

The Corporation of the Village of Oil Springs Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, November 16, 2016
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Village of Oil Springs Council Chambers
4591 Oil Springs Line, Oil Springs, ON

Committee Members Present: Mayor Ian Veen, Chair
Councillor Rick Powell
Councillor Andrea Burns-Antoine
Carol Powell
Dennis Smith

Committee Members Absent: Tracey Bridges

Committee members Late: Gord Perry (7:10 p.m.)

Staff Members Present: Jennifer Turk, Clerk-Treasurer

Call to Order

Chairperson Mayor Veen opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

No declaration was made by any one committee member at this time. Chairperson Mayor Veen requested committee members to make the appropriate declaration if necessary throughout the business of the meeting.

Adoption of Committee Minutes

Motion #1 – Burns-Antoine/R. Powell: *That the minutes of April 20, 2016 be approved.*

Carried.

Business Arising from Previous Meeting Minutes

Hanging Basket Program

Discussions took place regarding the Hanging Basket Program, where the Village purchases so many baskets in hopes they will all be sponsored by Village residents.

The Clerk reminded the Committee that in 2015, Council decided to decrease the amount of baskets bought to 35 from 40. In 2016, 25 baskets were sold out of the 35.

Motion #2 – C. Powell/Burns-Antoine: That the Village be directed to purchase 30 hanging baskets for 2017 and that the baskets be hung in the downtown core. Carried.

Solar Lights Along Trail

At this time, Mr. Smith deferred discussions until committee member Gord Perry was present at the meeting. Mr. Smith indicated that Mr. Perry would be present, however was running a few minutes late.

North Gateway Sign

Discussions took place regarding replacing the tree that was removed when the gateway sign was removed due to the condition of the sign, earlier this year. The new sign was placed north of the original placement of the sign, however no new tree was planted to replace the one that was removed. Mayor Veen indicated he would talk to the County of Lambton, Jason Cole to seek permission for the placement of a new tree by the new gateway sign. The Clerk also informed the committee that there are hydro wires where the new sign is located, therefore careful consideration will have to take into effect when planting a new tree.

Fundraising

Discussions took place regarding ideas in order to fundraise for Parks & Recreation Committee. As discussed at the last meeting AGCO has strict guidelines as to how funds are raised and how funds are to be used. Some ideas brought forth were:

- breakfast (Mayor Veen to talk to the owner of Oil Springs Ollie aka Sheldon for permission for Groundhog Day Breakfast possibly January 29 or February 4)
- chili cook-off

At 7:10 p.m., Mr. Gord Perry made his entrance into Council chambers.

- host a silent auction with the chili cook-off
- host a silent auction, raffling off a patio set. Could be worked in collation with the meat raffles that take place every other Saturday until May.
- creating a fundraiser committee
- Mayor Veen directed Councillor Burns-Antoine to contact the Oil Springs Optimist regarding a possible chili cook-off

Solar Lights along Trail

Mr. Perry gave the committee an update regarding the subject matter. They are currently waiting for parts for two (2) lights. All the lights have been bolted to the poles to prevent them from breaking or becoming damaged from high winds, and inclement weather. Mayor Veen reminded Mr. Perry that there is to be no more costs involved in the solar lights as it has been expensive. Mr. Perry indicated that there would be no further costs incurred, and any work being done has been volunteered by some committee members.

Parks & Recreation Committee

Balance of Account

The Secretary, Ms. Turk, gave the balance of the Parks & Recreation Account as of October 31, 2016. Total in the account is \$5,777.62.

Lambton College Tree Planting Program

Mayor Veen reported to the committee that Lambton College is celebrating 50th birthday in 2017. In recognition of celebrating 50 years, the college is giving out 10 trees to each municipality for planting, plus 50 trees for the City of Sarnia for a total of 150 trees throughout Lambton County. The tree planting is to take place in 2017 and Council will have to make a decision of where to plant the ten (10) trees.

