

1. Order and roll call

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 13, 2023, by the Chair, Mary-Ann McDonald, Beaumont representative, with the following committee members present:

- Tanni Doblanko – Leduc County Mayor
- Dal Virdi – Leduc County Councillor
- Chris Hahn – Calmar representative
- Elizabeth Leeb – New Sarepta representative
- Cindy Miller – Thorsby representative

Other attendees:

- Dean Ohnysty – Director, Community Services
- Andrea Oneski – Community Program Coordinator
- Victoria Fulton – Administrative Assistant

Absent from the meeting was Amanda Riemer, Leduc Region representative.

Roundtable introductions occurred.

2. Agenda Adoption

13-2023 Mayor Doblanko – that the agenda for the Wednesday, September 13, 2023, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

3. Adoption of previous minutes

14-2023 Elizabeth Leeb – that the minutes from the Wednesday, June 7, 2023, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

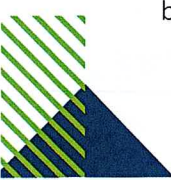
Carried Unanimously

4. Department reports and recommendations

a) Recreation and Parks Master Plan

Dean provided the committee hard copies of the Recreation and Parks Master Plan document and a presentation summarizing the key learnings and outcomes that resulted in the recommendations and actions as outlined in the Master Plan. In the coming days, the master plan, along with other key supporting documents, will be posted on the County website, followed by advertisements informing residents that the documents are available for viewing.

b) 2024 Budget and Business Planning



Dean presented the 2024 budget and business planning recommendations. The proposed projects and initiatives will be submitted to the executive leadership team and to Council for final approval in December.

c) Community Halls Funding Review

Dean gave a financial overview of the 16 community halls receiving the County's operating assistance grants to review their financial health as a measure of the subsidy needed to maintain their facilities.

The overall consensus was to keep the 2024 operating grant as is and, in the interim, review the reporting process that halls submit annually for the following years.

d) Recreation Programs Update Presentation

Andrea presented the success of the 2023 Summer Programs and Events. Andrea also highlighted community events hosted and partnered by the County held throughout the summer. The season ended with the annual Star Awards, with 11 children attending council chambers to receive congratulations from the Mayor and Council for their outstanding leadership skills.

d) Department Activity Report

Business Plan

- With Council's endorsement at the August 24, 2023, Workshop, Dean noted that the Yardley Jones Park plan will be posted on the County's website.
- With Council's endorsement at the September 18², 2023, Council [meeting](#), Dean noted that the Recreation and Parks Master Plan will be posted on the County's website, following public notices to notify residents of the new plan.

Community Partnerships

- Andrea shared that the County partnered with over 15 community associations to provide events and celebrations throughout the summer. Council also approved four special project grants to partner with community associations to build community playgrounds.

Cost Share

- Dean noted that all Cost Share 2022 payments and 2023 budget contributions have been funded to all municipal partners. A funding agreement with the Village of Warburg for their 2024 renovation project is underway and will be tendered in Spring for construction and operation in 2024.

Community Facilities

- County staff shared ice rental fees data researched from throughout the county to help them stay competitive and make informed decisions about their ice rental fees.

Andrea informed the PRAC of the following community resources and support items:

Community Resources and Support

- Sam Lussier, Community Recreation Programmer, was noted as a contact for all community associations in need of County resources to support their events and programs.



- Grant writing support is also available to all community associations, and staff are currently working with several associations to support their successful grant awards.
- The Arts and Culture and Regional Recreation and Sports grants are now open for 2024 applications.

Dean informed the PRAC of the following parks operations and recreation items:

Parks Operations

Campgrounds

- Jubilee Park Campground closed for the season while Sunnybrook and Genesee Group campgrounds remain open through the end of September. Discussions ensued concerning additional marketing to promote the comfort cabins.
- The playground replacement projects for Jubilee campground and Centennial Campgrounds are underway and will be completed by mid-September.

General

- With the end of summer season, staff are completing fall projects and winterizing for the remainder of the year.

Recreation

Programs

- Andrea shared the successes of this summer's programs and provided a brief of upcoming programs through the end of the year.

Events and Community Support

- Andrea shared the successes of recent community events in partnership with several community associations.

15-2023 Elizabeth Leeb – that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee receives the Department reports and recommendations as information.

Carried Unanimously

5. Information items

- Andrea shared an infographic summarizing the County's summer 2023 programs and events and promoted a new upcoming Safe Sport workshop.

6. Regional reports

- Members of the PRAC shared project and events held in the respective regions.

7. Adjournment

16-2023 Mary-Ann McDonald - that the PRAC meeting be adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Carried Unanimously


Chairman


Director