

11/2015

MINUTES OF THE TABER RECREATION BOARD MEETING HELD IN THE  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ADMINISTRATION BUILDING ON November 6, 2015  
AT 5:30 PM.

PRESENT: Luke Wijna, Chairperson  
Danielle Hansen, Vice Chairperson  
Councilor Andrew Prokop  
Darcy Firth  
Joel Mills  
Councilor Merrill Harris

ALSO PRESENT:

Aline Holmen, Director of Recreation  
Tom Moffatt, Manager of Information Technology  
Marty Planger, Recording Secretary  
Trent Smith, Recreation Manager  
Taber Times

ABSENT:

Councilor Randy Sparks (Excused)

**CALL TO ORDER**

L. Wijna called the Regular Meeting of the Taber Recreation Board to order  
at 5:30 PM.

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

RES.66/2015 MOVED by Councilor Andrew Prokop to adopt the agenda as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**DELEGATIONS**

**A) Off Leash Dog Park (Angel Svenes)**

The Recreation Board welcomed Angel Svenes, who was present to answer any questions the board had regarding proposed upgrades to the Off Leash Dog Park. The board recognized that it is tough to estimate the number of users for this facility. Management was asked how much comes in annually for dog licenses and where those funds are allocated. It was reported that about \$2500 is collected on an annual basis and helps offset the Bylaw expenses. \$15.00/spade or neutered dog and \$30.00 for non-fixed animal.

The user group is requesting a double gated entry, trees, access to water, lighting, additional garbage receptacles, biodegradable waste baggies/dispenser, and general maintenance of holes (which have already been addressed).

When questioned if A. Svennes has researched possible funding or grants, she has not yet taken this direction as she is waiting until she knows if the town is interested.

The Recreation Board thanked A. Svennes for her time and attendance.

RES.67/2015 MOVED by D. Hansen that the Recreation Board accepts the information provided by Angel Svennes regarding the Off Leash Dog Park for information purposes.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**B) Multiuse Sports Complex Committee**

Bruce Warkentin and Sid Tams were present to answer any questions the Recreation Board may have regarding their request for support of a proposed multiuse sports complex. The organization reported that they are currently at a standstill (unable to look into funding) until they get the town's principal support.

S. Tams reported that the projected user base for this facility would be very broad and hopefully meet the needs of many groups in the town just as similar facility do in towns our size throughout the province. When asked how they foresee the facility to be utilized in the warmer months, he replied it probably would not be used much.

The delegation discussed the completion of the Recreation Master Plan and its impact on the board's decision. The board explained that their mandate is to consider all organizations needs/requests as well as the needs of their existing facilities and the only way to do that with any certainty would be to wait until the completion of the Recreation Master Plan and this is expected within a couple months. In light of this, the delegation agreed to withdraw their request and asked for the decision to be tabled until the completion of the Recreation Master Plan.

The board thanked the gentlemen for the attendance and the work they have put forth to date.

RES.68/2015 MOVED by D. Hansen that the Recreation Board accepts the presentation from the Multi use Sports/Recreation Complex Committee for information purposes.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

### **A) Regular meeting – September 10, 2015**

RES.69/2015 MOVED by Councilor M. Harris that the Recreation Board adopts the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Recreation Board held on September 10, 2015, as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES - None**

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **A) Civic Plus Software Presentation**

Marty Planger along with Tom Moffatt demonstrated the Civic Plus “Activities” module for temporary online registration that was being reviewed as an option until the town is able to acquire a permanent recreation manager software program. The board was also provided with the pros/cons of the program.

RES. 70/2015 MOVED by Councilor A. Prokop that the Recreation Board does not recommend that Administration proceed with the implementation of the temporary online registration program.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

#### **B) Off Leash Dog Park**

The Recreation Board discussed the importance of the Recreation Master Plan and how close to completion the project is. It was also reported that it would be nice to have a sign indicating the Dog Park when traveling North and suggested administration to look into getting permission by Alberta Transportation to put it on their property.

RES.71/2015 MOVED by D. Hansen that the Recreation Board accepts the information given by Angel Svenes for information purposes.



D. Hansen agreed to the following addition as a friendly amendment:

...pending further information from the Recreation Master Plan.

Discussion was then had as to whether or not some of the requests with the smaller budget implications could be considered sooner than later. More garbage bins, a few trees, and maybe a double entry gate as that seems like the main safety concern.

MOTION WITHDRAWN

RES.72/2015 MOVED by J. Mills that the Recreation Board recommends Council put \$2500.00 into the budget for funding to put toward the dog park.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**C) Multiuse Sports Complex**

RES. 73/2015 MOVED by D. Hansen that the Recreation Board recommends waiting for the completion of the Recreation Master Plan prior to further discussion on this request.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**D) Swim Lesson Programming**

A Holmen presented detailed information regarding how swim lessons are programmed in general and in relation to other program schedules.

The board recognized how fully scheduled the facility is utilized and that all the lessons offered are not full. The greatest demand is for the first three levels of preschool lessons. A. Holmen stated that the schedule is a forever changing entity, changing as the demand changes for all user groups and not just for lessons. A couple examples of this evolution were that the need presented itself for a lower impact aquafit the new program was added and a second example is when school budget cuts were implemented there were more open times available during the daytime, which is now being utilized by homeschool lessons and this has alleviated the stress on mainstream lessons.

