

Minutes of a Town of Pictou Recreation and Parks Committee meeting convened 6:30 pm at the CN Station on the above date. Chair Chelssie Moland presiding.

**PRESENT:** DM Nadine LeBlanc, Councillor Melinda MacKenzie and Member Chris Sereda

**ALSO PRESENT:** Michelle Young, Minute Recorder

**REGRETS:** Councillor Shawn McNamara; Committee Members Luke MacDonald and Jane Young; Jo-Anne McNamara

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Moland called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. A review of meeting procedures was provided.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.

CARRIED

***PRP-04-29-21-2559***

**3. REVIEW OF PAST MINUTES**

The minutes of the March 25, 2021 meeting were reviewed with no errors or omissions.

**4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

a. Volunteer Week

A special tea was held for recipients of Pictou Volunteer awards (and their guest) in recognition of and a thank you for their contributions to our community. The Mayor and a councillor were in attendance.

A certificate of appreciation, letter from the Mayor and a plant was delivered to all Pictou volunteer organizations (46 in total).

b. Go Clean Get Green

The community cleanup event held on April 24 went well, with over forty-five (45) community participants. Thirteen (13) tonnes of waste was collected county-wide. Councillor MacKenzie shared the eco-brick project to reduce plastics going to the landfill.

c. Committee Members

Discussion was held on recruiting another student member and an older adult. M Young will contact the New Horizons Seniors Club to see if someone might be interested from their members. L MacDonald shared that Pictou Academy had made announcements; he will follow up with the school. M Young will contact J Young regarding an outstanding task from the last meeting.

d. Easter

A community Easter activity was organized over the Easter week; an egg hunt which brought participants into local facilities and businesses. Twenty people participated who received prizes.

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Feedback from community members was discussed on garbage cans, picking up after dogs, bike lanes and cross walk locations.

6. **ONGOING DISCUSSION**

a. Splash Park

The Splash Park Society had put out a call for letters of support through social media. Councillor MacKenzie will follow up with the group on any questions they may have.

b. Skate Park Update

A response from the federal grant application has not been received; expected early May. The federal budget had announced a funding program for live music; M Young will find out more details as a potential source of fundraising.

c. Veterans Drive Playground Design

M Young provided an update on the design project for Veterans Drive Playground; still waiting on quotes for the slide and swing features. A question was asked if the budget could be realigned to other projects such as the Skate Park.

7. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. Pictou Soccer Update

M Young provided an update; 119 youth have registered so far; the program will begin at the end of May, depending on gathering restrictions; it will be an eight-week program running into July.

b. Electronic Sign

All present felt an electronic sign for public announcements would be valuable but should not be located at the Rotary; the Fire Department lot would be their preference. The Pictou Legion currently has a sign used for their activities; M Young will contact them to get information on costing, etc.

c. Try It Sessions

Discussion was held on ideas for a bi-weekly “Try It” sessions. Suggestions were kayaking, other types of paddling, trail building, sunset hikes, fishing and Indigenous activities. M Young will send out a group email to collect other ideas and come up with a creative title/name for the series of “Try It’s”.

d. Pictou Recreation and Parks Policy Review

Tabled to next meeting; M Young will email the committee the policy for review; suggested revisions and/or edits should be submitted by May 20<sup>th</sup>.

**8. INFORMATION SHARING**

Pictou Lobster Carnival has been cancelled for this year due to the pandemic; live streamed music events are being planned for the deCoste Centre.

Recreation Month – June is Recreation Month, in the past PRP had organized open houses and special events; ideas will be discussed at the May meeting.

**9. NEXT MEETING**

Thursday, May 27, 2021 at 6:30 pm by Zoom.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

APPROVED

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James J. Ryan  
Mayor

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Kyle Slaunwhite  
CAO