



Recreation & Culture Advisory Committee

Minutes Monday January 15, 2024

Library Meeting Room

**Welcome and Call to Order:** 6:33pm

**Attendees:** Gerry Massicotte, Aidan Kallioinen, Jacqueline Rivet, Jeremiah Steele, Rosemary Rae, Aimee Belanger, Kelly Paradis

**Chair:** Lora Wahamaa

**Regrets:** Bailey Bouwmeester, Rachel Prudhomme

**Recording Secretary:** Cori Duplessis

**Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest:** None

**Brennon Patterson – Presentation, Music Festival in Espanola:**

Brennon cancelled his presentation.

**Adoption of minutes:** Review and approval of minutes

*(moved by Aidan Kallioinen, Seconded by Gerry Massicotte)*

**Round Table Updates:**

Cori

- The new fee structure for memberships at the Rec. Complex was approved by the council and went into effect on January 8<sup>th</sup> of this year. The first 4 days of selling the new memberships with the New Year promo (buy 3 months - get 1 month free, buy 6 months – get 2 free, and buy 9 months – get 3 months free) we have already sold 60 memberships. People seem to be responding very well to the new membership. The new memberships are one membership for three areas of the Complex – pool (fit lanes and rec swims), squash court, gym. The old memberships were bronze (one area), silver (two areas) and gold (three areas).
- There has been some positive feedback from the squash court 1 women's change room from a team that played here last weekend.
- We are hosting a new learn to dance class that will be starting up soon. The instructor is a competitive ballroom dancer. The classes will be 1 hour long, once a week for 6 weeks. Dances will include salsa, merengue, and ballroom. They are for partners, couples, and friends.
- We are trying to get more classes started up in the future.
- I am part of the Age Friendly Community Assessment group. Just launched the survey and already had 120 responses in the first few days. We will be starting focus groups and 1:1 meeting this weekend. Aimee, Public Health has been a

part of other Age Friendly planning in other communities – added to the focus group list.

Jackie

- Black Creek needs people to pack down the trail. There is a lot of snow.

Rosemary

- Toast and Roast meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays at 6:30pm. It is along the lines of the toast master's kind of program, it is run very informally and is not affiliated. It enhances your communication skills and confidence.
- Age Friendly focus group booked in the library meeting room on the 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Teen literacy society and silent book reading club that meets on the second Thursday of each month at 5:30pm
- Game night on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday
- Book club will be starting up at the end of February.

### **Winter Carnival 2024:**

Cori

- Reached out to mostly everyone who has previously been a part of the Winter Carnival
- There is involvement from lots of organizations in town.
- Most of the schedule is filled in by now. There are some questions on waiting for people to respond or some gaps in the schedule where some help from the committee to brainstorm ideas would be greatly appreciated.
- Kick off on Friday the 9<sup>th</sup> with the Chili lunch hosted by the Masonic Hall. I still need to reach out to the Mayor and Council to see if they will attend the lunch.
- Friday: Elks will be doing their Friday night spaghetti supper & elimination draw, and dance. There is a Paper Kings game at 7:30pm. The Rec. Department plans to have a bouncy castle and games for kids in the squash courts from 7-9pm.
- Saturday: Boogie Mountain will be hosting their annual big rail and radar races. They will have games and food in their parking lot from 12-4pm. I am still confirming a few things for that day, but most organizations are already planning on being a part of the day. They will also be running a 24-hour relay starting at 4pm on the Saturday and ending at 4pm on the Sunday.
- The library will be hosting events on Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> from 9am-1pm.
- One of the biggest comments from previous years is to not have competing events running at the same time which is why the Lion's moved all their events to Sunday to support the events at Boogie Mountain.
- Saturday ideas: Breakfast on Saturday morning. The curling club hosts an adult social. Another idea that went well last year was to have a moonlight skate at the oval and get the Mayor and Council to attend.
- Sunday: Elk's hosting breakfast, Black Creek Hiking Trail are going to host their events from 11am-2pm, The Lion's Club are going to have a free swim 12-1pm, Mac N' Cheese and Bingo 1-2pm and free skating in the arena or out at the oval 2-3pm.
- Ideas for Sunday: Reach out to Aidan for pond hockey to host something after 3pm. Reach out to the Outdoor Education class at EHS to have something in the oval (outdoor survival area or build small sliding hills), snow sculpture on the oval

with food colouring, Fire department to have the fire safety, free open yoga class in the evening hosted by Aimee.

- Jackie: Looking into possibly changing their time for the Black Creek event to be before the Lion's events on Sunday (\*reach out to Jackie and Denis)
- Friends of the Library possibly host a story time with Stacey Woods (\*reach out to Jeremiah)

**Agenda items for next meeting:**

Aimee – Participaction: Community Better Challenge

**Next meeting:**

February 12, 6:30pm in the Library Meeting Room

**Adjournment:** 7:09pm

Adjournment of the meeting.

*(Moved by Kelly Paradis, Seconded by Aimee Belanger)*