



**THE CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF PORT HOPE
PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

September 25, 2024, 5:00 p.m.

Present: John Appleman
Kathleen Bazkur
Lynda Deveau
Aaron Miedema
Councillor Adam Pearson, Chair

Staff: Julia Snoek, Director, Parks, Recreation & Culture
Jennifer Marshall, Administrative Assistance, Parks, Recreation
and Culture

Minutes of the Parks, Recreation and Culture Advisory Committee Meeting of the Corporation of the Municipality of Port Hope were held at Committee Room, Town Hall, 56 Queen Street, Port Hope, Ontario

1. Roll Call/Quorum

The meeting was called to order at 5:00pm

1.1 Committee Introductions

2. Delegations

None

3. Approval of Agenda

3.1 Wednesday, September 25, 2024

Moved by John Appleman

Seconded by Kathleen Bazkur

That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Advisory Committee approve the agenda of Sep 25, 2024, as circulated.

CARRIED

4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the Nature Thereof

None declared.

5. Approval of Previous Minutes

5.1 Wednesday, June 26, 2024

Moved by Lynda Deveau

Seconded by Aaron Miedema

That the Parks, Recreation and Culture Advisory Committee approves the minutes of June 26, 2024.

CARRIED

6. Business Arising

6.1 Parks By-Law

Director Snoek advised members that a draft was brought forward previously to PRC Adv and staff are reviewing feedback. However, given the recent regulation change regarding fishing, it has not yet been brought to council. Anticipated Fall 2024.

When the updated by-law is posted, Director Snoek will notify the PRC Advisory committee.

6.2 Salmon/Fishing Seasons

Director Snoek provided an update and highlighted the following:

- The Salmon working group have been meeting on a bi-weekly basis leading up to and during the fishing season.

- Timelines were put in place by Ministry for a seasonal sanctuary as of Sep 1, 2024. With this regulation change, fishing will open up again on Oct 15th, which is new this year. It is anticipated that there will still be plenty of fish in the river and we will need to continue to communicate regulations.
 - Member inquired about Nighttime fishing for Oct 15. There is still a by-law in place, but it currently only goes to Sept 30 (when fishing season previously would end). By-law will need to be amended, staff anticipating completing near future.
- Generally, reception is overall positive with the outcome of the new regulations. There have been less incidents than anticipated. Higher level of incidents regarding by-law issues with parking/crowding than with fishing
 - Member expressed concerns regarding safety issues with congestion in high traffic areas and many people on foot.
 - Member suggested that we look at adding permanent signage in multiple languages, staff confirmed that a review of all signage for 2025 will occur.
- Both By-law and Port Hope Police Services have been putting in extra hours to patrol and educate anglers and general public of the new regulations.

Director Snoek also informed members on the Friends of the River campaign. Residents can volunteer via the website and are given a package to assist with maintaining the river (garbage bags, gloves, hi-vis vest, baseball hat).

6.3 Parks Redevelopment

- Lion's Park and Welcome Park concepts are being finalized and will be presented to council soon.
- Director Snoek addressed that there has been some misunderstanding regarding King's Field as not much has happened. This renovation will be completed in phases and will take time.
 - Member suggested maybe an outdoor fitness area.
 - Member suggested a dog park.

- Director Snoek stated that the near term phase plan for King's Field is Trees, Trail connections, and a possible community garden. Anything else (like the suggested items), requires more input from residents first which is communicated on the webpage for this park redevelopment.
- Member inquired if the people that donated the land have input? Typically there are no long term considerations for this, but naming of parks considerations have been discussed.
- Rapley Park and Hewson Park playgrounds are being updated in Oct 2024. The Youth Action Committee and Accessibility Advisory Committee were consulted during the design process.
 - Member questioned the possibility of losing municipal land (relating to the Land inventory project) where the playgrounds are located. Playgrounds are required to meet CSA standards and most new ones are also modular, meaning they could potentially be relocated if necessary.
- Member suggested The Municipality of Port Hope develop a map of playgrounds as Google Maps is not accurate.

7. Correspondence

None.

