

## **Public Recreation and Culture Committee**

**February 8, 2023      7:00 – 8:00 pm**

**Council Chambers Municipal Office, 2473 Russett Dr.**

### Recreation Committee Members

Mark Mackenzie, Mayor / Chair  
Adam Rueckwald, Vice Chair (regrets)  
Teresa Bahm, Vice Chair  
John Robertson  
Matt Arseneau (regrets)

Andy Kalnins  
Darrell Carson  
Marc Landry  
Andrea Lamontagne, Recreation Director

### Agenda

**1. Call to order 7:07 pm** moved by John.

**2. Adoption of agenda** moved by Teresa.

#### **3. Current Rec. status**

- February Events (page 2)

Rinks: \*Currently closed until further notice due to weather. As requested by the community, building hours have been modified. The JAG Building will be open daily from 4-9 pm to access the washroom and changerooms. The White Lake Building will be open daily from 9 am – 9 pm. If the rink must close on account of weather conditions, the buildings will not be open.

**Discussion: Due to recent vandalism, Teresa and Darrell suggest trail cameras to monitor. The rink is well used and busy each night. A garbage is needed in the main room of the building. The Committee would like to see Rink Rental Fee added to next agenda for discussion.**

- Braeside Cup – 3<sup>rd</sup> party event run by Dan Leblanc returning after a COVID hiatus.  
Wednesday February 15, 7-9 pm  
Friday February 17, 7-9 pm  
Saturday February 18, full day \* live music and bar until midnight

#### **4. New Topics**

- Recreation Agreement

**Discussion: The current Recreation Agreement with Arnprior for the Nick Smith Centre is up for renewal at a cost of \$289,000. Council has requested that the terms be renegotiated as much has changed since the agreement was created. On**

December 21, 2022, Council gave notice to Arnprior that the current agreement would not be renewed as is; that, it required amending to include the current recreation services that the Township now provides. Net operating deficit is the same for our soccer fields as it is for their rinks. At the time the agreement was created, McNab/Braeside did not have the buildings that we now have, and programs were not offered. Thirty percent of the fees in this agreement are directed to programming; today, the township offers a full scope of programs and events. Further, the two new Recreation Centres were not in place, Township residents relied on use of the Nick Smith Centre for activities. At this time, the Township is double paying for programming; 100% of the cost of our buildings plus 30% of Arnprior's. It is Councils intention that this new joint agreement with Arnprior fairly reflects the current contribution to recreation services that we offer. Council would like to see the new agreement reflect the fact that Arnprior residents do not pay a non-resident fee to participate in our programming, rent our facilities, have use of our ball diamonds or soccer fields. Our programs and facilities are a match; our soccer fields cost the same as their rink; in Councils opinion, the new agreement would pertain to the Townships use of the pool only. Council does not intend for residents to incur additional fees to participate in swimming or hockey, this will not be the case.

John noted that if Arnprior implements a non-resident user fee, this limits access to their facilities, and we would be no further ahead. He feels that the agreement should reflect fairness for both sides and that currently both the Town and Township benefit. At roughly a cost of \$30-\$40 / head, this is reasonable for the services we receive.

Andy asked for clarification on where the funds to cover the \$2 million deficit would come from. Preliminary information is that it would come out of reserves. Teresa feels that in order to better understand the user fee, more transparency is required from Arnprior pertaining to how many Township residents access their programs.

- Area Recreation fee Comparable

**Discussion:** As a whole, the Township is on par with comparable recreation program fees. There are some instances where Township fees are lower.

- Burnstown Canteen Operation
  - 2022 Operations Time Frame = June 1 – Sept 6, \$1,500

**Discussion:** For the 2023 season, the Recreation Director recommends that operation of the Burnstown Canteen be put to tender with the following terms:

'The rental terms shall be for the 2023 season commencing on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of June 2023 and to be fully completed on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of September 2023. The Licensee will have access to the building for canteen set-up as of May12, 2023.

The canteen operator will assume responsibility of selling boat launch passes and manage kayak rentals as part of the rental agreement.

The rent payable to the Township by the Licensee, for the term of the agreement, shall be in the amount of \$2,000 and shall be paid in three installments:

May 1, \$665  
June 1, \$665  
August 1, \$670

**Motion:** The Committee supports this, with the inclusion of:

- a) advertising the opportunity as a job not a tender,
- b) sending a letter to local business owners to inform them of the opportunity.

Further, the committee makes a Recommendation to council to institute a parking fee at Burnstown Beach at a rate of \$5/day for non-residents. Residents would receive one free season pass that would be distributed in the mail with the June tax bill (*the deadline for 2023 has passed however, this could be distributed with the next mailing should that be prior to beach season*). Alternately, the pass could be picked up at the Municipal office. Parking passes would be purchased at the Municipal Office, at the beach canteen or by using the HONK mobile app which is in place at this location for boat launch parking. Once parking has met capacity, a barricade will be placed across the entry. Fees associated with new signage requirements will come from parking. Motion moved by Andy seconded John.

