

**The Corporation of the Township of Lake of Bays
Parks, Recreation & Trails Committee Meeting Minutes – September 29th, 2008
Minutes**

There was a regularly scheduled meeting of the Parks, Recreation & Trails Advisory Committee held at 4:00 p.m., on September 29th, 2008 in the Council Chambers of the Township of Lake of Bays Municipal Office, Dwight, Ontario.

Attendance

Chair	Margaret Casey
Co-Chair / Councillor	Ben Boivin
Members of Committee	Shane Baker
	Linda Keown (arrived at 4:04 p.m.)
	Patricia Doyle
	Earle Northover
Mayor	Janet Peake (arrived at 4:04 p.m.)
Public Works Supervisor (Facilities)	Morris Bryant
Administrative Assistant	Amanda Masulka

Regrets

Community & Recreation Coordinator Jennifer Schnier

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m. on September 29th, 2008 by Chair Margaret Casey.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Resolution #2/09/29/08

Patricia Doyle and Shane Baker

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee Agenda dated September 29th, 2008 be adopted as amended.

Agenda to be amended as follows:

Additions

8. OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) Councillor Boivin requested a discussion Bella Rebecca Water Access Point.
- (b) Chair Casey requested a discussion regarding the meeting dates for 2009.

Deletions

6. REPORTS

(b) Recreation

(ii) Report re: Youth Programs Policy (High Five)

(iii) Report re: Recreation Liability Policy

Carried

3. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Linda Keown identified that she has a pecuniary interest with the following:

6. REPORTS

(d) Parks

(i) Report re: Improvements to Chimney Park

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Resolution #4(a)/09/29/08

Earle Northover and Councillor Boivin

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee Minutes dated August 25th, 2008 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

5. DELEGATIONS

(a) June McDonald and Sue Smith, Baysville Horticultural Society

Mrs. McDonald advised the Committee that she is interested in learning what new policies are in place involving parks that affect the Baysville Horticultural Society. She provided an overview of activities that the society completes within the parks in Baysville and noted that in 12 years they have donated over \$28,000 to Gristmill and Memorial Parks.

Mrs. McDonald advised the Committee that the Baysville Horticultural Society is concerned because three (3) large pine tree's have been removed from Baysville parks without informing or discussing it with them and members of the society have attended this meeting to clarify their position and determine what their future will be in the parks.

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Chair Casey apologized for the oversight and verified that there have been some changes in procedures to the Community Commemorative Policy to better manage projects that are being done on public land. Committee noted the following:

- The Baysville Horticultural Society has worked well in partnership with the Parks and Recreation Department in the past and the parks wouldn't exist if the society didn't contribute their work and efforts.
- If policies were circulated, local groups could provide some feedback and comments.
- The Committee would like to form and continue a good partnership with the Baysville Horticultural Society through staff and the relationship to be recognized by the Committee in the future.

Mrs. McDonald explained that in the past, society members would decide where in the park a tree would be planted and after discussions with staff the tree would be planted by the society members. She inquired what the new policies and procedures entail and if the society would be subject to the same charges as the general public if they wanted to plant a memorial tree.

Committee advised that the only revision made to the policy is the criteria now identifies the types of tree's that would be commemorative and if the Baysville Horticultural Society purchased their own tree, the charges could be negotiated.

Sue Smith pointed out that communication to staff and the Committee has always been accomplished by the society and emphasized that planning has always been a part of what the society takes pride in. She believes that the society members would lose their rewards if communication is not accomplished by the Committee.

The Committee responded with the following comments:

- Suggestion that a member of the Baysville Horticultural Society apply to be a member of the Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee.
- Suggestion to provide correspondence to the society with respect to decisions and changes to policies and procedures.
- Suggestion that the Committee recommend to the Parks and Recreation Department to include funds for tree trimmings, removal of tree's, etcetera in their operating budget in order to aid community groups when needed.

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- Committee pointed out that it is important that there is consistency with all parks within the Township of Lake of Bays with respect to commemorative tree's being planted and it is critical that there is a plan in place for parks and that the plan is circulated.
- Crucial that safety and liability are considered with respect to structures being erected in parks.
- Committee verified that they will put their efforts into establishing a good communication line and forming a working partnership with the Baysville Horticultural Society.

6. REPORTS**(a) Miscellaneous****(i) Report re: Ironman 70.3 Muskoka Wrap-up**

Committee discussed the following:

- There were approximately three hundred (300) athletes who registered for the Ironman that did not attend; although, registration is approximately two (2) months prior to the event.
- An agreement is in place for the Ironman event to be held in the Township of Lake of Bays for three (3) years in total.
- Committee would like to see more emphasis on accommodations within the Township of Lake of Bays for next year.
- The athletes offered very positive feedback with regards to support that the community provided during the event.
- Tri-sport North gave a financial donation to the Baysville Curling Club, Dorset Fire Hall, Irwin Memorial School and the Dwight Lions Club for their efforts during the event.
- A follow-up meeting will be held in the Council Chambers at the Township of Lake of Bays for the volunteers to provide feedback regarding how the event ran and suggestions for next years event on October 7th, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.

(b) Recreation**(i) Report re: Swimming Lessons Wrap-up**

Chair Casey noted that feedback suggested that the registration process was unclear and Committee suggested the following:

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- Possibly registration pick-up and drop-off envelopes could be left at the libraries so people could help themselves to applications.
- If the swimming lessons are organized before the end of the school year, registration forms could be handed out at Irwin Memorial School and in the Youth Groups for Baysville.
- Suggestion to designate an area on the Baysville community welcome board and the boards located outside of the libraries for application pick-up and drop-offs.

