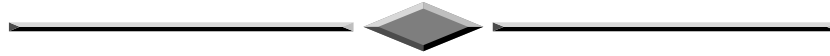


**The Corporation of the Township of Lake of Bays
Parks, Recreation & Trails Committee Meeting Minutes – January 21st, 2009
Minutes**



There was a regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks, Recreation & Trails Advisory Committee held at 4:00 p.m., on January 21st, 2009 in the Council Chambers of the Township of Lake of Bays Municipal Office, Dwight, Ontario.

Attendance

Chair	Margaret Casey
Co-Chair / Councillor	Ben Boivin
Mayor	Janet Peake (arrived at 5:35 p.m.)
Members of Committee	Shane Baker
	Patricia Doyle
	Linda Keown
	Earle Northover
Community & Recreation Coordinator	Jennifer Schnier
Administrative Assistant	Carrie Sykes
Regional Trails Co-ordinator, Muskoka Trails Committee	Katie Pellerin (Guest)

Regrets

Members of Committee	Stella Neilson
Public Works Supervisor (Facilities)	Morris Bryant

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. on January 21st, 2009 by Chair Margaret Casey.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Resolution #2/01/21/09

Shane Baker and Patricia Doyle

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee Agenda dated January 21st, 2009 be adopted as amended.

Agenda to be amended as follows:

9. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) **Kim Goodwin-Myers, Principal, Irwin Memorial Public School,
re: Outside Rink**

Carried

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Nil

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Resolution #4(a)/01/21/09

Councillor Boivin and Linda Keown

**BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory
Committee Minutes dated December 6th, 2008 be adopted as circulated.**

Carried

5. DELEGATIONS

Nil

7. DISCUSSIONS

- (a) Discussion re: Introduction of MTC Regional Trails Coordinator**

Katie Pellerin, the Regional Trails Coordinator for the Muskoka Trails Committee was introduced to the Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee.

The Chair advised that Ms. Pellerin was in attendance to become better oriented with the region, the other committees within the District and to understand what some of the items are that they have tabled.

6. REPORTS

- (a) Miscellaneous**

(i) **Report re: 2009 Work Plan**

The committee reviewed and discussed the proposed 2009 Work Plan.

The Chair advised that she will bring a report forward with regard to water access improvements as the current work plan does not identify who is responsible for fulfilling tasks (staff or committee).

Resolution #6(a)(i)/01/21/09

Linda Keown and Councillor Boivin

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee of the Township of Lake of Bays hereby approves the attached work plan for 2009 and that this work plan be provided to Council for review

Carried

(ii) **Report re: Celebrate Ontario**

The Community and Recreation Co-ordinator explained that a grant application had been submitted to Ministry of Tourism for the purpose of developing, enhancing and implementing the Muskoka Ironman, in collaboration with the Township of Lake of Bays, the Town of Huntsville and the Huntsville/Lake of Bays Chamber of Commerce.

If successful, the funds received will help offset associated costs of the Muskoka Ironman and to help support local businesses and resort operators to capture target markets with marketing campaigns that highlight accommodations available in the beautiful Lake of Bays.

Discussion was held with respect to the application and matters surrounding the Muskoka Ironman event.

It was agreed that, if successful, all funding partners should be accountable for their portion of the funds. Details of how the money was spent should be submitted.

(b) Recreation

(i) Report re: 2010 Ontario Youth Winter Games Update

The Chair advised that planning for the 2010 Ontario Youth Winter Games is well underway.

The community committee will be meeting regularly starting in the fall of 2009 and that additional volunteers will be required closer to the event.

Committee was advised that the Township of Lake of Bays will be hosting the girls ice hockey at the Baysville Arena as part of the Winter Games to be held on March 4th to 7th in 2010.

(c) Trails

(i) Report re: Muskoka Active Transportation Strategy Update

Discussion was held with respect to the District of Muskoka's Discussion Paper: Muskoka Active Transportation Strategy.

The Chair noted the key elements of this report to be:

- Active transportation is defined as any human powered mode of transportation, including purposeful and recreational travel;
- Consideration of whether the strategy should be based on current inventory of active transportation infrastructure or District Road reconstruction;
- Proposed criteria for evaluating potential projects include safety, usage, connectivity, cost, scenic value, constraints and route alignment;
- The need to develop subdivision guidelines to promote integration of Active Transportation considerations;
- The possible revision of Policy AD:33 (Administration: Recreational Trails – Nov. 7/97) that identifies sidewalks and other improvements to District roads as a responsibility of the municipality where the road is located;
- Budget allocations, identifying other funding sources and the need to work with other agencies in the implementation of Active Transportation in Muskoka; and
- Signage.

T1b

Councillor Boivin noted that the District is going to have to reconstruct a large number of its roads and when they do it makes sense to incorporate these Active Transportation strategies at this time during construction to reduce the overall costs.

The Chair directed committee to 10 key questions on pages 19 and 20 of the discussion paper and encouraged the review of these questions, noting their input and suggestions will be provided to the Township Planner.

It was noted that committee required more time to review the discussion paper and to prepare their responses to the key questions. The Chair asked committee to provide their comments by email to all committee members, including Katie Pellrin and a final list will come forward to the next meeting.

