

Peterborough Recreation Committee (PRC) Meeting
Roland "Beaver" Jutras Recreation Building
Minutes of October 3, 2018
Approved

(with the addition of the email chain that occurred on 10-09 through 10-15-18)

Attendees: Andrew Dunbar, Chair; Ryan Griffiths, Vice-Chair;
Kate Coon; Heather McClusky; Karen Hatcher, Select Board Liaison;
Jeffrey M. King, Recreation Director; Lisa Koziell-Betz, Program Coordinator;
and Lauren Martin, Minute Taker

- I. Call to Order: Andy called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.
- II. Approval of Minutes: Ryan motioned to approve the minutes as written. Heather seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.
- III. Director's Report:
 - A. Facilities:
 - i. Adams Pool:
 - a) Jeff had Associated Concrete Coating examine the hairline crack which runs along the length of the eastern side of the pool deck, where the slide is. There may have been settling after the deck was built. The crack needs to be sealed so it does not get any worse.
 - b) Peterborough Wave Swim Club has complained that the anchors of the starting blocks are wobbly. Associate Concrete Coating thinks they can core a hole and inject something to shore up the anchors.
 - c) Painting the pool is turning into a capital project because of the need to sandblast prior to repainting. This will dramatically increase the cost of the project. Our proposed Capital Improvement Projects will be discussed in detail later in the agenda.
 - ii. Peterborough Community Center (PCC): NH Chronicle will air their story on the PCC bee mural Monday night October 8th at 7:00pm. Peak Into Peterborough is the following weekend, and Jeff commented that it will be interesting to see if more people come to town to view the mural. Ryan noted that the mural artist, Matt Willey, also painted some honeybees at Monadnock Community Hospital. Jeff remarked that The Good of the Hive's Facebook page shows Matt has already begun his next project at the National Zoo.
 - iii. Jutras Recreation Building: Jeff pointed out that the new roof on the Jutras office building was completed last Saturday.
 - iv. Cunningham Pond:
 - a) The PRD maintenance crew has been working on the erosion control project. The recreation area is built on a hill, and every time it rains, water washes down onto the beach, forcing sand into the water. The crew ditched the side of the driveway and dug out a drainage swale last fall. Now they have installed a French drain, which will flow into the drainage

swale. Before they could even begin this project, the crew had to build up the bridge to be able to support the weight of our tractor. They are also putting in a new retaining wall, which has a flat area for sitting. Users can hop down from the wall to the beach, or they can walk over to the left where the grass will be ramped down. We are hopeful this will keep the sand in place on the beach.

- b) Discussion ensued about the stairs to the right of the cottage (when looking at the pond), which lead to the second beach. Jeff acknowledged that we have to figure out how to keep the stone dust from washing out, but this project will have to wait for the spring. Ryan expressed concern that a dangerous hole has eroded in between the timbers that needs to be blocked off with caution tape or a cone. He noticed that the timbers are very secure in place, so he suggested filling the area with a cinder block and then filling in around that, possibly with concrete. It was agreed to have our maintenance crew block off the dangerous area until the issue could be addressed.

B. School District and Youth Basketball:

- i. Jeff and Lisa met with the ConVal School District Superintendent recently as the result of a couple of emails they had received referencing BDS (Basketball Development School). In August, Jeff had met with Superintendent Saunders and with Tim Grossi, Facilities Director, to discuss the PRD's facilities needs for the coming year. Jeff declared at that time that we would not run a basketball program without knowing we would have access to school gyms. When Jeff received an email from Donnie Boice (the former leader of the now defunct CYSA) mentioning a conversation about youth basketball with BDS, Jeff asked the Superintendent about this. Like, Jeff, she had not heard of BDS and said she would look into it. Although the PRD has been granted gym time at Peterborough Elementary School, Jeff asked for clarification on a number of questions regarding the schools' arrangements with BDS and how this would affect gym availability and, consequently, the PRD's plans to offer youth basketball. Today Jeff received an inquiry from Rindge about regional basketball, but he does not know anything about this. Ryan asked if we can move forward with our plans for Peterborough Recreation basketball without knowing what BDS is. It was mentioned that someone in Jaffrey heard BDS offers a developmental program for \$100, but Lisa said she heard BDS has agreed to run a local program for less money. Heather is aware of a family who is participating with BDS now. Her family received information about the program, but she did not pay attention to it since they could not fit it into their schedule. Ryan commented that when someone is new to town it is hard for them to find out where to go or whom to call for information about available programs. He suggested we take a stand and decide if we want to offer youth basketball or not. He is aware that the community wants someone who is passionate about youth sports to take the lead. Frustration was expressed that Jeff and Lisa took

the time to set up a schedule and now the program is still up in the air. It was suggested that perhaps we just decide to do this and see what happens. Heather asked if Donnie Boice indicated if BDS is going to run their program through the traditional basketball season. Lisa and Jeff affirmed that the indication they are getting is that BDS will offer a program for pre-K through sixth grade during the basketball season. Jeff discovered that the co-founder of BDS is the ConVal High School varsity basketball coach, and that former ConVal Athletic Director, Mark Swasey, is also involved. Lisa remarked that Donnie may be involved as an individual, since he had told us CYSA was ceasing to exist after last winter's futsal program concluded. Jeff does not know if the school board is aware of the apparent relationship between the schools and BDS. He said that the Superintendent appeared to be as shocked as we were when told by the facilities director that the schools had already been working with BDS.