There were discussions of where the trees will be planted, possibly for the trail. Mayor Veen indicated that he was waiting for correspondence from Lambton College regarding particulars of the program before any decisions are made as to where the trees will be planted.

Hanging Basket and Planter Colours for 2017

A unanimous decision was made to have the flowers red and white for 2017 for all gardens, planters, and hanging baskets that the Village maintains in lieu of Canada turning 150 years old in 2017. Carol indicated to the group that she would donate Canadian flags for the baskets.

Jingle Bell Walk

Discussions took place regarding the said event set to take place Friday, November 25, 2016 at the Youth Centre. Treats are being donated by Carol, Councillor Burns-Antoine, Joy Smith, and Jen. Karen donated candy canes for Santa to hand out to the children. Rebound is donating Santa hats for each of the children. Jen will make sure coffee, tea, hot chocolate will be available for the events to take place back at the Youth Centre after the walk to the Village tree. Mayor Veen indicated that there were a couple firefighters that were helping out with driving the fire truck behind the participants as a safety precaution.

Eastend Park

Mrs. Carol Powell informed the committee that the said park is in need of woodchips, as the park is very muddy under and around the play equipment. The Secretary informed the committee that the Village can't just use regular woodchips, that they have to be specialized for accessibility standards. The specialized chips don't break down as fast.

Weeding Village Gardens

It was noted to the committee that Carol planted Canada 150 tulip bulbs throughout the gardens in the Village. The bulbs were donated by Karen Cook.

It was also noted that the South gateway sign was overgrown with grasses, and weeds, and the trees need pruning. It was indicated that in order to properly maintain all the park's grass, the weed eater, push mower, and riding lawn mower are needed to be used.

Village Christmas Tree

Bluewater Power is coming November 21 to put up the lights on the tree and decorations on hydro poles.

Promotional Items

Discussions took place regarding promotional items on hand at the municipal office. In order to move them, the prices were further reduced. It was suggested to give them away as prizes.

Garden & Trail Committee

Maintenance of Trail

Mr. Smith complimented on public works for the maintenance performed this year on the trail. Discussions took place regarding the use of the sickle bar mower to help keep the long grass and weeds down for 2017. It was also noted that the Garden & Trail Committee will be removing the tree suckers in the Spring 2017 to improve drainage and the look of the trail.

Municipal Flower Garden

It was noted to the committee, that the said garden will need wood chips in 2017. Not much ground cover available. This was noticed when Carol was planting the tulip bulbs

Skateboard Park

Discussions took place regarding the maintenance needed to the said park. Topsoil for the garden is needed, as well as trimming with roundup or some sort of weed killer.

Trees

Mr. Smith and Mr. Perry informed the committee that there were new trees planted along the trail in 2016. Steel stakes are needed to help the trees grow straight.

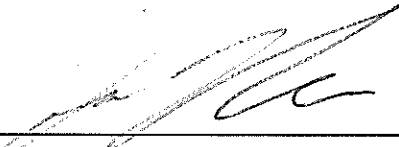
Gravel on Trail

Discussions took place to continue to grade the trail to help pack it down for easier movement. The trail may need gravel in 2017, however screenings would be best but are too expensive. Mayor Veen indicated that perhaps the Lambton Mix would best be suited for the trail as it does pack down quite well.

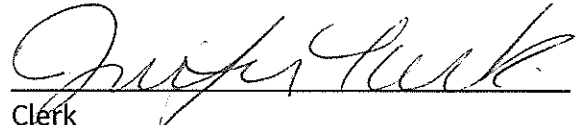
Discussions took place regarding weeds being a continued problem growing in the trail, even if the black matting is there.

Adjournment

Motion #3 – Burns-Antoine/R. Powell: That the meeting be adjourned at 7:40 p.m. until the next Parks & Recreation Committee Meeting. Carried.



Chair



Clerk