

**THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WELLINGTON NORTH
RECREATION, PARKS AND LEISURE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2023 @ 4:00 P.M.
VIA WEB CONFERENCING**

Committee Members Present:

- Steve McCabe, Councillor, Chair
- Penny Renken, Councillor, Member
- Jim Ferguson, Councillor Township of Southgate, Member

Staff Members Present:

- Brooke Lambert, Chief Administrative Officer
- Matthew Aston, Director of Operations
- Karren Wallace, Clerk
- Tom Bowden, Recreation Services Manager
- Tasha Grafos, Community Recreation Coordinator
- Jessica Turnbull, Administrative Support

Guests:

Sarah Stubbs, Life Gears Academy

Calling to Order
Chair McCabe called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.
Adoption of Agenda
RESOLUTION RPL 2023-016 Moved by Member Ferguson Seconded by Member Renken THAT the agenda for the March 14, 2023, Township of Wellington North Recreation, Parks, and Leisure Committee meeting be accepted and passed. CARRIED
Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest
None
Deputation
Sarah Stubbs, Life Gears Academy RESOLUTION RPL 2023-017 Moved by Member Renken Seconded by Member Ferguson THAT the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Committee receive for information the deputation from Sarah Stubbs, Life Gears Academy. CARRIED Ms. Stubbs, Life Gears Academy runs programming traditionally out of the Guelph area through the neighborhood group to provide low-cost programming. Their

instructor moved to Mount Forest which launched their interest in that area. Last summer the camp was at Murphy Park, which at the time was through a verbal agreement with the Recreation Community Coordinator as there wasn't a formal booking process for this space. The camp had approximately 8 kids a week and allowed the public to share the space. They have also just run a March break camp at Arthur Presbyterian church.

In terms of dates, for 2023 they are hoping to do 6 weeks starting July 11th – August 26th and taking the week off Aug 7th off. Programming usually runs 9am – 4pm allowing for extended care. There is a fee associated with the program to pay staff but also offer 3-4 subsidized positions a week and can partner with organizations that have connections with families in town that need that support.

They like to keep the groups limited to 15 kids but usually that number is closer to 10. Most are aged 7-11. The organization is also insured up to 3 million dollars in coverage. They typically tell the insurance company a location and they provide an extra certificate based on the space.

Member Renken asked if the group was considering Cork Street Park this year instead of Murphy Park for safety. Ms. Stubbs explained that all the group asks for is a sheltered area and access to a porta potty but are flexible with whichever park it is. Member Renken mentioned that it was brought up that Cork Street was a better fit because of the safety it provides from storm potential and there is no river right there for insurance purposes.

Chair McCabe asked about the liability for township. The DOO stated that at Murphy Park there is no fee associated with it so the township doesn't have a contract for people using that facility. Cork Street has a fee to it and once renters pay a fee insurance is assumed by the township insurance, which makes it a bit more straight forward. Chair McCabe added there would be some staff time used opening and cleaning up afterwards. The DOO explained last year staff went and opened the washrooms and cleaned them, which involved staff time. Chair McCabe asked if that would be the same at Cork Street Park. The DOO added at Cork Street is easier as staff report into the arena, making it an easier spot to deal with.

Chair McCabe asked if their instructors are certified and what their qualifications are. Ms. Stubbs added they have their First Aid and CPR training and are put through the training they do with all of their teams like ACEs training. They also go over location based training, depending on the park they would go over different emergency procedures and interactions with the public. Chair McCabe asked if there are background checks required and what would the ratio be for instructor to children be. Ms. Stubbs clarified that for vulnerable sector checks can only be asked for individuals 18 and older so anyone under 18 they have reference checks. For camp ratios there would be 2 staff and 1:7, they also try and get local volunteers as well.

Chair McCabe asked if they would be using the Saugeen River if at Murphy Park. Ms. Stubbs explained they will mostly use the pavilion and trail system as they discourage campers near the water.

Member Renken asked if there are going to be any adults over 18. Ms. Stubbs added if they can't hire adults then she will be working in Arthur and Mount Forest this summer, or they have some university staff that may be able to assist.

The RSM asked about their emergency plan as last year their instructors called township staff when there was a tornado warning. Ms. Stubbs explained that they look at weather ahead of time and have a cancellation policy where parents will get their kids. They would come up with an emergency plan based on the location if the pavilion made sense to be under and would have to investigate what the environment was based on the location and usually just try to cancel if there is any risk of thunder and tornados.

