

# Recreation Master Plan Advisory Committee

## Minutes

**Tuesday, March 16, 2021**

**Electronic Participation at 5:00 p.m.**

### **Members:**

Jim Richardson, Chair  
Bill Fenwick, Vice-Chair  
Mike Deinhart  
Tim Dowd  
Cathy Hesch  
Trish O'Neill  
Shannon Sullivan

### **Staff:**

Phil Cristi, Director of Community, Recreation and Culture Services  
Eric Lamothe, Manager of Strategic and Business Services  
Lori Mambella, Manager, Programs and Culture Services  
Kaylea Cassano, Community Strategy and Policy Coordinator  
Jessica Button, Project and Development Planner

### **Guest:**

Councillor Bill Phillips  
Councillor Dawn Dodge

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1. **Call meeting to order**  
Chair Richardson called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

2. **Recognition of Traditional Territories**  
Chair Richardson read the following:

The land on which we meet today is the traditional territory of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples, many of whom continue to live and work here today. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties and is within the land protected by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum agreement. Today this gathering place is home to many First Nations, Metis, and Inuit Peoples. Acknowledging this is a reminder that our great standard of living is directly related to the resources and friendship of Indigenous people.

3. **Additions / Deletions to the Agenda**

Mike Deinhart requested to discuss the closing of the YMCA.

4. **Motion to approve the agenda**

**Moved by: Cathy Hesch**

That the agenda for the March 16, 2021 meeting of the Recreation Master Plan Advisory Committee be approved.

**CARRIED**

5. **Declarations of Interest**

There were none.

6. **Motion to approve the Minutes of the previous meeting**

**Moved by: Shannon Sullivan**

That the Recreation Master Plan Advisory Committee approve the minutes of the task force for the meeting held on February 16, 2021.

**CARRIED**

7. **Business**

7.1 COVID-19 Update

P. Cristi provided an overview of the status of various recreation facilities in the City of St. Catharines given the move to the Red category:

- Operations at the Kiwanis Aquatics Centre have resumed in accordance with COVID-19 standards.
- The Museum has re-opened with limited visitor capacity.
- The Port Weller and Russell Avenue community centres have re-opened on a reduced schedule and at reduced capacity.
- Market Square continues to operate on Saturdays.
- Rinks 2 and 3 at Seymour-Hannah Sports and Entertainment Centre have opened as well as Jack Gatecliff at Garden City Arena.
- The Older Adult Centres remain closed.

M. Diehart asked for background regarding the closing of the YMCA. P. Cristi commented on the impact of the facility closure on the community.

B. Fenwick asked staff whether the closure of the YMCA has impacted registration at the Kiwanis Aquatics Centre, whether the City is looking to absorb the facility, and how the closure may impact the Aquatics Facility Strategy.

Councillor Phillips noted that the closure announcement is relatively new, so no plans have been solidified.

L. Mambella noted that there have been some increases in KAC memberships from former members of the YMCA.

P. Cristi noted that the impact on the Aquatics Facility Strategy will be made known in the related report to council. P. Cristi suggested that the CEO of the

YMCA attend the next RMPAC meeting to discuss the closure further.

## 7.2 City's Ball Diamond Inventory and User Groups

E. Lamothe reviewed the Ball Diamond Inventory and User Group information circulated to the committee before the meeting.

The committee then reviewed the proposed next steps provided by staff as outlined in the motion below.

### **Motion to approve the next steps with the City's Ball Diamond Inventory and User Groups**

#### **Moved by: Tim Dowd**

"That the Recreation Master Plan Advisory Committee supports the May 20, 2020 Council motion regarding the City's Ball Diamond Inventory and User Groups; and

That consideration of the development of a Sports Field Strategy be included in the draft 2022 operating budget in the amount of \$75,000; and

That the development of a new ball diamond at Pic Lesson Park be included in the draft 2022 capital budget in the amount of \$280,000."

**CARRIED**

## 7.3 Aquatics Facilities Strategy Update

E. Lamothe provided the committee with an update related to the Aquatics Facilities Strategy. Monteith Brown will be presenting their findings to Council at a future date.

## 7.4 Community Outdoor Ice Rinks

K. Cassano provided a brief overview of the Community Outdoor Ice Rinks pilot project which ends March 31, 2021. A report to council is scheduled for Q3.

## 7.5 Canada Summer Games Update

B. Fenwick provided a Canada Summer Games update. The next committee meeting has been scheduled for April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Additionally, a new Chair for Partnership Activation Committee has been selected.

## 8. **Date of next meeting**

June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021

August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021

September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021

October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021

November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

All Meetings times scheduled for 5:00pm to 7:00pm

9. **Motion to Adjourn**

**Moved by: Tim Dowd**

That the Recreation Master Plan Advisory Committee meeting be adjourned at 6:08pm.

**CARRIED**