



**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chair, Susan Freeman, Gwen ;England, Ian MacDonald, Jan Rawling, Connie Willows, Lisa Lemieux-Beaudoin

**STAFF PRESENT:** Joanne Gallagher (Recording Secretary)

**REGRETS:** Sue McPhee, Linda MacDonald

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm and introductions took place as there were new members present.

**B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA/MINUTES**

The Agenda was adopted as circulated.

Minutes of February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2011 recreation meeting were approved as presented.

**C. PRESENTATIONS/DELEGATIONS**

No presentations or delegations were scheduled to speak.

**D. REVIEW OF PREVIOUS ACTION ITEMS**

1. Accessibility Planning for Recreation Programs (update)

S. Freeman spoke to members of the need to ensure that all Tay Valley's recreation programs were accessible to those with special needs should they be interested in participating. She then provided an overview of the Accessibility laws governing municipalities. She also noted that the township's Public Works Superintendent, J. Simcock would be reviewing all of the outdoor facilities to ensure their compliance under this act.

L. Beaudoin informed members that the Lanark Leeds Grenville Health Unit has an epidemiologist on staff that could be accessed to assist in determining how special needs could be addressed for any given activity.

**Action: S. Freeman to contact the Health Unit to investigate this service and to find out if there have been requests from parents with special needs to access our programs.**

Discussion then took place as to the requirement for meeting accessibility standards. Members noted that both Maberly and Burgess fields were accessible to those with special needs; however due a steep hill Fallbrook was not. The need to ensure that washroom facilities were wheel-chair accessible was then raised.

**Action: J. Gallagher to research availability of accessible port-a-potties and report on findings at the next meeting.**

2. Parental Code of Conduct

Action: S. Freeman still to meet with P. Hoffstater regarding this matter.

3. Municipal Drug Strategy (update)

S. Freeman provided a brief update on the committee with the following noted:

- One confirmed new member and another possible.
- Booth to be setup at Perth Maple Fest – held at Crystal Palace.
- Grant secured from Victims of Crime allowed purchase of a banner for booth and 2,000 pens with memory sticks containing recorded info on youth services, drug & alcohol abuse info etc.
- Upcoming meeting of the Counties Municipal Drug Strategy Committee sometime in May on addiction to prescription drugs at the Civitan Club in Perth.

**E. ONGOING MATTERS**

2. Program Updates

Hockey

S. Freeman noted that as a result of the ice being taken out early at the Lanark Highlands Arena the end of season party and medals awards was not held. Instead a Special Awards event has been arranged for April 12<sup>th</sup> in the Council Chambers at the township office. Families were contacted and invited to come on this date to return their jerseys and receive their medal. Susan and Reeve Kerr will hand out the awards. Juice and cookies to be served afterwards.

Baseball/Soccer

- J. Rawling to contact Becky Raymond re assuming even partial duties of Soccer Co-ordinator.
- L. Beaudoin stated she would be willing to assist in this role.
- J. Rawling and S. Freeman to meet with the Donaldson's who are willing to act as Co-ordinators for Maberly baseball but wanted further details on the role.
- J. Rawling informed members that she had picked up the new shirts that had been purchased last year by Brad MacNamee for Burgess.
- S. Freeman to meet with both Brad and Cliff Proud to discuss issues from last season in the hope of resolving them and to see if Cliff would act as Co-ordinator for Burgess for the upcoming season.

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

1. 2010-2011 Parks & Recreation Ontario (Presentation of Ideas)

S. Freeman informed members that this year three members had attended the Hunstville, ON conference.

C. Willows provided members with an overview of the Algonquin College Wellness fair that she attended. She said she had setup a display with material provided by the Township however, the event was not well attended which may have been as a result of a lack of advertising. She noted that Tay Valley should purchase a banner for use at these types of events. Question was raised as to whether Perth had a Recreation Committee that Tay Valley could participate in and S. Freeman then provided an overview of the recreational cost sharing with Perth. She stated that Perth had been approached about allowing a person to sit on their committee from Tay Valley and was told that though this would be possible it would be in a non-voting capacity so the township declined. She explained that the township now have a purchase of service agreement for the use of Perth's recreational facilities. The sharing of library and other services were handled differently than the recreational facilities.