(d) Parks

Nil

(e) Facilities

(i) Report re: Lake of Bays Arena Turf Project

Based on recommendations #10 and #12 from the Parks Master Plan the Community and Recreation Co-ordinator proposed that the committee consider the installation of synthetic turf in the Lake of Bays Arena to increase the usage of the facility during non-prime time (April to October) to help offset operational costs.

The following items were noted:

- Operating at a \$50,000 -\$60,000 deficit annually;
- Total income from April to October is approximately \$6,000;
- The Town of Huntsville has applied for a second ice surface through the G8 needs review as a potential media site.
- Huntsville Minor Hockey represents 44% usage of the Lake of Bays facility;
- If 2nd ice pad is introduced in Huntsville our ice rentals will drastically be reduced;
- The main tenants of the facility between April 1st and October 1st are Minor Lacrosse and Minor Ball Hockey;
- Synthetic turf comes in 15 foot rolls and would require adequate storage facilities during winter months.

The Community and Recreation Co-ordinator noted that this project has the potential to increase usage of the facility during non-prime time and can be used for indoor soccer, indoor lacrosse, children's programming, summer day camps, spring referee and coaching clinics and an athlete training facility for Ironman 70.3 and Muskoka Chase.

T2a

Discussion was held with respect to the proposed synthetic turf and it was agreed that further exploration of this recommendation was required.

Resolution #6(e)(i)/01/21/09

Earle Northover and Councillor Boivin

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee supports the exploration of the costing and usage allocation of a proposed turf installation for the Lake of Bays Arena facility and request that a full business case be submitted to the Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee after approval by the Township Management Committee.

Carried

(f) Water Access Points

Nil

7. DISCUSSIONS

(b) Discussion re: Baysville Arena and Library Construction Update

In the absence of the Public Works Supervisor of Facilities, staff was directed to forward the update to committee members by email.

(c) Discussion re: Dwight Ice Rink

Discussion was held about the outdoor rink and the following items were noted:

- Rink is located on Trillium District School Board property;
- That the facility and buildings requires immediate attention;
- Parks department used to maintain ice surface during winter months;
- Currently local individuals, school personnel and organizations such as the Fire Department volunteer their time to maintain the ice surface;

- Township spent \$10,000 a few years ago to make upgrades to the facility;
- Facility could have increased use by local residents and school children if more consistently maintained and the funds were available to make the necessary upgrades;
- Currently, school children are being bused into Town of Huntsville to utilize the arena instead of using the rink on school property.

The Mayor advised that she has spoken to the C.A.O./Treasurer about the outdoor rink and noted the possibility of contracting someone to do what needs to be done to make the facility more functional and to bring it up to acceptable standards. It was also explained that a land use agreement could be negotiated with the school board.

Further discussion was held about the possibilities of this facility and the committee agreed that Council should consider the appropriate budget allocations towards the annual operation and maintenance of the outdoor rink.

Resolution #7(c)/01/21/09

Linda Keown and Shane Baker

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee recommends to the Finance and Corporate Services Committee of the Corporation of the Township of Lake of Bays that a business case for the operation of the Dwight Outdoor Rink be developed and included in the 2009 budget for use of the ice rink as soon as possible for 08/09 winter season and upgrades for other uses of this facility.

Carried

6. REPORTS

(ii) Report re: High Five Accreditation

The Community and Recreation Co-ordinator advised that the Township of Lake of Bays had now completed the first phase of the accreditation process and is now eligible to have programs under the Recreation Department to be recognized by the District of Muskoka for Fee Subsidy. A Request for Service Agreement is required by the District of Muskoka to approve this municipality's program and once approved will assist working families to access subsidized child care dollars to help offset child care fees.

Congratulations were given to the Community and Recreation Co-ordinator for the time and effort given into achieving the requirements set forth by Parks and Recreation Ontario (PRO).

The committee supported the application for fee subsidy through the District of Muskoka and passed the following resolution:

Resolution #6(b)(ii)/01/21/09

Patricia Doyle and Shane Baker

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee recommends to Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lake of Bays to enter into an agreement with the District of Muskoka for the purposes of allowing children's recreational programs to be recognized as programs eligible for Fee Subsidy under the District of Muskoka's Child Care Subsidy Program.

AND FURTHER that the following program be highlighted as Recreational Programs within the application process:

- **Baysville After School Program**
- **Camp Beachcombers (summer program in Dwight)**

Carried

(d) Discussion re: Parks and Recreation Website

The Chair noted that the committee was under a time constraint as the Building Department was scheduled to host a Contractor's meeting at 7 p.m. and therefore they would be required to vacate the Council chambers shortly.

As a result, the Chair directed staff to forward the request under this discussion item to committee members by email.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Nil

9. CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) **Kim Goodwin-Myers, Principal, Irwin Memorial Public School,**
re: Dwight Ice Rink; For Committee's information.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution#10/01/21/09

Shane Baker and Patricia Doyle

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee of the Township of Lake of Bays adjourn at 6:05 p.m. to meet again on February 25th, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Dwight Municipal Office, Dwight, Ontario.

Carried.

Chair

Clerk