

Peterborough Recreation Committee, (PRC), Meeting
Roland “Beaver” Jutras Recreation Building
Minutes of March 3, 2010, 7:00 PM
(Approved)

Attendees: Tina Kriebel, Chair; Doug Thompson, Vice-Chair; Paula Stewart; Andrew Dunbar; Jeffrey M. King, Recreation Director; Robert Lambert, PRD/Budget Committee Liaison and Lisa A. Betz, Program Coordinator/Minute Taker.

I) Meeting called to order: at 7:00 PM by Tina.

II) Approval of Minutes: Doug made a motion to accept the Minutes of January, 2010, as written. Paula seconded. Unanimous approval.

Paula made a motion to accept the Minutes of February, 2010 – with the inclusion of some verbiage by Andy in the programming section of the Minutes. Andy seconded. Unanimous approval.

III) Director’s Report: This report was four pages long which included programming information.

A) Andy commented on the Daddy, Daughter Dance. He delivered the pizza and he felt the Dance was a good program to offer.

B) Doug said that he has been asked why the PRD feels they need to fill both positions (program coordinator as well as the administrative assistant positions) in one fell swoop. Especially considering the current economy.

1) Jeff said that this is a current topic of discussion with the Town Administrator. She would like to see the position reduced in number of hours.

2) As of this meeting there was no resolution.

3) Jeff continued that with all the budget cuts plus a decrease in staffing, the PRD will be unable to offer the depth of programming as well as manage the office properly.

4) He felt strongly that the public will not react well to this, but that is the reality of the situation.

5) Andy said that he has not seen anything like this – economy wise – and feels

- that anything we can do to cut the tax impact on residents is worth looking at.
- 6) So many things have been cut, the State and Town are talking about lay-offs, there has been a huge reduction in childcare state aid, raises for the Town may very well be cut again, and retirement is currently being underfunded.
 - 7) To answer Doug's question more directly, Tina offered that cutting or reducing the position makes no financial sense for this would cause the higher paid staff to take on responsibilities that one would take care of at a lower rate of pay.
 - 8) The thought of volunteers running the front desk was approached. Jeff is very skeptical about this. The Administrative Assistant's position requires intensive training.
 - a) Andy noted that the hospital's volunteer program seems to work.
 - b) Paula offered that the hospital has a paid volunteer coordinator to organize everything.
 - 9) Bob feels that it is a waste of money for Lisa to take the Minutes, at an hourly rate for a Program Coordinator, when it should be done by the Administrative Assistant.
 - 10) Lisa offered that programming demands are up.
 - 11) Bob also asked about Pam Brenner's course of action if the hiring freeze is not lifted by July 1. Does this mean Lisa is booted out because it is a temporary position? Jeff stated that it is Pam's intention to make it permanent.
 - 12) Tina said that the hiring dilemma will not be solved tonight. What is happening, budget and economy wise, will definitely impact services. Communication is necessary, from the Board, to make sure residents know that services will be impacted and the PRD will be limited in office operations as well as program offerings.
- C) The lacrosse program is threatened due to the lack of coaches. If coaches do not present themselves by 8 March, the program will have to be cancelled.
- D) The borrowing of "Izzie" – the PRD's mini bus, by Milford, was bought up. Milford will be charged for mileage and return the bus with a full tank of gas. Peterborough residents would get the Milford resident rate. There is no "rental" of the bus - per se' - outside of the previously mentioned charges and fee waivers.
- 1) Andy raised objections to this because of the impact on the Peterborough tax dollar. Jeff was adamant that no tax payer dollars have ever been spent on the buses, per the direction of the PRC. All monies go through the revolving fund.
 - 2) Both Tina and Paula felt it was a good thing to be interacting with other Towns like this. It builds reciprocity relationships and good will.
- E) Andy was concerned about the Senior Lunch Program being held here at the PRD and the impact on manpower as well as tax dollars. Jeff countered that the program is run by Anne Lessard, Jill Blakeman and Howard Russell, not the PRD. The involvement of the PRD is offering the use the meeting room and Jeff usually goes

in to say “hello”, but that is about the extent of the PRD involvement.

- F) Regarding the Armory, the Town now holds the Deed. The Board would like a walk- through of the facility. It was decided that this will occur at 6:30pm, a ½ hour before the regularly scheduled PRC meeting, in April.
 - 1) All members are to meet at the Amory, then come back to the meeting room to resume the monthly meeting.
 - 2) The certificate of occupancy will dictate the amount of renovations that will have to occur.
 - 3) Minimally, a gal’s bathroom will have to be built to ADA specifications.
 - G) In regards to the kitchen equipment and the Senior Lunch Program being held at the Armory, Tina would like there to be some By-Laws drawn up and adopted by the PRC before they move the program over there.
 - H) Both Andy and Bob inquired into the expense of \$1,000 being spent on removing the ice skating rink boards. The cost would include getting a demolition dumpster and have the Town rip out the boards with its own large equipment.
 - 1) Jeff and Rodney (the Director of Public Works) feel that it may very well cost less than \$1,000.
 - 2) This proposal is considered the cheapest way to go, especially when one compares it to the liability of having the boards up or lying around.
 - 3) Andy was thanked by the Board and Jeff for keeping the rink on the agenda as a matter of concern.
 - I) The Monadnock Youth Softball League – who may develop a concession stand near Ecco Field - has been told that any development of a concession stand cannot be supported by any monies from the Town.
 - J) Andy wanted to see if the fence, between Union Street and Ecco Field, could be moved towards the field more before any monies were spent.
 - 1) Jeff will call LGC to find out the legal requirements of fencing, questioning if it even needs to be there.
 - 2) It may be important to have there for the protection of running children. This could be accomplished by having a four foot fence instead of an 11 foot fence.
 - 3) Viewing the fence and getting input from the PRC, in connection with the legal information Jeff receives needs to be on the agenda for April.
- IV) Action Items List: A couple items were addressed.
- A) The Teen Committee has been on the action item list for several years. Given the time lapse and the state of the economy causing budget restraints, Doug was asked if the item should be removed from the list. Doug would like 1 more month to work on it.
 - B) Item #142, concerning a slalom skateboard clinic will be addressed by Andy.
 - C) Item #172, work still needs to be done before the MOU with Cal Ripken can be finalized.
 - D) Item #179, Doug mentioned that he has not been contacted by Erin regarding the

formation of a monitoring board – supervising the expenditures or scholarships of monies raised by the Triathlon last August.

- 1) Doug will get Erin's number after the meeting tonight and contact her directly.
 - 2) This Triathlon may be in jeopardy this year because of budgetary constraints. More will be known at a later date.
 - 3) The contributions to the Children of the Arts Festival, held in May, might not occur due to the same budgetary issues.
- E) Item # 183, there needs to be continuity and equitability for outside organizations that utilize PRD facilities. Seeing how expenses for field maintenance have been addressed for Cal Ripken, similar expense coverage for maintenance and use of the pool needs to be presented before the Peterborough Wave Team. Either a cost per person fee needs to be established and/or the non-resident rate needs to be significantly increased.
- 1) Due to the fact that the non-resident rates are going up anyway, this may address the issue within itself.
 - 2) Jeff will do some fact finding and present the information at the April meeting so the PRC can act/implement a decision accordingly.
 - 3) The decision is necessary for the Summer Brochure.

XII) Adjournment: Tina moved to adjourn at 8:00pm, Doug seconded it. Unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Betz, PRC Minute Taker 03-04-10.