

Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting

Council Chambers
Pembroke, Ontario
June 20, 2023
6:00 p.m.

1. Land Acknowledgement

2. Call to Order

Present:

Councillor Lafreniere, Chair
Mayor Gervais
Deputy Mayor Abdallah
Councillor Jacyno
Councillor Kuehl
Councillor Plummer
Councillor Purcell

Also Present:

Jordan Durocher, Director of Parks & Recreation
Colleen Sauriol, Director of Planning, Building & By-law Enforcement
Heidi Martin, Clerk

The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

Councillor Kuehl declared a pecuniary interest regarding agenda item 7 c. as he is a member of the Board of Directors for the Robbie Dean Counselling Centre.

4. Approval/Amendment of Meeting Agenda

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Plummer

Seconded by Councillor Purcell

That the agenda of the Parks & Recreation Committee meeting of June 20, 2023, be accepted as circulated.

Carried

5. Approval of Minutes

- Parks & Recreation Committee – May 16, 2023

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Jacyno

Seconded by Councillor Plummer

That the minutes of the Parks & Recreation Committee meeting of May 16, 2023, be accepted as circulated.

Carried

6. Delegations

a. Community Safety & Well-Being Plan Presentation

Ms. Martin introduced Mr. Finnigan, Consultant in Community Safety and Development who was in attendance virtually to speak to the next steps in the Community Safety & Well-Being Plan. A discussion was held, and the following points were raised:

- An Inventory of Services will be developed however at this time it will not be available on Ontario 211
- Drug addiction, mental health and homelessness need to be addressed together
- Appropriate housing is a high priority across the region
- Community connection champions are a group of interested citizens including those at the grass routes level and those with lived experience, wishing to connect with others to address community issues
- Community safety is everyone's responsibility

The Chair thanked Mr. Finnigan for his dedication, efforts, and drive to finish this project.

b. Movie Update Presentation

Ms. Martin introduced Ms. Anna Mary Burke Grattan, a Producer with Lutes Cousins Films who is filming a movie in the City of Pembroke, who thanked the City of Pembroke and its residents for their support and provided an update on a film "Pictures of Us" currently being produced in the area. The film should be released during the summer/early fall of 2024.

The Chair thanked Ms. Burke Grattan for attending and providing the update.

c. OPP Update

Inspector Neufeld was in attendance to provide an update on communications regarding the May 22nd incident of a double homicide in the City. He stated that over 50 members of the OPP special units along with their regular Officers and local Crime Unit Officers were in attendance to assist with the investigation. A discussion was held, and the following points were raised:

- This was a targeted incident, and the investigation is still active and ongoing.
- The victims were visiting the area and did not reside in Pembroke
- Based on the information the OPP received, this incident did not meet the criteria for an emergency communication blast as this incident was recognized early on that it was a targeted incident
- The role of the Detachment Commander is to contact and update the Chair of the Police Services Board (PSB) Chair. Once the Chair of the PSB receives the information, it is shared with the Mayor and CAO however it is limited so it doesn't affect the investigation. Council members will receive information as it is released to the public.
- In a police investigation the information will be released when its available, however if there is a risk to public safety, a communication blast will be sent immediately
- Direct ratepayers who have questions or concerns to call the OPP
- If a person, wants to know the outcome regarding a call they placed to Police, they can call the detachment to receive the outcome

The Chair thanked the Inspector for taking the time during this very busy day to provide an update to Council.

7. New Business

a. Enhanced Park Signage

Mr. Durocher presented the report. A discussion was held, and the following points were raised:

- In favour of concept B
- Signs will be double sided with the same colours used consistently on all park signage however, the signs will not be lit at night. Staff could possibly look at reflective signage
- A separate sign will be used when the area is closed for the season
- Great to see the modernization of the signs
- Could a QR code be added to the signs i.e., Riverside Park listing the services available in the Park
- Could the symbols we incorporated at the bottom of the sign so when a program/service is changed, the sign can be easily updated?
- There is a no alcohol policy in all municipal parks and as such, signage depicting this would be used in all parks and playgrounds with the exception of the Riverside Park campground.