C. Willows brought up the need to utilize the website as a survey tool to determine program needs and what new programs they may want. S. Freeman then informed members of the Strategic Planning initiative and stated that Recreation needs would be part of this forward planning process.

**Action: Township to research an application that could be created for Tay Valley recreation (check out Northumberland Counties (tool kit available), Port Hope, Hastings) perhaps add a link for people with special needs such as those needing financial assistance (example of wording "need special assistance click here") could be added.**

C. Willows stated that there was a need to make the Township office more accessible to local groups in order to foster improved relations with residents. She felt there was a need for a special volunteers evening during the season for each program as well as written acknowledgement to them at the end of the season. More Council members' attendance at recreation events would be appreciated. She stated that increasing the type of programs offered would provide an opportunity for greater promotion of the Township. Discussion then took place as to various workshops and so forth that could be held at the township halls.

Further ideas were presented by C. Willows from the conference such as increased media coverage, increase font size of bi-weekly ad, more photo's/stories of events / residents sent in to local radio stations. Recent photo of C. Wright at bottom of the beaver dam is one example that was mentioned of the type of great promotional shot that could be sent in and featured on the website.

Discussion then took place as to how recreation worked in surrounding areas. It was noted that some of these areas employed staff to manage recreation and that Perth were able to through grants and private donor contributions. It was also noted that Perth rent out their facilities to private organizations who charge higher rates and leagues were competitive in nature compared to the township's focus on fun, low-cost offerings.

Suggestions included: Skate park, water park, splash pad to possibly be located at Glen Tay School. S. Freeman inquired as to prices for splash pads and was informed they range from 15K to 50K depending on the type and that grants were available for their purchase. Other suggestions included urban polling, flag football, disc ball, yoga, karate, day camps run by university students as placements, area movie nights, and archery club.

**Action: I. MacDonald to investigate the possibility of offering archery with several contacts he has.**

It was noted that the township find out about getting High 5 certified. An explanation was given on how this programs works and it was noted that Maggie Henderson is the person to contact for further information.

L. Beaudoin ended by informing S. Freeman of a group called YITTE through the Lung Association that she should contact for information related to the Municipal Drug Strategy group.

S. Freeman asked conference attendees (C. Willows, J. Rawling, L. Beaudoin) if they would be interested in attending the April 12<sup>th</sup> Council meeting as a delegation to bring their ideas forward.

**Action: J. Gallagher to inform the Clerk of delegation and need for more time to address council.**

C. Willows also wondered if anyone would be interested in donating land for a community garden. It was noted an advertisement could be put out on the radio stating those interested should contact the Township. Percentage of produce raised could be donated to the food bank. Classes could be given in nutrition, cooking, how to stretch your food budget and include healthy food choices.

Members thanked Council for allowing their attendance at this worthwhile event and commented on the wonderful accommodations at Deerhurst Resort.

## **2. Update on L. MacDonald's Condition**

S. Freeman informed members that Linda is out of the hospital and doing much better.

## **3. Children & Youth Community Profile**

S. Freeman explained that she wanted to present this to members as it provided information on Lanark County for 2010. She stated it contained information related to family economic resources that would be helpful in designing programs. She then noted her disappointment in the Education Quality and Accountability scores. Members reviewed information provided commenting on scores in the various areas. S. Freeman added that demographics noted a push for programs such as hockey.

## **G. OTHER BUSINESS**

C. Willows informed members that on May 11<sup>th</sup> the Tay Valley Choir will attend a Balderson United Church fundraising event to assist in promotion. S. Freeman also mentioned the upcoming Choir event at the Maberly Hall featuring music from the 20's, 30's and 40's.

**H. NEXT MEETING DATE AND PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS**

April 28<sup>th</sup> set for the next meeting date.

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Signed copies of approved minutes will be posted on the Township website and filed.

  
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Chair

  
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Recording Secretary