



TOWNSHIP OF ESSA
MINUTES OF MEETING of the PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
ESSA ADMINISTRATION CENTRE – Wednesday, March 16th, 2016 at 8:30 am

PRESENT: **Chair:** Sandie Macdonald
 Members: Ron Henderson
 Jim Henderson
 Cheryl Brinn
 Willy Parkinson
 Jay Clark

Staff: Ken Koopmans
 Diane Straus

Absent: Jeff Teskey
 Kelly Coish
 Karla White

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.

1. Draft Minutes – November 25th, 2015 Meeting

Resolution 2016-01 **Moved by: Ron Henderson** **Seconded by: Willy Parkinson**
“BE IT RESOLVED that the minutes from the November 25th, 2015 meeting be approved.”

Carried

2. DEPUTATIONS

a) Tottenham Steam Jr. Hockey Team

At this time there is no ice available in the evenings starting at 7 pm for 3 hours. Each night is currently taken up by Essa Minor Hockey, public skating or long time men’s groups. They were all approached to see if they would be utilizing their ice this year and they all indicated they wanted their same ice time back again.

The Recreation Coordinator/Programmer was asked to offer this league the practice ice and if ice does become available for their game night to let them know accordingly.

Resolution 2016-02 **Moved by: Jim Henderson** **Seconded by: Ron Henderson**
“BE IT RESOLVED that the correspondence from the Tottenham Steam Jr. Hockey be received;

AND FURTHER THAT Parks & Recreation Committee does support Tottenham Steam Jr. Hockey utilizing the Angus Recreation Centre for their team.

AND FURTHER THAT Mondays, Tues and Wednesdays from 3:30 – 4:50 and Thursdays from 4:30 – 5:50 has been penciled in for the Tottenham Steam Jr. Hockey team.

Carried
Cont’d.../2

*Parks & Recreation Committee Minutes
March 16th, 2016*

b) Barrie Ball Hockey Club

Barrie Ball Hockey did not show up for their deputation.

Resolution 2016-03 Moved by: **Willy Parkinson** Seconded by: **Ron Henderson**
"BE IT RESOLVED that a deputation from the Barrie Ball Hockey Club be received;

AND FURTHER THAT the Parks & Recreation Committee needs more information and request that it be deferred to the next meeting for their deputation and suggest if the indoor floor surface would work with 3-4 hour blocks of time in the summer.

Carried

3. RECREATION COORDINATOR/PROGRAMMER

a) W.C. Little Elementary School

b)

W.C. Little Elementary School's February 25th ice booking was cancelled due to a snow day. They were unable to reschedule the ice this season and asked if they could reschedule for the 2016/2017 ice season.

Resolution 2016-04 Moved by: **Jim Henderson** Seconded by: **Cheryl Brinn**
"BE IT RESOLVED that the email from W.C. Little Elementary School be received;

AND FURTHER THAT the Parks & Recreation Committee does support a credit for the 2016/2017 season."

Carried

c) Facility Room Rental Clean-Up Fee

It was suggested by a committee member that the rental fees be increased to cover the cleanup instead of listing a cleanup fee charge. Another member indicated that in other municipal facilities where there are private rentals, a cleanup fee is automatically added onto the rental fee.

There was a concern mentioned, if the renter knows that they have to pay for the cleanup fee then the facility will be left in a real mess. It could potentially be more work for staff. The arena manager did not think this would be the case.

Resolution 2016-05 Moved by: **Jim Henderson** Seconded by: **Jay Clark**
"BE IT RESOLVED the Parks & Recreation Committee does support adding a \$60 mandatory cleanup fee to all contracts.

AND FURTHER THAT the Parks and Recreation Committee do not feel the free rentals (minor hockey, etc. for meetings) should have pay the \$60 and the damage deposit will remain the same."

Carried

Cont'd.../3

Parks & Recreation Committee Minutes
March 16th, 2016

4. OTHER BUSINESS / RECOMMENDATIONS
a) Rental Fees

The LeClair Soccer Pitch is in such bad shape that it can't be utilized this season. Staff must come up with options to bring to Council for approval.

Staff has been asked to investigate the costs of installing windows in the Thornton banquet room for a hockey viewing area for 2017 budget deliberations.