8. Committee Business

8.1 Department Update

Facilities:

- 81 Mill St renovations are going well for Ganaraska Child Care Centre
- Yearly tree maintenance on the mighty Oak and the butter nut have been completed as well as the red buds along Lents Lane have been trimmed all completed by Cressman tree services. The Butternut tree located in front of Town Hall has been accessed by Cressman tree services do the condition of the tree we are just waiting on the results

Cemetery:

- Successful year for Commemorative program, Working with GIS staff and have compiled info and GIS of all Benches and Commemorative trees within The Municipality

Parks:

- 4 portable toilets in various locations were set on fire, resulting in extra costs.
- Removal of phragmites along waterfront trail. (Sculthorpe marsh)
- October 3rd we are partnering up with Port Hope Rotary Club and Trees for Life for the planting of 90 trees (5 different species of trees to be planted) at Baulch Rd Park
- Starting the week of October 7th 2 new playgrounds will begin installation and completed by end of the month at Rapley Park and Hewson Park

Programs and Culture:

- Fall Session has started – high registration – we have 33 fitness classes running a week, 5 art and culture programs a week, 6 children programs running a week, plus over 50 DI programs a week - New program highlights: Drums Alive, Evening and Weekend Fitness classes (Pilates, Yoga Fusion, Muscle Strengthening and Conditioning, Yoga, Total Body Conditioning)
- Staff are completing a review of the summer day program and inclusion program based on the high demand for camp and feedback from staff and parents/participants
- Culture Days is currently running (Sept 20-Oct 13) we are offering a variety of free art and culture workshops
- Fri Sept 27 – PA Day Craze is returning - \$5.00 pass to participate in swim, skate and a craft. Youth Centre is open all day.
- Oct 25 – Halloween Youth Dance
- Oct 26 – Spooktacular – family Halloween event
- Nov 20 – Seniors Information and Active Living Fair

- Oct 2 – Seniors Fall Leave Bus Trip – subsidized by the Seniors Community Grant
- Oct 17 – Seniors Thanksgiving Lunch – subsidized by the Seniors Community Grant

Arena:

- Peterborough Pete's game happened on Sept 1st, feedback was given to the Pete's to try and have the holiday Monday next year as well as a more local competitor to draw in more spectators, last year the Monday (end of the long weekend) and Oshawa as the opponent drew in close to capacity, this year numbers were around 400
- All prime ice is allocated including the addition of a new user group which has our ice booked Mon-Fri starting at 4pm

Aquatics:

- Swim lessons are going well lots and lots of participants.
- Pool birthday parties have been very busy with most weekends into November fully booked
- 272 preschool participants up 20% from last year
- Swimmer levels - 259 participants up 15% from last year
- Adult lessons, private lessons, aquafit, aqua easy Synchronized swimming have also shown increased participation as well.
- Restarted the homeschool swim lessons, have not had this program for a few years.

Special Events:

- Successful summer for events including Canada Day, Arts Festival and support of many 3rd party special events
- Plans underway for Candlelight Festival and Santa Claus Parade (municipality undertaking for 1st year)

9. Council Referrals

None.

10. New Business

- L. Deveau would like to know if there are any Ash Gardens within Port Hope Cemeteries. Director Snoek to report back.
- J. Appleman - update requested on Outdoor rink concept, will the Caroline Street rink be open and is there a funding strategy? Staff indicated this project is ongoing and Caroline Street is dependent on the PHAI and the Arsenic clean up criteria under review.
- Members are wondering if the two vacant board positions for PRC Advisory will be posted soon. Staff to work with Corporate Services on recruitment.

10.1 Pump Park, OTF Grant

Discussion was had regarding the OTF grant which was submitted in early 2024. The Municipality of Port Hope was approved for a Pump Park, which was a delegation from 2022. Next step is to meet with community interest group and Council to discuss locations for installation.

- Funding of \$200,000 has been received. Park must be installed before Nov 2025, our timeline is short.

The committee was asked what factors they considered a priority:

- A. Miedema: Demographics (where are the children that will be using this). Parking. Should it be walkable?
- L. Deveau: Should be multifaceted. Security options. Away from residential neighbourhood.
- J. Appleman: Access to drinking water.
- K. Bazkur: Lighting.

Director Snoek went over some possible locations that are currently being considered.

10.2 File Factory

Business arising from previous minutes, Waterfront and Riverwalk master Plan and some community comments. Master Plan identifies the desire for future opportunity, owner is aware of the content of the plan. The File Factory is privately owned, so please reach out if receiving complaints and the Municipality will assist.

11. Next Meeting

11.1 Wednesday, October 23, 2024, 5pm

12. Adjournment

The Meeting Adjourned at 6:19pm