

MINUTES OF RECREATION COMMITTEE
EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE ROOM
November 9, 2016 – 4:00 PM

Committee Members Present: Councilor Marty Pepin, Chair
 Councilor Jon McCallion
 Councilor Nancie Cameron (arrived at 4:06 pm.)
 Councilor Martin P. Dumont, Sr.

Administration/Staff Present: Bob Belmore, City Manager
 Shanna B. Saunders, Dir. Planning & Comm. Dev.
 Kristen Ducharme, Recreation Supervisor
 Elise B. Brelis, Deputy City Clerk

Others Present: Jeni Mosca, Superintendent

Councilor Pepin called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

APPROVAL PAST MEETING MINUTES

Motion made by Councilor Dumont, seconded by Councilor McCallion to approve the October 5, 2016 meeting minutes. Motion carried, 3-0.

CITY/SCHOOL COOPERATIVE SERVICES

City Manager Belmore reported that he, Shanna Saunders, Kristen Decharme and Jeni Mosca met to discuss cooperative services for recreation between the city and schools. They researched the possibility of combining programs and came to the conclusion that they do not see that this is a good time to do so. It would not help staffing, they already cooperate with respect to gym/facility sharing, they do not have time to do a web page, and they would need to advertise to educate the community. These findings were summarized in a memorandum from the City Manager and Superintendent to the Mayor and City Council.

Councilor McCallion wholeheartedly disagrees and believes that we need to move toward integration.

Councilor Dumont likes the Portsmouth model but said that communication here is immediate. He agrees with staff. He thinks it is a great idea but has low feasibility. Where is the demand? He does not see this as a big issue.

City Manager Belmore said that usually there is an impetus for change; something that is not funning smoothly. He is not getting feedback from Jeni or Kristen that there is a need.

Chair Pepin thinks they were talking about 2 issues; coaching versus facilities. He does not see a problem now.

The committee discussed the function of booster groups.

The consensus was that the committee will revisit this issue if needed.

MISCELLANEOUS

Shanna Saunders updated the committee on the status of the Millennium Park project upgrades. She outlined the revised timeline for Millennium Park, addressing a sewer line, a playground structure, a re-routed pedestrian path (bark mulch), and directly accessible bathroom space. The CM asked if the path was on the Planning Board plan. Ms. Saunders will check. Councilor Pepin would like the outline of work and expected completion times to be given to Council members.

Ms. Ducharme reported that the Mast Point Dam boat launch is done, trail and parking signs have been ordered and they should have them within a couple of weeks. There was also culvert and road work done by DPW. Ms. Saunders remarked that it is looking really great.

The City Manager said we are always looking to improve. He spoke about a new Millennium pavilion re-do, saying that we could perhaps go for a grant. Later, Riverwalk, which moved out in the CIP.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Councilor Dumont seconded by Councilor McCallion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried, 3-0. Meeting adjourned 4:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Elise B. Brellis, Deputy City Clerk