

Order and roll call

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. on Wednesday, September 9, 2020 by Ronald Patrick as chair, with the following committee members present.

- Kelly-Lynn Lewis – Councillor
- Tracy Musson – Thorsby representative
- Elizabeth Leeb – New Sarepta representative
- Vic Moran – Leduc representative
- Chris Hahn – Calmar representative
- Mary Ann MacDonald – Beaumont representative

Absent council/committee members

- Tanni Doblanko – Mayor
- Tasha Harrop – Warburg representative

Other attendees

- Dean Ohnysty – Director of parks and recreation
- Andrea Oneski – Community development coordinator
- Courtney Risser – Recording secretary

Agenda adoption

Motion Ron Patrick – that the agenda for the Wednesday, September 9, 2020 Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

Adoption of previous minutes

Motion Mary Ann MacDonald – that the minutes from the Wednesday, March 11, 2020 Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

Introduction of new members

The following committee members were recently appointed by Leduc County Council and introduced to the committee.

- Mary Ann MacDonald
- Chris Hahn

Department reports and recommendations

2020 Budget Presentation

Dean Ohnysty provided a presentation to the board highlighting services of the department, 2020 highlights and 2021 business plan objectives.

Motion Tracy Musson – that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee receives as information.

Carried Unanimously

2020 Recreation Programs and Events Presentation

Andrea Oneski provided an update and highlights of programs and events hosted in the spring and summer. Many programs and events were altered due to COVID-19. New programs were hosted virtually.

Motion Elizabeth Leeb – that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee receives as information.

Carried Unanimously

Information items

Department activity report

A copy of the Department Activity Report was distributed for information.

Dean Ohnysty advises that the Vision for the North Saskatchewan River motion has significantly progressed. The county is in the land securement stage at this time. Leduc County plans to develop a new park in the distant future alongside the North Saskatchewan River.

Dean Ohnysty advises that the Canadian Energy Museum is requesting \$30,000 for operational costs. Council will consider in 2021 budget deliberations.

Motion Ron Patrick – that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee receives the department activity report as information.

Carried Unanimously

Regional tourism

Dean Ohnysty advises that the Leduc Chamber received a grant of \$50,000 to develop regional tourism in 2020. Funds were utilized to promote tourism through the website by developing an interactive map filtered by categories, social media marketing, blogging and hosting events. The Leduc Chamber has requested an additional \$30,000 in 2021.

Community grants process changes

Dean Ohnysty provided an update of Council decision to amend the community grants process. Due to the pandemic the annual spring grant process was delayed. Grant applications will be considered by Council this fall for 2021 project and events. Community grants will now be received, reviewed and awarded each fall for the following year.

Regional reports

Verbal reports were given for each region.

Elizabeth Leeb – that the annual New Sarepta demolition derby will take place the weekend of September 12 and 13. The AG society will live stream the event. Minor hockey will be hosting a 50/50 draw.

Tracy Musson – The Thorsby library was previously open only one day a week, but has recently been extended to two days a week. Playschool operations will resume completely by end of September. Pickle ball has resumed outside of the Thorsby complex. Thorsby trails are being repaired and have been expanding in the South East corner. A local business hosted a 45 car show fundraiser raising \$3000 for Family and Community Support Services. Halloween fundraiser to be hosted at the Thorsby hotel. Lions Park considering hosting haunted trails dependent on weather.

Mary Ann MacDonald – the Beaumont Blues festival sold out even at a reduced ticket capacity due to COVID-19 restrictions. AG Society is considering hosting a fall parade.

Ron Patrick – due to COVID-19 restrictions, Devon residents have been more inclined to utilize the River Valley trails and Parks. Commended the Leduc County Parks and Recreation department on its progression towards securing the land on the North Saskatchewan River as well as its partnership with the Beaumont Recreation Center.

Adjournment

Motion Ron Patrick – that the PRAC meeting be adjourned at 8:40 p.m.


Chairman


Director