Some municipalities have now installed in-ground garbage containers. It solves the issue of unpleasant odors and they do not need to be emptied as often. The only issue is that a backhoe would be required to lift the containers and place them on a truck to be delivered to the land fill site.

The parks department does not have a backhoe so the roads department would have to get involved to help empty the containers each time. Such action could impact/delay Roads Department Construction and/or maintenance operations depending on the time/months involved.

The Chair indicated that it is a safety issue to insist that tables and chairs be set up outside the gym in the hallway for the purpose of serving and consuming food and drinks for children's events. It could also be a Fire Code issue putting a large number of children in the hall way to eat and drink. These groups should be allowed in the gym where there is adequate room. At the last teen dance put on by Essa Minor Hockey there were approximately 170 children in attendance.

Staff has been asked to obtain a cost estimate to replace the glass with chain link fencing at all four outdoor arenas. There has been a lot of glass breakage over the years, which is costing tax payers a lot of money. There are no funds in the 2016 budget for this. Therefore, a cost estimate will have to be obtained for 2017 budget consideration.

The Parks Supervisor indicated that this past season there were very few days that the outdoor pads were utilized for skating/hockey due to fluctuating temperatures. If two covered pads were left for ball hockey and a natural skating rink was created at these locations adjacent to the outdoor pads, then at least those covered pads would still be available for public use year around.

The committee indicated that a non-covered pad's ice usually lasts longer than in a covered arena. However, on sunny days, the ice could get soft due to the sun light shining directly onto the surface of the ice.

There is only one full time staff member flooding the outdoor pads. For the past 2 years a volunteer has done a wonderful job taking care of the Baxter pad. One staff can't keep up with four outdoor pads. More volunteers are needed. This past winter, advertising was placed in the local papers to recruit volunteers for this purpose with no response.

*Parks & Recreation Committee Minutes**March 16th, 2016*

It would cost a lot to upgrade the kitchen in the Community Park Building and there are no funds in the 2016 budget. If this area can be used for camp storage, it keeps their items out of the back room where the water supply valves are as well as the furnace. Storage in a furnace room is contrary to the Fire Code. This building is now rented out a few times in the summer for birthday parties, family reunions, etc. but the Committee would like to see this facility rented out more. This would be a great location for a farmers market. The Recreation Coordinator/Programmer indicated that there are issues with mice getting into in this facility and this should be rectified. The Parks Supervisor stated that he will contact PCO.

The Nottawasaga Pines School currently books ice for some of their gym classes for public skating but the Committee would like more of a commitment from the school to book more ice. They have asked that a letter be sent to the gym teachers offering them unused ice time for the public skating price and try and obtain a seasonal commitment.

Resolution 2016-06 Moved by: Cheryl Brinn

Seconded by: Jay Clark

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT staff look into putting the gate back up at LeClair Soccer Park or look into other solutions.

AND FURTHER THAT staff investigate the option of putting windows in the Thornton Arena banquet hall so that it can be used as a viewing area for hockey.

AND FURTHER THAT staff investigate the new in-ground garbage containers for the fishing parks.

AND FURTHER THAT food be allowed for children's events in the gym instead of putting them in the hall way.

AND FURTHER THAT chain link fencing be installed to replace the glass mounted on the boards at the outdoor arenas.

AND FURTHER THAT staff look into putting in natural outdoor skating rinks at Baxter and Stonemount and utilizing the covered outdoor pads for Ball Hockey.

AND FURTHER THAT the cupboards be taken out of the Community Park Building so that the room can be used for camp storage.

AND FURTHER THAT letters should be sent out to Nottawasaga Pines Secondary School's gym teachers offering the school unused ice time for public skating at public skating prices and try to obtain a commitment.

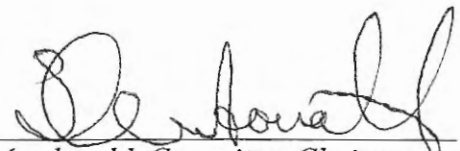
4. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution 2016-07 Moved by: Willie Parkinson

Seconded by: Cheryl Brinn

"BE IT RESOLVED that this meeting be adjourned at 10:03am with the next meeting being set at the call of the Chair."

Carried



Sandie Macdonald, Committee Chairperson