was welcomed as the Village’s new Recreation Director.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** May 4, 2010

**It was moved by M. Stevens, seconded by L. Sequeira that the Agenda for the May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010 regular meeting be approved with the following additions under “OTHER ITEMS” – a) Youth Run, May 15<sup>th</sup>, and (b) Michelin Youth Bike Event, May 15<sup>th</sup>. MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** February 2, 2010

**It was moved by M. Stevens, seconded by L. Sequeira that the minutes of the Regular RAC meeting held February 2, 2010 be approved as circulated. MOTION CARRIED.**

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

### **(a) Railway Bed Trail proposal – Chair Pineo**

Saï stated that he and John Owen had discussed the status of the proposal from the owners of the Windsor to Hantsport Railbed. There was mention that the owners may be willing to negotiate with their commitment for property taxes being considered; however, T. Silver advised the property is exempt. Saï said that Mike Trinacty would not be negotiating with the owners, but would like to be present during any discussions with the owners. Saï will contact the owners and attempt to have a discussion with them, and will invite Mike Trinacty. He will report back to the Committee.

John Owen suggested the Village should go back to the Railway owners and tell them we cannot meet their requirements and ask to re-negotiate.

### **(b) March Break Day Camp – Update**

Saï updated the Committee on the March Break Day Camp, which was successful and fun for the participants. Saï directed the Committee's attention to the Director's report (attached to original minutes) for more detail on programs and events.

Chair Pineo spoke of the change in policy whereby Commissioners' families must now pay half the fees for Day Camp registrations. T. Silver advised that this decision was made in order to help with the budgeting process. D. Chaulk stated he is not at all in favour for Commissioners to have financial perks and asked to have this item placed on the Commission Agenda.

### **(c) Kitchen Party Fund Raiser**

Chair Pineo stated he has attended several of the Kitchen Parties and is impressed that this group of volunteers is willing to put forth the time and effort to raise money for charities and to purchase sound equipment for the Village. T. Silver advised that they are a lot of fun, they are held the last Saturday of every month at the Civic Center, and to date support has gone out to the Haiti Relief, IWK, and Habitat for Humanity.

### **(d) Grant Applications**

Saï stated he was advised that Destination Southwest Nova funding is being extended and he will make connections on this possibility for the Village.

### **(e) Spring programs registrations**

Saï stated the only spring programs that had enough registrations to justify continuing the programs were volleyball and music.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **(a) Applications for summer Employment**

Saï advised he has received over 50 applications for summer camps. He has interviewed and hired the directors for the 5 camps, as well as the Events Co-ordinator/Intern for the summer. We have received 3 applications for Junior volunteer leaders.

### **(b) “Walk to School in New Minas” – request from Mrs. Cathy Vey**

Chair Pineo stated this was referred to this Committee from the Transportation Advisory Committee, where Mrs. Vey presented a request to that Committee to recommend to the Village Commission to build walking trails along the south perimeter of Commercial Street businesses as a “safe walk to school” incentive.

Discussion took place about the pros and cons of this, and safety issues were discussed. It was commented that the area in question connects to Prospect Road, which has a sidewalk the full length, and children in the commercial area would still be required to walk down Prospect Road and cross Commercial Street.

Saï suggested the parents in a given area may be willing to develop a “walking bus route” where children (with adults) walk to route in clusters. He will suggest to Mrs. Vey she check a very informative website at [www.saferoutestoschool.ca](http://www.saferoutestoschool.ca).

It was the consensus of the Committee that this area of New Minas already has a safe walk to school, and children and parents should be encouraged to use it. Parent participation is essential, especially for smaller children.

## **OTHER ADDED ITEMS**

### **a) Youth Run, May 15, 2010**

Saï advised the Valley Youth Run will be taking place on May 15, 2010 at Lockhart Ryan Park

### **b) Michelin Youth Bike Event**

Sai advised that Michelin is having their “Michelin Youth Bike Event” on May 15, 2010 at the Empire Theatre parking lot.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**On motion of D. Chaulk, the meeting adjourned.**

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D. Pineo, Chair

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T. Silver, Clerk Treasurer, Recorder

**NEW MINAS RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**MONTHLY REPORT**

**Welcome Sai**

We are happy to welcome Sai Sherwood to our team. As you are aware, Sai just started with us today, and he comes to us with a solid background and knowledge in programming and working with teams and people of all ages.

**March Break Day Camp**

The March Break Day Camp was held the week of March 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>. We originally had 47 children registered, but by the start of camp, we were down to 42 because two families with 2 children pulled out for various reasons. Other than that, the camp was a huge success for the participants. The weather was absolutely perfect and the kids and leaders alike had a wonderful week.

**Kitchen Party Fundraiser**

Staff held the second ***Kitchen Party*** on March 27<sup>th</sup>, with proceeds going to IWK Hospital. The Kitchen Parties are being organized by Gordon Silver with the help of Village staff to help raise money for sound equipment for the Village and as fund-raisers for charities. The performers are volunteering their time, Mark Clarke of New Minas is currently donating his sound equipment as well as his group's time, and we are advertising through posters and media public service announcements. So far, \$110 has been donated to Haiti relief, \$60 to the IWK, and \$60 has gone into the equipment fund.

**Grant Applications**

We have heard back from the ***Age-Friendly Grant*** application to place computers in accessible areas for Seniors. We actually received the cheque for the provincial portion of the grant. The Village Commission will be required to match half the project and this amount will be submitted to the Commission for budget approval.

**Spring Programs Registrations**

We have had another disappointment with regard to the low numbers of registrations for our spring programs. We have done a considerable amount of advertising in hopes people will register their children, but numbers are very low. At this point, we have the After the Bell Program, which is funded by the Schools, the County and the Village, and we will be doing a youth volleyball program. We also have two group learn to play drums sessions. Registrations

for all other programs are too low to justify renting facilities and paying leaders. We have some ideas we will discuss with Sai for the fall programs that hopefully will bring the enrolments up.

### **Applications for summer employment**

Our deadline for summer employment applications was March 31<sup>st</sup>. We received over 50 applications for summer employment. We have not yet heard what our summer student grant funding will be, but we would need to start interviewing soon for our day camps.