(iv) Report re: Risk Management Seminar November 12th, 2008

Chair Casey advised the Committee that the Risk Management Seminar is being done in collaboration with the Town of Gravenhurst and the Huntsville/Lake of Bays Sport Council. The seminar is partially being funded by the Communities in Action Fund.

Committee emphasized the importance of forwarding the information to all community groups and directed staff to ensure this process has been completed. Committee also directed staff to include the information in the Huntsville Forester quarter page advertisement.

Mr. Northover noted some liability concerns with respect to alcohol being consumed in buildings that are rented out for events. Staff ensured the Committee that the proper policies are in place and after discussion the Committee concluded that interested parties would be made aware of the concerns.

Resolution #6(b)(iv)/09/29/08

Councillor Boivin and Earle Northover

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee recommend that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lake of Bays support the Risk Management Seminar to be held on November 12th, 2008.

Carried

(v) Report re: Criteria for Evaluating Requests for Projects Involving Parks and Recreation

Chair Casey reminded the Committee that the criteria was to be condensed to two (2) pages, which staff has completed. Committee will review the revised criteria and provide feedback prior to the next Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee meeting.

(c) Trails

(i) Report re: Delay of Second Release of Take Heart Hip Clip

Chair Casey advised the Committee that the second release of the Hip Clip was to be made available on September 25th, 2008; although, it has been delayed to late spring 2009. She noted that there is a Global Positioning System (GPS) course to be held on Monday, October 6th, 2008 and encouraged the Committee to attend.

(d) Parks

(i) Report re: Improvements to Chimney Park

Chair Casey advised the Committee that there have been public concerns reported regarding safety at Chimney Park. Morris Bryant, Public Works Supervisor of Facilities provided the Committee with the following information:

- The resurfacing of Main Street in Dorset a number of years ago included the installation of a cross culvert which resulted in redirection of storm water to flow over the slope at this location; this causes a wet area at the bottom of the slope and makes access difficult. Staff are recommending a french drain to be installed at the wet area as there is no parking at this site.
- The costs for remedial work are as follows:
 - Sixteen (16) feet by twenty (20) feet parking area, armour stone and fill would cost approximately \$8,000.
 - French drain to catch runoff from cross culvert with weeping pipe would cost approximately \$9,700.
 - Tree removal would cost approximately \$700.
- Committee suggested that the parking area be omitted and stairs be added and maintained for safety.
- Chair Casey, Mayor Peake and Councillor Boivin will approach the District Municipality of Muskoka to request partial funding of the cost of the french drain to correct the storm water problems.
- Committee expressed concerns that if restoration of the park is completed, this may cause costly maintenance in the future due to the storm water problems.
- After consideration and discussion the Committee concluded that they would support a \$10,000 spending limit for remedial work at Chimney Park.

(ii) Report re: Closure of Bear Wise Garbage Containers

Morris Bryant, Public Works Supervisor of Facilities advised the Committee that the last weekend that garbage cans and portable toilets will be available is the weekend of October 11th, 2008 for all tourism sites within the Township of Lake of Bays.

(e) Facilities

(i) Verbal Report re: Status of Arena Ice Pad Upgrades and Schedule for Remaining Arena Improvements

Morris Bryant, Public Works Supervisor of Facilities provided the Committee with the following updates:

- The ice pad is completed and the arena is now hooked up to the curling club; although, the piping is not fully completed for the curling club.
- Plans to have the arena opened on Friday, October 18th, 2008 which would be one (1) week later than expected.

(f) Water Access Points

(i) Verbal Report re: Update on Rabbit's Bay Regeneration Project

Councillor Boivin attended a site visit meeting and provided the Committee with the following updates:

- The side of the creek should be crowned with coarse stone.
- The delta should be narrowed into one (1) channel as opposed to three (3) channels as it goes into Lake of Bays because the channel will dredge itself naturally, creating a deeper channel.
- There is not a great deal of cleaning that has to be done.
- Should set up boulders to prevent vehicles advancing any materials closer to the creek.
- Reports will be created to provide some direction regarding landscaping, fisheries and items that are required along the creek.
- Lake of Bays Heritage Foundation was unable to attend the meeting; although, they should be copied on any reports regarding the Rabbit's Bay Regeneration Project.

7. DISCUSSIONS

- (a) **Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for Monday, December 1st, 2008 has been rescheduled for Monday, December 8th, 2008.**

Committee agreed to the meeting date change.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) Councillor Boivin advised the Committee that after a site visit at Bella Rebecca Water Access Point he found that the state of the beach and boat launch area is unsuitable due to large boats launching from the point and suggested boulders be placed to prevent access of large vehicles. Chair Casey reminded the Committee that the launch area will still need to accommodate snowmobiles in the winter.

Councillor Boivin ensured the Committee that if boulders were strategically placed it would prevent large boats from launching from this point in the summer and would still allow snowmobile access in the winter.

Committee discussed and concluded that they will visit the site with staff which has been tentatively scheduled for October 27th, 2008.

- (b) Chair Casey requested that Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee meetings be moved to Tuesdays for the 2009 year and the Committee agreed.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) **Sarah Soberg, Re: Resignation**

Resolution #9(a)/09/29/08

Shane Baker and Patricia Doyle

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Parks, Recreation and Trails Committee regrettably accepts and recommends to the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Lake of Bays the resignation of Committee Member, Sarah Soberg.

And further, that Committee proceed with the necessary steps in finding a replacement for this Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee member.

Carried

10. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution#10/09/29/08

Earle Northover and Councillor Boivin

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Parks, Recreation and Trails Advisory Committee of the Township of Lake of Bays adjourn at 6:28 p.m. to meet again on October 27th, 2008 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Dwight Municipal Office, Dwight, Ontario.

Carried.

Chair

Clerk

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