- ii. Ryan asked if, as part of the strategic plan, we would ask if townspeople want Peterborough Recreation to offer youth sports. He said his wife just wants *someone* to do it. Karen wondered where parents get information. Ryan asked if we want to make the statement that we are the Recreation Department and we are the ones in this town who run recreation sports. Jeff said that we don't have to offer all recreation sports. Lisa acknowledged that we knew the travel soccer folks would have a good handle on soccer, when they took that over. With basketball, we do not know BDS and we do not have any answers, but it will not work if there are two groups offering the same sport to the same youth. Jeff received an email from Donnie stating that "boards with a strong love of the sport is the only way those sports will survive and flourish". Jeff pointed out that we have a very passionate guy who runs youth lacrosse. We do a tremendous amount in the office to provide support and Jeff attends monthly meetings of the NH Youth Lacrosse Association, but we have on-field coordinators who work with coaches and parents more directly. Jeff has already been approached by at least three people who have said they would be happy to serve as the basketball coordinator, if we decide to run this program again. BDS seems to be doing their own thing without talking to us. We do not know what BDS will charge, but Jeff noted that certain AAU groups pay coaches and they travel all over. When Jeff first came to Peterborough, then-Superintendent Keith Burke stated firmly that he did not want any AAU programs because they charged a lot of money, were using up a tremendous amount of the S.A.U.'s gym time and the S.A.U. wasn't being compensated for that time.
- iii. Discussion ensued about how to get answers to the questions we need to resolve before moving forward. A meeting with the Superintendent and school board was proposed. Karen suggested an official letter from the PRC to the Superintendent and school board, stating our concerns that we are committed to youth recreation and are looking for a way to do this after discovering this other program may be offering the same thing. Support for

the letter approach was expressed, since it would leave a paper trail. Answers have not been forthcoming and we are being left out of communications. Jeff stated that after meeting twice with the Superintendent about this, once including the facilities director, he thinks we are past the point of trying to walk-in for another meeting. The sequence of communication efforts and long lengths of times waiting for answers was reviewed. Again, a letter was suggested stating that we can offer youth basketball, but two groups cannot successfully offer the same program, and we cannot move forward until we receive answers. Jeff clarified that the Budget and Property Committee of the School Board oversees facilities. He stated that we know there is a demand for youth basketball, and we can meet that demand, but it is fine if someone else runs it. If it is not being run, we can do it, if feasible. Ideally, a youth basketball program should have already been advertised in late August or September. When asked how much of a program we could offer if we just used PES, Jeff said we could definitely offer basketball to youth in Kindergarten through fourth grade. When asked if we could just go forward with this, it was pointed out that people never sign up immediately but wait until near the deadline, so it could turn out to be two programs competing with each other. Again, conversation ensued about the best way to obtain answers to our urgent questions. Kate began drafting a letter from the PRC to the Superintendent and the school board.

- C. The date of the meeting with the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Committee was questioned. Jeff explained that the meeting has been moved up to October 16th. The CIP Committee will tour Adams Pool and the PCC at 2:00pm, and the meeting will follow at the waste water treatment plant at 3:00pm.
- D. Referring to the action plan, Ryan asked Karen for an update on her conversation with Rodney about charging the schools for using the PCC for school district voting. Karen explained that she spoke to Rodney, who said that the Town will continue charging to use Town buildings, but that the school district is welcome to place a value on our use of their facilities and bill us accordingly. Jeff acknowledged that we are charging ConVal \$6,000 for the use of our tennis courts and softball field (though we haven't billed them for this past spring yet). Karen explained that the Town and the school district should be invoicing each other, so that no one feels taken advantage of. Karen is not sure if this has been communicated to the Superintendent, but she thinks the Town should develop a memorandum of understanding with the S.A.U. at some point in the near future. Jeff explained that in 2003 we were being invoiced by the school district for \$8,500 in custodial fees for basketball. Jeff told then Superintendent Burke that we would have to make that back by charging for the schools' use of the pool, softball field and tennis courts, so we ended up with a handshake agreement not to charge each other, which lasted for many years. Karen pointed out that there are other issues with water for fields, and that this conversation has to go to a higher level with Rodney and the Superintendent. Jeff pointed out that the Town charged the school district even when voting took place in the upper hall of the Town House so this was not about the PCC. He did not know if the school

district was charged when Town voting and school district voting were held on the same day. Karen noted that Rodney had suggested that the school district could hold their voting at South Meadow School or PES. Ryan asked that when negotiations are being handled between the school district and the Town, if Jeff or Lisa can attend so the needs and perspectives of all departments are considered. Karen suggested that each organization list what we provide and assign a value to that, acknowledging that there is a lot of give and take between us and we want to find a way to calm everyone down. Conversation ensued about Peterborough police and library resources being used by residents of many towns who attend our regional high school.

