



The Corporation of the Municipality of Mississippi Mills
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting
MINUTES

September 28, 2021
3:45 p.m.
E-participation

Committee Present: Councillor Dalgity
Councillor Guerard
Christine Andersen
Scott Newton
Vicki Lowe
Victoria James-Lafleur

Committee Absent: Lyn Button
Sherryl Smith
Terry Ainsworth

Staff Present: Calvin Murphy, Recreation Manager
Dawn McDonald, Administrative Assistant

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Newton called the meeting to order at 3:45 pm.

B. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

None

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Vicki Lowe

Seconded by Councillor Dalgity

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Councillor Dalgity

Seconded by Vicki Lowe

THAT the minutes dated August 31, 2021 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

E. DELEGATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

None

F. REPORTS

Nil

G. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF MINUTES

G.1 Presentation by Iris Winston (Boston) - August 31, 2021 Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee Re: off leash dogs

The Committee expressed their thanks for Ms. Winston's well thought out presentation.

Moved by Vicki Lowe

Seconded by Christine Andersen

THAT the Committee do not support the recommendation put forward by Iris Winston (Boston) on August 31, 2021;

AND THAT the Committee continue to move forward with plans for a dedicated dog park in Mississippi Mills.

CARRIED

G.2 Update: Dog Park

The Dog Park Working Group visited Ferguson Forest dog park in Kemptville. This is a large fenced in park that includes a fenced area for smaller dogs and a 12 foot wide pruned, wood chip trail with solar lights, dog bags, regulation signage, etc. The park is run by volunteers who solicit donations each year from dog park users. The group walked through the park, took pictures and gathered information from people in the park.

The working group also visited a dog kennel in Clayton that was previously owned by Laurel Cook. This consisted of a large fenced off area with similar amenities to Ferguson Forest. Both site visits proved to be beneficial.

If the Mississippi Mills dog park is to be run by volunteers, it will require resources - both volunteers and funds. The next step in the process will be to find a suitable location and determine what is affordable.

Recommendations will be brought back to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee before going forward to Council.

The next Dog Park Working Group meeting will be after Thanksgiving.

H. ROUND TABLE

Mill Run Park: The play structure is to be installed this week. Grass seed is going down and the area will be fenced off to let it get established. Cement pads are in place for benches and two sun shelters to be installed. The high school wood working class will be constructing the sun shelters. Residents are happy and excited. The park is very close to being finished.

Action: Calvin Murphy to provide the Committee with the Mill Run Park site plan.

Arenas: Pakenham arena is open and the Almonte arena will open on Friday, October 1, 2021. Provincial guidelines for double vaccination requirements are changing almost daily which is proving to be very challenging. As of last night, Hockey Eastern Ontario (HEO) announced that all coaches, officials, players and spectators will be asked to provide proof (deadline Nov. 8th). This was not previously required for players under 18 or for coaches, team volunteers and refs. The onus of proof is on the associations. Certain associations are using on-line processes for screening. There are limited numbers with respect who can attend as spectators so that the 2M distance can be maintained.

Spring Street Dock: The official ribbon cutting ceremony at the dock in the Riverfront Estates Park was Sunday, September 26, 2021. Funds were raised entirely by volunteers. Mayor Lowry and Councillor Maydan were in attendance and expressed their thanks to the volunteers for their efforts.

Don Maynard Park Update: Calvin Murphy provided Steve Maynard with the Committee's decision from the last Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting.

Bike Lanes: A suggestion was made for the Municipality to consider extending shoulders for cyclists when roads are slated for repair. Councillor Dalgity advised that it is expensive to extend the width of the road. The Transportation Master

Plan, which is scheduled for Spring 2022, will include bike access options through town and from schools, keeping safety in mind.

Cost Effective Rental Space: Community Groups are looking for spaces to use in town for recreational activities. Unfortunately, schools are not renting out their gyms, auditoriums and meeting room spaces due to Covid restrictions. The Municipality has reciprocal agreements with the schools and are hopeful that programs can run again in 2022. Municipal halls are available for rent, with Covid restrictions in place. Community groups can call the Recreation and Culture department for pricing and availability.

Riverfront Estates Apartment: There is an advertisement for rental units which indicates that there is a beach near the location for the new apartment building. Calvin Murphy confirmed that a beach does not currently exist at this location and there are no changes scheduled for the Riverfront Estates Waterfront Park.

Recreational Hockey Program: There have been challenges regarding vaccination requirements. Interest in the program is not what it was in the past but the Municipality is making an attempt. Hopefully it will be successful.

Judo - This group is holding off to see how things progress with the pandemic and how the school year goes moving forward.

I. INFORMATION AND CORRESPONDENCE

None

J. OTHER / NEW BUSINESS

None

K. MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 at 3:45 pm.

L. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Christine Andersen

Seconded by Victoria James-Lafleur

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 4:45 pm.

CARRIED

Dawn McDonald, Recording
Secretary