

**Minutes of the Parks, Recreation & Culture Advisory Committee
Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 7:00pm**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tim Richards, Chair
Councillor Rob Johnson
Ava Smith
Bryn Dovey

Kelly Daniels
Geoff Dean
Emily Weeks

STAFF PRESENT:

Chris Barfoot
Pam Zwicker

REGRETS:

Councillor Duck Paterson
Lynda Baker
Lesley Lorenz

AGENDA

Moved and seconded:

2021-13: That Parks, Recreation and Culture Advisory Committee approve the agenda for the meeting as presented.

Motion carried.

MINUTES

Moved and seconded:

2021-14: That Parks, Recreation and Culture Advisory Committee approve the minutes of the April, 2021 meeting as presented.

Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Departing, Returning and New Members- Ava Smith and Bryn Dovey will not be renewing their terms with the PRCAC as they are heading off to University this fall. We thank both Ava and Bryn for their service and wish them all the best in their education!

Returning members for an additional 2 year term include Geoff Dean and Lynda Baker.

New members are Lucy Partington (Youth) and Bruce Mason.

Fall Meeting Schedule- The PRCAC will take a two month hiatus and return to its regular schedule in September, meeting the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7pm. PRC Staff will keep the committee informed of any changes to meeting protocols which may permit a return to in person meetings by September. Input from committee members on the format/delivery of these meetings are that while it can be more convenient and accessible to attend meetings virtually, meeting in person is preferable, or a hybrid model.

UPDATES

PROGRAM AREA SUMMARY:

The Parks, Recreation & Culture Program Team continue to modify program plans, classes and sessions, while following the most recent health orders and guidelines for the safety of patrons, staff and the community.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

The 2021 Summer Activity Guide was released May 12th and registration opened at 8:00am on Friday, May 14th. The summer guide includes programs and registered drop-in activities that are scheduled for the months of July and August.

There were over 250 registrations and payments processed on Friday alone, with an additional 40 program registrations utilizing previously purchased punch cards. 63% of registrations on Friday, May 14th took place online through www.reccowichan.ca and 37% of registrations were completed by staff via telephone.

Move for Health Day was Monday, May 10th. LPRC celebrated in a different way this year with a social media campaign highlighting community members and what inspires them to move for their health.

As part of BC's Restart announcement on May 25, we were given the green light to be able to offer low-intensity fitness classes in the gymnasium again. Many indoor fitness programs have been modified to accommodate the current Provincial Health Order. Spin programs are returning this month and will be hosted outside in the parking lot at the FJCC.

Spring GoByBike ran from May 31 to June 6th. A Bike Safety session is planned for June 2nd for ages 10-16yrs. To help celebrate, Ladysmith Community Champions were shared on PRC social media sites during the week.

AQUATICS

In May we had 108 children registered in Red Cross Swimming lessons with more than half of these being parented lessons.

We offered 2 Aquatic fitness classes per day Monday to Friday. All classes were full at 100% capacity with our PD requirements.

Before the end of May Bronze Medallion and Bronze Cross are 100% full and both Junior Lifeguard camps are full. Both of these courses are for youth and are pre training to head towards a job in aquatics.

RECREATION

Program and class offerings under Recreation include Preschool, Children, Youth, and General Recreation.

PRESCHOOL/CHILDREN/YOUTH

YOUth Week is marked annually across British Columbia during the first week of May. It's an opportunity to strengthen the connection between

youth and their communities and intended to highlight their interests, accomplishments and diversity.

From May 3 - 7th, LPRC offered 5 activities for YOUth to get active. The 5 workshop activities included mountain biking, golfing, swim at FJCC, yoga and an introduction to slacklining.

Parks, Recreation & Culture continues to be a community connector, sharing resources and information with over 50 community partners about youth week events, and throughout the whole year.

Adventure Zone Daycamps are back this summer for 7 exciting weeks starting July 5th. Camps at Transfer Beach and FJCC are filled with waitlists. Camps were at 80% capacity within 4 hours of registration opening!

COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Ladysmith Area Family and Friends (LaFF) was the successful recipient of the Canada Healthy Communities Initiative Grant. The grant will be used to construct a picnic shelter at Aggie Hall playground. LaFF will coordinate project with the Town.

Soil was delivered by the Park Operations team to the Community Gardens in preparation of the 2021 growing season.

FACILITY MAINTENANCE PROJECTS (Repairs or capital project updates):

The annual maintenance shutdown at the FJCC will be from August 14th to September 6th.

During this time, the pool will be closed and there will be reduced hours in reception and the fitness centre with a facility closure scheduled over the September long-weekend.

Staff are currently coordinating work on some much needed renovations to the Ladysmith Museum building. This work will be a collaborative effort between the Town and a funding grant that the Historical Society received this year. Downtown washrooms are nearing completion and should be ready later this month.

NEXT MEETING Next meeting will be held at 7:00pm, September 15, 2021 via ZOOM.

ADJOURNMENT It was moved, seconded and carried that the meeting be adjourned at 7:29 PM