The board also recognized that you can't always offer lessons when people want them and that the pool is doing a great job in scheduling lessons wherever they can to get those on the waitlist into lessons.

RES. 74/2015 MOVED by D. Firth that the Recreation Board accepts the information regarding scheduling for swim lessons as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**E) Sponsorship Program Report**

RES. 75/2015 MOVED by Councilor A. Prokop that the Recreation Board accept the status Report provided by Sponsorship Connections for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**F) Recreation Fee Schedule**

The Recreation Board heard that currently the town is on the high end of the recreation fees comparison (including cities). It was mentioned that the success of the Free nights that have been sponsored are so well received is an indication that our rates are deterring users, especially in this poor economy. Some talk occurred that it may be best to keep rates for a year and have a significant increase once the economy can support it.

The board discussed how important it is to keep the kids active especially during the winter months. They felt it was necessary to find a balance between the higher operating costs and attempts to keep the fees down. It was reported that user groups are decreasing throughout the sports and as well the pool numbers are down.

RES. 76/2015 MOVED by D. Hansen that the Recreation Board recommends council approve increases to Recreation User Fees by 1.5% for the following functions for the 2016 Operating Budget:

- Arena (as of August 1, 2016 honoring existing bookings in that year)
- Auditorium (as of January 1, 2016 with the exception of bookings already completed for that year)
- Programs (except Summer Games Fees)
- Aquafun Centre (as of January 1, 2016 with exception of bookings already completed for the year)
- Sportfields (as of January 1, 2016)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **G) Information for the Recreation Board**

1. Recreation Master Plan – G. Birch updated the board and explained that all the information has been collected and the document just needs to be written. The draft should be completed in January which will be taken to the public once more and then to council in February.
2. Special Events – A. Holmen reported Telus was hosting another free swim in conjunction with Midnight Madness. Kinsmen have agreed to extend their free skate at the arena that evening as well.
3. Arena Dressing Rooms Addition Update – Project is on schedule. Just starting on the interiors and project is scheduled to be completed by Dec 16, 2015. We ask that tours be put on hold until the project nears completion due to safety reasons as it is a construction zone.
4. Recreation Management Software – the town is collaborating with the City of Lethbridge and University of Lethbridge and had posted the RFP on October 16, 2015. The expected timeline is to review submission prior to January and have a selection made and training to begin by February 1, 2016.
5. KMMSC 4<sup>th</sup> ball diamond – Council moved to consider the project within the 2016 budget deliberations.
6. Football – Greg Birch provided an update. Correspondence has been sent to the Taber Football Association and the town has arranged to meet with the president to discuss issues which will include the concerns over the building at the park.

RES. 77/2015 MOVED by J. Mills that the Recreation Board accepts the material received in this Agenda Item, as information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **H) Recreation Report**

RES. 78/2015 MOVED by D. Firth that the Recreation Board accepts the Recreation Report received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

## **I) Recognition Awards**

RES. 79/2015 MOVED by D. Hansen that the Recreation Board recommends that the listed team/individuals receive Recognition Awards:

1. Bronze – Abby Abela - 2015 Alberta ITF Taekwon-Do Provincial Championships - Patterns
2. Bronze – Brennan Abela - 2015 Alberta ITF Taekwon-Do Provincial Championships - Sparring
3. Gold – Jocelyn Planger - 2015 Alberta ITF Taekwon-Do Provincial Championships - Sparring
4. Silver – Kennedy Planger - 2015 Alberta ITF Taekwon-Do Provincial Championships - Patterns
5. Silver – Kennedy Planger - 2015 Alberta ITF Taekwon-Do Provincial Championships - Sparring
6. Bronze – Grace Holowiski - 2015 Alberta ITF Taekwon-Do Provincial Championships - Sparring
7. Gold – Torrance Gedny - 2015 Alberta ITF Taekwon-Do Provincial Championships - Sparring



8. Bronze – Torrance Gedny - 2015 Alberta ITF Taekwon-Do Provincial Championships - Patterns
9. Bronze – Jenna Klok - 2015 Alberta ITF Taekwon-Do Provincial Championships - Patterns
10. Silver – Jenna Klok - 2015 Alberta ITF Taekwon-Do Provincial Championships - Sparring
11. Bronze – Kaleb Muller – 2015 South Zone School Cross Country Competition – Gr 11, 5KM

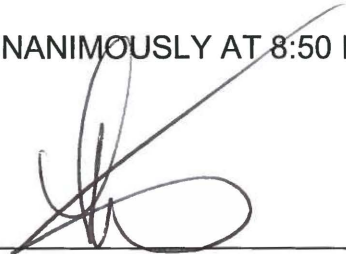
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**MEDIA INQUIRIES – NONE**

**CLOSE OF MEETING**

RES. 80/2015 MOVED by Councilor A. Prokop that this Regular Meeting of the Taber Recreation Board is hereby closed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY AT 8:50 PM



---

CHAIRMAN