

Peterborough Recreation Committee, (PRC), Meeting
Roland “Beaver” Jutras Recreation Building
Minutes of November 2, 2010 6:56 PM
(Approved)

Attendees: Tina Kriebel, Chair; Paula Stewart; Andy Dunbar; Todd Weeks; Jeffrey M. King, Recreation Director; Lisa A. Koziell-Betz, Program Coordinator; minutes taken by Joyce Carroll, Administrative Assistant

- I) Meeting called to order at 6:56 PM by Tina.
- II) Corrections to October 6th minutes:
Page 1, E.2 - non-profit has not yet been established
Page 5- the future of the field development project is not clear - Doug proposed the bundling of the two projects.
Page 2, K - cross out “when” in third sentence.
Page 3, G - should add regarding the advertisement and placement near children’s programs.
Page 5, #13 - while Andy thought that he was a positive project, but he was concerned that it would be an unnecessary tax burden to the Peterborough taxpayers.
Page 5, I - change to “Andy needed to leave the meeting early”.

Tina moved to accept the minutes. Paula seconded.

III) Capital Improvement Program
Multi-purpose pavilion.

1. Jeff searched for two quotes but received only one. Company is a full service, design-build company, which built Hidden Hills pavilion. Estimate came in more than double the number already in the CIP. Jeff was worried that although it is a great project, trying to lump a project like this along with the pool renovations could cause a failure of the whole project.
2. Tina said that the focus should be to maintain current structures.
3. Paula recommended that the group who attended last month’s meeting should come back to the table for fundraising options.
4. Jeff asked if we should try to create a capital reserve. Tina added that we have two options – withdraw project completely from CIP program or leave it in as a placeholder if we want to give interested parties a timeframe to put options together. Jeff - there may be an opportunity for collaborative efforts on athletic field projects.

5. Paula questioned if we leave a placeholder - could Peterborough be a participant. Tina stated that it should be a 40/60 split, and proposed that we leave in \$60,000, but move it to FY15 & 16.
6. Andrew suggested that we go to ConVal and ask them to assist in fundraising. He also asked if an ice rink should be located in an area that could handle traffic issues. Jeff explained that this project is more than a hockey rink, but rather a facility that could be used for multiple recreational uses and is an open-air use, which would be beneficial to Adams Playground.
7. Andrew asked if there was enough land by the armory that could be used. He stated that although he would not vote yes, he was not against the project.
8. Tina moved to appropriate the \$60,000 (FY15 & FY16) Tina, Todd, Paula in favor, Andy opposed.

Pool Bond Discussion

1. Jeff stated that last year we went to the Budget Committee and the Selectboard to request their guidance as to how to proceed with this project. It was the first time ever that PRD, PRC, CIP, Town Administration, BC, and BOS were all in agreement that although it was a worthwhile project, it was not the right time to request a bond.
2. Tina, in support of moving ahead, said that we have had the same conversation about the possibility of the pool going “belly up”. She added that we should tell the Peterborough taxpayers that we have a plan in place and by going through the process, we can get clarity, and ask for support.
3. Paula felt that we are getting near to having a catastrophic in regards to repairs. Paula moved to go forward with a bond. Todd seconded.
4. Jeff asked if we should recommend a number of years. Tina suggested that we provide options and refer to Budget Committee and CIP on the payback. Tina asked if we make a proposal to bond and it gets shot down before town meeting, have we lost the opportunity. Jeff said no, the request would still be part of the CIP, but it might be changed to a capital reserve request.
5. Tina moved to vote - Todd, Tina, Paula yes, Andrew abstained.

IV) Director’s Report

1. Armory: Tina asked that the board receive any updates on the architect’s findings.
2. Soccer: Tina reviewed the report from Jeff regarding PRD’s feedback on their understanding of how the MOU with PAYS has evolved. Tina #3– asked since this was her first experience with referees, is there always been 3 refs? Lisa stated that it began with 3 and went down to 2 after a few weeks. Jeff said that we’ve only had referees for the 3rd/4th grade league for 2 years. He added that the thinking was that refs at that age would encourage a new “pool” of kids coming up and participating in programs. Jeff is not sure that 5/6th grade students should be put in position to deal with adult fans and coaches, refereeing for an age group only a year or two younger than they.
3. Tina - #13 – suggested that next season that we write on soccer balls that they belong to PAYS or PRD. Tina thanked staff for taking the time to detail relationship with PAYS