Staff are directed to bring back a report on the use of municipal parks to the April 17th council meeting.

Minutes of Previous Meeting – February 7, 20223, approved at Council on February 21, 2023

RESOLUTION RPL 2023-018
 Moved by Member Ferguson
 Seconded by Member Renken

THAT the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Committee receive for information the minutes of the March 14, 2023

CARRIED

Business Arising From Minutes

None

Ad Hoc Committee Updates

Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee Minutes of March 21, 2023.

RESOLUTION RPL 2023-019

Moved by Member Ferguson
 Seconded by Member Renken

THAT the Recreation, Parks and Leisure Committee receive for information the minutes of the March 21, 2023, Mount Forest Aquatics Ad-Hoc Advisory Committee.

CARRIED

Reports

OPS 2023-013 RPL Lion Roy Grant Pool

RESOLUTION RPL 2023-020

Moved by Member Renken
 Seconded by Member Ferguson

THAT the Recreation, Parks, and Leisure Committee receive Report OPS 2023-013 being a report on the proposed decommissioning of the Mount Forest Lion Roy Grant Pool

AND FURTHER THAT the Committee recommend the Council of the Township of Wellington North direct staff proceed with the decommissioning of the Lion Roy Grant Pool and rehabilitation of the property,

AND FURTHER THAT the Committee recommend Council direct staff to seek pricing for the decommissioning and rehabilitation of the property.

CARRIED

The RSM noted that the building and grounds should not be left as is for safety reasons for the public and staff. Staff are looking to get direction from committee to go out and get some pricing.

The DOO stated that staff recommendation is to just explore the options out there.

Member Renken asked if the decommissioning would involve the building coming down as well or just filling in the pool.

Chair McCabe added it would encompass taking all the buildings down and the total space.

OPS 2023-014 RPL Lion's Alcohol Amendment

RESOLUTION RPL 2023-021

Moved by Member Renken

Seconded by Member Ferguson

THAT the Recreation, Parks, and Leisure Committee receive Report OPS 2023-014 RPL Lion's Alcohol Amendment being a report on an amendment to the Municipal Alcohol Policy Section 2.1 for the Mount Forest Lion's Club's Elton John Tribute Concert on May 6;

AND FURTHER THAT the Committee recommend the Council of the Township of Wellington North recommend approval of and amendment to the Municipal Alcohol Policy Section 2.1 for approval of a Special Occasion Permit (SOP) to include the walking track and the tiered seating (stands) of the Mount Forest Sports Complex for the May 6, 2023 event, with the following stipulations.

- Egress issues must be address to the satisfaction of the Township Fire Chief
- All requirements of the AGCO are the responsibility of the Mount Forest Lion's Club
- The SOP will end at 1am

CARRIED

Chair McCabe asked if it is similar to what is done at Patriot's games.

The RSM explained that it is similar and there was another instance where the foyer and between the halls was licensed through a SOP. The Patriots only have one small spot they serve alcohol, the Lions are asking for part of the walking track and the tiered seating to be included as well. These spaces are not named in the alcohol

policy so this would need to be approved by the committee and go on to council for approval.

Chair McCabe asked what more work this would put on township staff. The RSM added that not too much as the Lion's Club will be policing it and will have security and smart serve bartenders. They will be using corkage.

Chair McCabe asked about capacity. The RSM stated for Patriot's games it is capped at 1100 people and the floor can hold 600-700, the blue seats 563 seats. The Lions are going to have it capped to 900 people total.

Items for Consideration

The CRC spoke to the success of summer camp registration. Online registration opened April 3rd at 8:00am. There were 511 registrants on opening day compared to 378 in 2022. That includes everyone that has registered even those on the waiting list. Numbers for the entire 2022 summer were 451 registered and 99 on waitlists and in 2023 there are 503 registered and 83 waitlisted. Currently in the process of securing camp instructors.

Roundtable

Community Garden Minutes from March 9, 2023
Chair McCabe added there was a meeting last week.

Community Garden Newsletter March 2023

The DOO will be leaving the township for another opportunity as of April 11th and will be greatly missed.

Adjournment

RESOLUTION RPL 2023-022
Moved by Member Renken
Seconded by Member Ferguson

THAT the Township of Wellington North Recreation, Parks and Leisure Committee meeting of April 4, 2023, be adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

CARRIED