



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

October 23, 2024, 5:00 p.m.

Present: John Appleman  
Kathleen Bazkur  
Lynda Deveau  
Faye Langmaid  
Aaron Miedema  
Lauren Millier  
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*

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**1. Roll Call/Quorum**

The meeting was called to order at 5:01pm

**2. Delegations**

None

**3. Approval of Agenda**

3.1 Wednesday, October 23, 2024

**Moved by** Faye Langmaid

**Seconded by** Kathleen Bazkur

That the Parks, Recreation, and Culture Advisory Committee approve the agenda of Oct 23, 2024, as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**4. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the Nature Thereof**

None declared.

**5. Approval of Previous Minutes**

5.1 Wednesday, September 25, 2024

**Moved by** Lynda Deveau

**Seconded by** Aaron Miedema

That the Parks, Recreation, and Culture Advisory Committee approves the minutes of Sep 25, 2024.

**CARRIED**

**6. Business Arising**

6.1 Parks Map request

It was addressed at the last PRC Advisory meeting that Google Maps is not very accurate when it comes to Parks in Port Hope.

From a staff perspective, it was found that the best practice would be to use the amenities feature or Facility Module on the Municipal website. This can be found under the Parks, Trails, Green Spaces page on The Municipality's website. Google Maps is hard to control and edit as they will not always update. Staff are building accurate data where we are able to.

6.2 Pump Park Update

Councillor Pearson provided an update from October 22 Committee of the Whole meeting where possible Pump Park locations were presented - Town Park and Rapley Park. After some debate and discussion, a vote

took place where Town Park was selected by Committee. There are still two possible sites within Town Park and has not yet been finalized. The next step is design, which will help determine location.

Director Snoek shared that an RFP (Request for Proposal) will be produced to work through either east side or west side of the Town Park Recreation Centre and determine which is best. Impacts like losing basketball courts or affecting the fair will be addressed during this process.

- Member inquired if the Pump Park would impact the Tennis bubble.
  - It was confirmed that room will be left for the 4th court.
- Member shared concerns about the parking at Town Park.
- Member wondered if the basketball court gets used often.
  - The court is used, especially in the summer when the gym is used for day camps. Losing the basketball court will be a question posed to the community for additional feedback. There is also a potential to add basketball courts elsewhere in town.
- Member inquired about other pump park locations that people can visit to get an idea of what a pump park is. A document could be created to guide people to other locations.
  - Staff are aware of Uxbridge locally. J. Marshall to create this document and present to the PRC Advisory Committee.
- Member asked if there has been any talk of relocating the fair in the future since Town Park is growing?
  - No, this has not been discussed and MPH has an agreement with the Agricultural Society.
- Member asked if demographics were considered by Council as it seems as though we are still building in the East.
  - Yes, it was discussed.
  - Rural area comes with other use risks.
  - Jack Burger is being looked at for future growth, once the remediation is completed.
  - Member suggested possibly putting basketball courts at Jack Burger.

- Member inquired if the Municipality looks at what girls want to do when considering new park amenities?
  - Currently, the Municipality does not have the resources to obtain this data and amenities are determined in part by community feedback. This could be an opportunity to raise awareness about the type of data we need for gender equity and is supported in the LSMP
  - Member commented that this is a cultural issue and there is only so much that the Municipality can do to change that culture.

### 6.3 Fishing Season

Director Snoek provided an update on the new extended fishing season which started on Oct 15/2024. Generally, the new sanctuary regulation was positively received, with a few incidents in the area. The MNR is doing a creel survey in regards to harvesting and catching to address concerns raised after the extended season announcement. The Ministry is working to gather data to see the impacts of these changes.

- Member inquired about the number of fish related incidents.
  - Enforcement related data to come out early in the new year.
- Member inquired about extending the night fishing by-law.
  - The new by-law was put forward and approved by council. No night fishing from Aug 15 - Dec 31.
  - Signage has been updated to reflect this change
- The Municipality is looking at a full signage plan for 2025 to address all of the changes.
- Member wondered if there is an increase in dead fish along the river as there were no anglers to push them back into the water.
  - Water was low this year, which impacted the movement of dead fish.
  - Municipality is working on a communication piece about the natural life cycle of the fish and benefits to the river to be used if necessary.

- Member asked if it is illegal to kick a fish carcass back into the river?
  - It has been confirmed with the ministry that if a fish is dead, it is not illegal to do so. It is illegal to let a fish spoil if it is fit for consumption.
- Member wanted to know if the beach is maintained in regards to dead fish.
  - The West Beach is not regularly maintained during the year. The East Beach is groomed during the summer, but is not cleaned during the fall fish season.
- Member asked if the fish ladder dam impacts river flow and therefore the movement of fish.
  - There is intent to look at the fish ladder and dam as it does have an impact on sediment.
  - GRCA is looking at reinstating the valve.
  - If the dam were to be removed, there could be a lot of sediment released.
- Member inquired about the algae on beach.
  - The Municipality has been monitoring it and planning on having PCR testing done to see where the algae is coming from. The algae this year comes very late in the season compared to years past so testing will be considered in the future.