**Follow Up:** This will require one staff to be on site Sat and Sun to monitor for barricade and parking. It was unclear at the last meeting how many passes residents should be given? Does each property owner receive 1 pass and pay for parking beyond that? Would the pass be used between family vehicles or is it unique to one license plate? Would we offer a season pass rate (i.e., \$50/\$100 non resident for boating).

After further investigation into this proposal, the Recreation Director would advise against the parking fee for the following reasons;

- \*It was noted by the Fire Chief that if a barricade was in place, an attendant would need to be stationed at the barricade during the duration of its placement to move the blockade should emergency vehicles require access.
  - Monitoring resident's vs non-residents and those who paid/didn't pay would be time consuming and expensive.
  - The staff member that would be hired for this position would be a summer student; who would not be well equipped to handle the inevitable disagreements between who should pay for parking, who didn't pay for parking etc. In absence of a summer student, a security guard or by-law officer would be required; neither position has been budgeted for.
  - Costs associated with implementing a parking fee would outweigh revenue. A long-term solution would be to consider expanding the parking lot (which was not approved in previous years).
- Kayakomat – (added Feb 8) land rental fee
    - suggested \$350/season per site- (Clay Bank and Red Pine) . This fee would cover the cost of lawn repair when/if the kiosk leaves. The area around the kiosk will be trimmed by the recreation department during regular property maintenance.

**Discussion:** The Committee supports the rate as outlined above

## 5. Round Table

- a) Mark would like to prepare planning of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of McNab. November 2023 celebrates the arrival of Archibald McNab to this area. The Committee supported holding this event at Waba Cottage on Saturday September 15, 2023, as the weather should be suitable and the time still appeals to the cottage population. A return to 'McNab Days, a calling of the clans' would be fitting. Vendors selling Scottish wears and authentic Scottish food to be sourced. A working group to work on this event will be required; contact representatives from the Highland Games in Maxville for ideas. The Recreation Director will investigate a grant that would be suitable to support this heritage milestone.

**After Meeting Addition:** Jim Austin confirmed that while 2023 marks the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of Archibald McNab to Upper Canada, 2025 will be the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of settlers arriving in the area. This will provide plenty of time to prepare for an event of this magnitude.

6. \_Adjournment 9:25 pm – moved by Teresa, seconded by Darrell.



**TOWNSHIP OF McNab/Braeside**

**FEBRUARY**

**Sat 25 Snowshoe Adventure** **FREE**  
Russett Trail | 2473 Russett Dr.  
8:00 pm  
Trek through a winter wonderland with Andy Kalins. Registration not required. To reserve snowshoes: jfraser@mcnabbraeside.com  
613-623-5756 x 232

**Sat 25 Open Mic Night** **FREE**  
Murray Yantha Community Centre | 2473 Russett Dr.  
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm  
Show off your talent, or come down for a fun night to cheer on your friends and neighbours as they perform! Cash bar open.

**Sun 26 Pickleball Clinic** **FREE**  
Murray Yantha Community Centre | 2473 Russett Dr.  
9:00 am - 2:30 pm  
Enthusiastic, local players will teach you how to play this sport that combines ping pong, tennis, and badminton. Must pre-register.

**Snowshoes now available to borrow** from the Township Office (2473 Russett Dr.) Various sizes. Free for residents and \$7 for non-residents.

\*A \$50 deposit is required



**TOWNSHIP OF McNab/Braeside**

**FEBRUARY**

**Sat 4 Braeside Winter Carnival** **FREE**  
John A. Gillies Recreation Centre | 138 Sarah St. E  
8:00 am - 2:00 pm  
From 8:00 am - 10:30 am enjoy an ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT SHANTY BREAKFAST. \$10 for adults and \$7 for children. From 11:00 am - 2:00 pm enjoy carnival events!

**Fri 10 Coffee & Crafts** **\$13**  
John A. Gillies Recreation Centre | 138 Sarah St. E  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
Create a Pinterest-worthy craft while socializing with other adults. All craft supplies and coffee/tea are provided.

**Sat 18 White Lake Winter Carnival** **FREE**  
White Lake Park | 33 Diamond Lane  
11:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Live music, skating, hockey shoot out, winter games, hot drinks and food, sliding, bonfire and more!

**Thurs 23 Bloom Into Spring Workshop** **\$55**  
John A. Gillies Recreation Centre | 138 Sarah St. E  
6:30 - 9:00 pm  
Wilhelmina from Quinny Bee Creations will instruct you to create a beautiful, spring-inspired wood sign.

### **Upcoming 2023 Meeting Schedule**

Wednesday's 7 pm

Council Chambers, 2473 Russett Dr.

January 11

February 1

March 1

April 5

May 3

June 7

July – break

August – break

September 6

October 4

November 1

December 6