4. Andrew said that it highlights how Peterborough is funding a regional program and how much minutia is involved. Jeff said that he agreed that without non-residents, it would have less administrative work.
5. Tina said that the coordination is made difficult by working with another organization, and that collaboration makes it difficult to make changes.
6. Todd asked what was wrong with letting PAYS fall. Jeff said that if that were to occur, the impression would be that the PRD dropped the ball. Most people think the PRD runs the program exclusively.
7. Tina noted that things that need to change, or we dissolve partnership.
8. Jeff said that the stability of the Recreation Department is important because parents/coaches rotate out, but the Recreation Department remains a stabilizing force.
9. Tina suggested that Jeff and Lisa re-create a board to assist with the soccer program. Tina will report back at the December meeting.

V) Program Report

1. Tina heard the Halloween Trail of Terror was awesome. Jeff reported that the Armory site served the program well, with lots of potential to turn it into a great event.
2. Basketball - waiting to hear from SMS on their tryouts results. PRD might put together 7/8th teams if there are enough kids. Good cooperation with the school staff.
3. CDL class – Lisa reported on the program date, run by LGC. Jeff said that our goal is to get 10 people to take the written test, pass, take the pre-trip inspection and take the test here in Peterborough.
4. Jeff said that he had not yet heard back about the PES basketball hoops.

VI) Revolving Fund Report

1. Volleyball - Tina asked if the transfer was made from the Volleyball program – no.
2. Soccer - have not reconciled Fall of 2009/Indoor of 2010. Tina said that it is not clear to have that amount of money in the Youth Soccer line item so we should make the transfer to field development once everything has been reconciled. Tina wanted to make sure that we are able to show where are costs are coming from.
3. Summer Playground – Paula asked if we outstanding bills, and how it is handled. Jeff – has not done transfer yet. Lisa said that staff has not had the time to go after outstanding balances. Tina asked what we have in place, some kind of checklist that should not allow people to sign up for new programs if they owe for previous programs. There should be a penalty or not having the ability to re-enroll. She suggested a letter be sent to collect monies.
4. Swimming – Jeff stated that he is concerned with swimming. We are showing a small loss. from a line item used to have a large surplus. He added that we are planning to revamp how we offer swimming lessons, with fewer choices offered. Paula suggested that showing up every day is difficult for families, and that we might want to spread out classes. Jeff said that previous feedback from people showed that they preferred to have it done in two-week span so that summer vacations can be planned. Jeff also thought that we may have to

increase fees if consolidation of lesson groups doesn't offer enough cost savings, and noted that PRD haven't raised fees in a few years. Tina preferred that we offered less, instead of going up in price. Jeff reported that adaptive swim received wonderful feedback and is a program that we need to find a way to fund. It is very expensive to run because it requires a one to one student/instructor ratio. Paula suggested that PRD ask the school district to assist, as that program could be part of the kid's IEP. We might be able to receive assistance from Monadnock Developmental Services also. Paula will provide future feedback.

VII) Action Items

Todd proposed having a fundraising program for Summer Teen Challenge.

VIII) Swim Lessons

1. Andrew read an article about six teens who died when they went into the water but couldn't swim. He asked if should be a "drown-proof activity", not just as a recreation program to learn how to swim.
2. Jeff said that we view swimming as a life skill, and would like to make it available to more children.
3. Paula opposed to calling it "drown-proof", as it would be a false sense of security. Jeff said our swim lessons include safety components.
4. Tina stated that older kids are opposed to wearing life jackets, and that we need to fund swimming lessons for people who don't have the means to pay for lessons. She added that it is important to keep our classes affordable and to fundraise and write grants for those families that need it.
5. Jeff said that an article could be done through the media or the Peterborough Press.
6. Paula suggested meeting with Southern New Hampshire Services.

IX) Big E Railroad Show

On the recommendation of someone else, Andy provided information regarding a model railroad show at the Big E in Springfield for a possible future trip. Andy will get back with the date.

X) Wellness

Andy – please add to next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:49 pm

Respectfully submitted by Joyce Carroll, PRC Minute Taker 11-03-2010.