- E. Conversation returned to the sequence of events regarding how Jeff began working with the Superintendent on scheduling school gym use for youth basketball, and how he learned that BDS appears to be planning the same thing. Lisa said a lot of this would be solved if we knew the age groups BDS planned to serve. On behalf of the PRC, Kate began working on a letter to the School Board and Superintendent.

IV. Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Proposals:

A. Sandblasting and Repainting of Adams Pool:

- i. Jeff began by stating that we had been advised that because the chlorine is so caustic, our concrete pool should be repainted every five years. We had requested \$7,000 in the operating budget for FY2018 to cover repainting the pool, but those funds were not approved. We put \$7,000 in the current FY2019 operating budget for repainting the pool. However, both Associated Concrete Coatings and Tnemec advise that at this point the flaking, corroded paint needs to be sandblasted before repainting. This was our sixth summer operating the pool since its renovation. If it had been repainted last year, we might have postponed the sandblasting, which greatly increases the cost of the project. Jeff stated that after investing \$1.2 million in the pool, we need to take care of it. His intention is to use the funds in the operating budget to complete the repairs to the pool deck that were explained in his Director's Report. When asked if he requested more than one bid, Jeff explained that for budgetary purposes he usually just asks for one quote. This is a reputable company that Rodney had recommended to Jeff, but when it is time to actually do the project, Jeff will put it out to bid. When asked if we will have to sandblast every time the pool is repainted, Jeff said it is possible, but that if we follow the recommended schedule of repainting every five years, he hopes sandblasting will not be necessary as often. He mentioned that Tnemec now has a new paint that is less environmentally hazardous, but we cannot know how long it will last. We are one of the few towns in NH with a concrete outdoor pool. It was questioned whether we could add a pool liner or find some other way of avoiding the cost of sandblasting. Jeff stated that he is not sure there is anything appropriate for our concrete pool. There may be a lesser quality paint, but he would not know how long that would last.
- ii. It was questioned what would happen if the CIP Committee does not approve this request. Jeff said that because the paint is already flaking, it

would not be wise to simply repaint without sandblasting the old paint. He responded that he would probably wait a year and ask for approval for this CIP project again. Heather emphasized that we need to point out the necessity of painting the pool every five years to avoid needing to sandblast. Jeff expressed hope that if we stay on top of it, we may only have to sandblast every ten years. Ryan questioned if we knew about the maintenance costs when the pool was being renovated. Jeff explained that very little money was spent on maintenance in the past, prior to the renovation, pointing out that although the previous pool filters had an average lifespan of 25 years, in 2012 we were still using filters that had been installed in 1965 and were double their expected lifespan. We need to protect the investment the Town has made in our pool. It requires significant regular maintenance and we must stay on top of it. Before the renovation, Roland and our own PRD maintenance crew had painted the pool, though it was a very complicated job. Everything at the pool complex is new, except for the actual pool tank. Ryan stated that we should explain this sandblasting and repainting would be needed even if the pool had not been renovated. Lisa agreed that that this is not a new expense, but that it was put off because of the pool renovation.

- iii. Heather moved to approve this CIP project proposal. Kate seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

B. PCC Gymnasium Renovation Phase II

- i. Jeff began by pointing out that the proposal is to complete this project using Isabelle Miller Funds and Noone Funds, with the addition of Recreation Revolving Funds, if necessary. Although it will be funded 100% by offsetting revenue with no tax dollars, it still needs to go through the CIP process. The Noone Fund is a separate trust fund for Recreation with approximately \$42,000. Once that gets used up, it is gone. The PRD receives about \$20,000 each year from the Isabelle Miller Fund. We philosophically choose to bank that money so it is available over time for big projects. Isabelle Miller funds cannot be used for anything the Town should be funding already, like maintenance. It needs to be for a new program. If we get a correctly-sized basketball court, that would open up a whole new area of programming. Kate added that the building had been an old National Guard Armory, so we are creating a new facility. Jeff noted that we are now breaking even with operating costs. We used Isabelle Miller funds to renovate the kitchen. Jeff remarked that pickleball is our largest program now with over 100 people participating. These folks are particularly interested in getting better lighting at the PCC and dedicated funds from last weekend's "Fun-a-ment" toward PCC lights. Heather recognized that Jeff's "Description of Project" on the CIP Project Proposal did not include lighting, which Jeff said he would add.
- ii. It was questioned whether there were any positive insulation aspects to the proposed project. Jeff clarified that the glass in the windows would remain. The glazing, which has asbestos, is the putty in between the window panes.

