

Minutes of a Town of Pictou Recreation and Parks Committee meeting convened 7:00 pm at the Old Tourist Bureau on the above date. Michelle Young chaired.

PRESENT: Councillors Eric Daley and Nadine LeBlanc; Committee Members Dave McMullen, Shawn McNamara and Jane Young

ALSO PRESENT: Leah Heighton, Potential Member
Jo-Anne McNamara, Minute Recorder

REGRETS: Committee Member Luke MacDonald

1. CALL TO ORDER

M Young called the meeting to order.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved with the following additions:

- 5d. Market Square
- 5e. Intern Student
- 5f. Doggie Park

3. REVIEW OF PAST MINUTES

A Zoom meeting was held in June; there was no quorum.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a. Skatepark Update

The Pictou Skatepark Society has been busy fundraising. They have received a provincial grant and McDonald's held a fundraiser with a portion of sales going towards the skatepark. The Society also held a BBQ, multiple raffle draws and two bottle drives. It was suggested that they should have a goal meter so people can see where they are with fundraising. They are also exploring a federal grant program.

b. Volunteer Recognition

Due to the pandemic, the annual provincial volunteer awards event was canceled. A virtual recognition took place yesterday hosted by the Province. At the next Council meeting, Jacqueline Lavoie, the 2020 Representative Town Volunteer for Pictou will be presented with a plaque.

c. Fitness Trail Update

M Young and J Young carried out mapping of a potential route; directional signage has been received. The trail needs some clearing and trimming.

It was noted that the Pine Street entrance to the trail needs to be graded (there are a lot of potholes). M Young will propose some dates by email to hold a trail clearing day.

d. Facilities Update

Pool – the pool will conduct a progressive phased re-opening.

- Phase I – Prior to September 1: staff back on-site, training, meeting with user groups, and site and equipment preparation.
- Phase II – September 1: pool opened with 4 activities permitted (lane swims, swim lessons, water fitness classes and the Pictou County Mariners Swim Club can begin their return to swim plan).
- Phase III – October 1: gathering restrictions are changing, 50 people permitted in the water, rentals, open and family swims will begin.
- The accessible change room was completed during the closure and is a valuable addition to the pool.

M Young was invited to be a presenter at an online virtual webinar series on aquatic accessibility projects. This series was hosted by Recreation Facilities Association of Nova Scotia.

Fields – Work was completed on the warning track at the CN Ballfield. The fields have been open since June for family and small group activity. As restrictions lifted, baseball ran in the summer for youth with limited numbers.

Playgrounds – The slide from the Veterans Park was removed; now looking at a replacement plan; considering a natural playground concept for the space.

Question was asked if we had a list of Town owned buildings and facilities.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Committee Member Recruitment

M Young will advertise for new members; J Young and Councillor LeBlanc will approach individuals to see if they are interested.

b. Community Survey Results

A copy of the survey results was given to committee members. The Committee will review the survey and bring questions/comments to the next meeting.

c. Youth Centre

J Young discussed the need to find a new location for the Pictou Youth Centre and the value to our youth in having a youth centre in our community. M Young will speak with the Deputy Clerk to determine a date to make a presentation to Council.

d. **Market Square Event**

The Halloween and Pumpkin Spooktacular event, sponsored by the Pictou County Rainbow Community and Town of Pictou, is taking place at Market Square on Saturday, October 3. It is a family-friendly event with the Town providing an outdoor space.

e. **Intern Student**

Comment that Madeline MacPhail, Summer Intern, was very inventive this summer with ideas and events.

f. **Doggie Park**

A question was asked about dogs running at the CN Field and the possibility of developing a dog park. M. Young stated that the idea was explored several years ago. A community survey was completed that she will share at the next meeting.

7. INFORMATION SHARING

Fire Prevention Week – a parade of fire trucks starts in Pictou at 6:30 pm on Saturday, October 3.

8. NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 7:00 pm.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

APPROVED

James J. Ryan
Mayor

Dan Troke
CAO