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Kuehl

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

That the Parks & Recreation Committee approve "Concept B" as a sign concept to replace existing signage throughout the City in park and playground facilities.

Carried**b. Facility Allocation Policy**

Mr. Durocher presented the report.

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

Seconded by Councillor Purcell

That the Parks & Recreation Committee approve a Facility Allocation Policy for the use of the Parks & Recreation Department for the allocation of facility use.

Carried

Councillor Kuehl left the table due to his perceived pecuniary interest.

c. Music for a Cause – Request for Serving Alcohol

Mr. Durocher presented the report. A discussion was held, and the following points were raised:

- A family-oriented event for all ages
- Great destination event at the Pembroke Waterfront Park which will utilize the west side of the park.
- Stage 1 will be at the amphitheatre and another stage will be erected in close proximity to the amphitheatre
- A small area will be blocked off for the bar which will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

Seconded by Councillor Plummer

That the Parks & Recreation Committee approve the serving of alcohol for the 2023 Music for a Cause at the Waterfront Park in keeping with the requirements of the Alcohol & Gaming Commission of Ontario for a Caterer's Endorsement and confirm that the event does not knowingly contravene any municipal by-laws.

Carried

Councillor Kuehl returned to the table.

d. Visitor Information Sign on Paul Martin Drive

Mr. Martin presented the report. A discussion was held, and the following points were raised:

- Should this matter be tabled to enable staff to evaluate the feasibility of an electronic sign in this location?
- KI has an electronic sign at the corner of Paul Martin Drive/Boundary Road
- Perhaps the entrance sign to the City of Pembroke should be considered

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Kuehl

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

That the Parks & Recreation Committee reconsider the motion previously made at the June 6, 2023, meeting.

Carried

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Jacyno

Seconded by Mayor Gervais

That the Parks & Recreation Committee table this item.

Defeated

Motion:

Moved by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

Seconded by Councillor Kuehl

That the Parks & Recreation Committee approves the removal of the sign with the concrete base and wiring to remain in place and that Mr. Kenny pay 50% up to \$500.00.

A recorded vote was requested by Mayor Gervais.

Yea: Deputy Mayor Abdallah, Councillor Kuehl, Councillor Lafreniere, Councillor Plummer, Councillor Purcell

Nea: Councillor Jacyno, Mayor Gervais

Carried

e. Smoking Area & Site Plan for the Grind

Ms. Sauriol presented the report. She indicated that since the writing of the report, staff sought additional information which has not yet been received, to provide Committee with the most accurate assessment of the situation and enable Committee to make an informed decision. A discussion was held, and the following points were raised:

- Need to have a designated smoking area but not an area which will increase loitering
- Lease does not include the outdoor area except for 5 parking spaces. The lease does not include a patio or smoking areas
- Staff smoking area is directly in the path of the clients entering the Pembroke 55+ Active Living Centre
- Provincial Legislation indicates a smoking area must be 20 meters from a community centre. The Active Living Centre is classified as a Community Centre therefore signage has been posted around the Centre.
- Health Unit has measured and approved the two areas indicated in the report
- Not fair to the neighbours living close by the smoking areas

- City needs a no smoking/vaping on municipally owned property by-law
- The Grind is doing great work and offers great services however it needs to do a better job when working with the neighbours
- In favour of a small smoking area for clients only
- A legal opinion is required – should this item be tabled
- The Grind does need permission to smoke, they need the City's permission to build a smoking area

Motion

Moved by Councillor Abdallah

Seconded by Councillor Kuehl

That the Parks and Recreation Committee directs staff to request that the patio at The Grind be removed.

Carried

Motion

Moved by Councillor Purcell

Seconded by Deputy Mayor Abdallah

To table the request for a smoking area until the City has approved a no smoking/vaping on municipally owned property by-law.

Carried

Carried

6. Adjournment

Motion:

Moved by Councillor Kuehl

Seconded by Councillor Plummer

That the June 20, 2023, meeting of the Parks & Recreation Committee adjourn at 8:18 p.m.

Carried