## 7. Correspondence

None.

## 8. Committee Business

### 8.1 Department Update

#### **Cemeteries:**

- Staff have been working on fall maintenance, final cutting mulching and removal of leaves.
- Volume of service have been up over last month; Volume of sales have been higher so far this quarter then last

#### **Parks:**

- A DNA test was completed on the Butternut tree on the front grounds of Town Hall by Nature Metrics and results are that it is a hybrid. Dell Cressman accessed the tree as well and recommends tree should come down because of trunk, main stems being badly decayed so structurally very weak. Staff working on a planting plan for the future.
- Staff considering partnering with Challenger Baseball, Port Hope Lions for an application to Jays Care for Lions Park Baseball upgrades in 2025- fundraising being considered

### **Facilities:**

- New score clock has been ordered for the arena with Northumberland Minor Hockey contributing \$6000, Cameco \$2200 and the Ganaraska Sharks \$500. Should be installed by end of November and plans are underway to recognize these groups for their contributions
- New group added to the room rentals at Jack Burger – Oakridge Mixed Chorus – they are very happy with the room and the service received

### **Programs:**

- PRC Halloween Events – Youth Pumpkin Carving. Thurs Oct 24 from 6:30pm-8:30pm, Youth Dance Fri Oct 25 from 7pm-10pm, Spooktacular, Sat Oct 26 from 1pm-4pm
- Winter 1 Registration: Aquatics Registration opens Oct 28 at 7am, Program and Fitness Registration opens Oct 29 at 8am – Session runs from Nov 11 to Feb 1 with a 2 week break over the holiday
- 693 active 55+ members
- Fall Session - 379 Fitness registrations, 55 adult program registrations (art classes), 49 registrations for children's programs – we continue to see growth in all areas of programming and trying to manage the growth, waitlists etc.
- 70 seniors attended the Thanksgiving Lunch on Oct 17
- 50 seniors attended the Fall Leaf Bus Trip on Oct 7
- 47 participants attended the Culture Day workshops

### **Aquatics:**

- Pool getting busier as people change to inside activities

### **Special Events:**

- Remembrance Day Ceremonies take place Nov 11 – one in downtown at Memorial Park Cenotaph, with small road closure, at 10:15am; the other at Canton Cenotaph at 2pm.
- Lots of Halloween fun taking place around Town and in our Recreation facilities this year – three community highlights are the Downtown Trick or Treat event on Friday October 25 from 5-7pm, Wesleyville Ghostly Visit Sat October 26 6-8pm, and the 6th annual Pumpkin Parade on Friday November 1 hosted by Critical Mass in Lent Lane
- Plans are in the works for the Holiday Kick Off Weekend – featuring the Candlelight Walk, light display ceremony and downtown activations on Friday Nov 29, and the Santa Claus Parade on Nov 20. Staff or juggling event development with Walton Street Construction timelines. Registration is open for Santa Parade.

### **Other**

- File factory update from Mayor's corner
- Annual Committee report will be added to November agenda
- We confirmed that we have one Ash Garden at Union Cemetery

## **9. Council Referrals**

None

## **10. New Business**

- F. Langmaid inquired about Chemtron Lagoon - is it complete?
  - Chemtron will be returning to MPH this fall or next spring. The fence will remain until the spring
  - Parking spaces have increased
- J. Appleman wanted to address the trees on the far West side of the West Beach. Feels they are too close

### **10.1 Committee Recruitment**

Director Snoek provided an update on recruitment for the 2 vacant spots on the PRC Advisory Committee.

- The current Terms of Reference needs to be update before moving forward.
- An individual(s) with knowledge of the Waterfront & Riverwalk Masterplan would be an asset.
- Discussions have occurred with GRCA as an Appointment to the committee, similar to what was in place for the Waterfront and Riverwalk Working Group.

## 10.2 2025 Budget

Municipal staff have been working diligently on the 2025 budget. Councillor Pearson encourages everyone to complete the budget survey and to also ask a friend. Participation in the survey has been much higher than previous years, but we have not yet hit the goal of 10%. The information gathered from the survey helps us with the direction of other components as well, not just the budget.

Director Snoek identified that the direction for 2025 as a correction year with the desire to ensure our budgets are accurate without significant increase. The Library team did a presentation at last night's The Committee of the Whole meeting. Councillor Pearson encouraged everyone to watch the recording to get an idea of council direction. There is a high desire for residents to be involved so Council can determine the needs for the Municipality.

- Member would like to know how this effects the 3 PRC park revitalization projects currently on the go.
- Discussion regarding Town Park fundraising?
  - There is one outstanding item the committee is focusing on and will close out by end of the year.
- Member wondered if with the rate of new development, will the budget be impacted?
  - Staff identified that the Municipality does include targets for growth in budgets.

## 11. Next Meeting

11.1 Wednesday, November 27, 2024, 5pm



**12. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:20pm