This cannot be disturbed or chipped out, so whenever a pane has broken, we have glued plexiglass to the windows to encase them. We currently have at least nine plexiglass-encased broken windows. Jeff said we have to gradually try to make the PCC an esthetically pleasing building, so we have to solve some of the issues and try to make it more attractive. When asked about the possibility of including green initiatives, like geothermal or solar, Jeff replied that we have to get the gym floor done as soon as possible. Conversation ensued about the costs and benefits of abating the asbestos glazing versus replacing the windows entirely with something more insulating. Jeff said we could do the floor and the air conditioning/dehumidifying now, allowing time to investigate energy efficient options for the windows.

- iii. Andy motioned to eliminate abating the asbestos glazing in the gym windows and approve the project without that aspect. Ryan modified the motion to add the inclusion of LED lighting in the gym. After more conversation, the modified motion was restated. Ryan seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

V. Program Report: It was suggested that Lisa's written Program Report stand as is.

A. Skiing: Heather asked if Crotched Mountain Ski and Ride has made any changes to their program, to which Lisa replied, "No."

B. Youth Basketball:

- i. Ryan asked Lisa *if* we wanted to run basketball, when she would want to put it out to the community. Lisa replied that historically, basketball would have been advertised beginning in September. If we run a program just for young children, next month would be all right. Ryan wanted it to be clear that if it turns out there is not enough time for Lisa and Jeff to put together a quality basketball program, he understands that they should skip this year.
- ii. Kate read aloud the letter regarding communication between the SAU and PRD about youth basketball, which she had been drafting during the meeting. Members offered feedback and there was consensus to have the letter typed and sent immediately.

VI. Other: Jeff passed around a commendation thanking Roland Patten for 13 years of service as PRD maintenance supervisor, which the PRC members signed. Karen departed the meeting at this time.

VII. Outstanding Balances Report:

A. Lauren referred to her written report, explaining that another \$20 was received on old balances through 2017. We received over \$1,100 on balances for summer programs from 2018, but still have \$1,128.30 remaining due from seven families. Lauren has been sending email and hard copy invoices every other week, plus making calls to some families.

VIII. Action Items:

- A. Ryan reviewed the status of last month's action items.
 - i. Staff will develop a cleaning checklist for PCC kitchen: the maintenance staff has been working hard on the Cunningham Pond erosion control project, but we will develop a kitchen cleaning checklist when they have time to participate in this. **Item will be carried over.**
 - ii. Staff will show PRC a draft of revised language for PRD Rental Agreement: Lauren has given Jeff a draft copy for his initial review.
 - iii. Decisions to be made re: STC program expansion (**to be carried over**)
 - iv. Karen will follow up with Select Board regarding the school district's rental of the PCC and PRD use of school facilities. This was addressed in tonight's meeting.
 - v. Decisions to be made re: Cunningham Pond non-resident sticker prices (**to be carried over**)
 - vi. Strategic Planning- Kate would like to provide an update on the SWOT sessions, which have been completed. She will meet with Deputy Town Administrator, Nicole MacStay, and with former PRC chair Tina Kriebel, for guidance and input before we begin devising a survey. Kate will be out of town during the November PRC meeting, so **this item will be carried over to December.**
- B. New Action Items:
 - i. Holes in steps at Cunningham Pond cottage
 - ii. Letter to SAU and school board (completed tonight)
 - iii. Green initiatives with the PCC air conditioning and windows

IX. Other:

- A. Jeff noted that not only is Peak Into Peterborough on Saturday October 13th, but also that same weekend is the Cub Scout Packout on both sides of Adams facilities. Pack 8 is hosting this event for all the Cub Scouts in southwestern NH, and we expect 300+ people to come enjoy archery, BB guns, sling shots, bottle rockets, touch-a-truck, and a big campfire. PRC members are welcomed to check it out.
 - B. Ice rink: Jeff stated that we will be getting a new 50 X 100' liner for approximately \$1,100. We already have the other equipment we need, but the old liner had too much damage to repair. Director of Public Works, Seth McLean, had told Jeff his crew will help the PRD when it comes time to install the rink. Jeff is hoping to do the installation right before Thanksgiving.
- X. Adjournment: Andy motioned to adjourn the meeting and Kate seconded. With unanimous approval, the meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Lauren Martin,
Minute Taker
October 8, 2018