

Minutes of the Merrickville Wolford Recreation Advisory Committee

May 7, 2012

Location: Merrickville Council Chambers

Call to Order: 7:00 p.m.

Members Attended: Troy Murphy, Lynne Burchill, Rhys Knott, David Snowdon, Dave Nash, Eddy Yeoumans, Brian McDougall, Marcia Wilson, Kim Matte

Regrets: Mayor Doug Struthers

Disclosure of pecuniary interest and the nature thereof: none noted

Additions to Agenda: none

Old Business:

- Eastons Corners playground committee planning to be part of a fundraising ball tournament on June 1st and 2nd at the Eastons Corners ball diamonds
- **See Motion #1 Below**
- Recent correspondence from Village office shared
- Further to Village office request to discuss options, the Recreation Advisory Committee recommends that the staff from office meet with the Eastons Corners Playground Committee to review design options for playground structure at earliest convenience
- an invitation to attend the next meeting (May 14, 2012) will be emailed by the committee

Eastons Corners Hall renovations update:

- 4 stages of work plan – a copy of the schedule of renovations will be requested with and invitation for those who have previously used the hall to provide input (e.g. church groups, playground committee, etc.)

New Business:

Item #1 (Mike Hanna to discussed erecting the batting cage)

- All the piping to put up batting cage will cost approximately \$350.00
- Additional costs will be incurred for cement
- Will require power
- Mike will donate his time to put it together
- Ball machine will require a locked space to store it – possibly inside the rink area in Eastons Corners after each use
- Advised that no further action occur without direction from council.
- **See Motion #2 Below**

Item #2 (Inquiry about use of Merrickville Ball Diamond – Tommy Burchill)

- There is a significant increase in interest in the area for hardball opportunities
- Kemptville is looking for diamonds and are presently renting space in Winchester
- Kids in Smiths Falls presently going to Lanark for opportunity to play
- Both areas could potentially be drawn to Merrickville diamond
- Merrickville diamond could be switched to hardball with some work such as extending the infield and increasing the height of the pitcher's mound
- Would also require netting of some sort be put up due to location of playground structure which could result in injury to kids playing on the structure while ball game occurring
- Little league is usually 6:15 p.m. start time
- Over 13 year old category usual start time is 8:00 p.m.
- This could be done on alternate days that soccer is occurring or, for older groups, on same nights as soccer (when it is done)
- Even one night of ball would get one team of each age group playing
- Interested kids would possibly be motivated to join as they see the games occurring
- *Tommy Burchill has agreed to be contact person on this issue 613-269-3735*
- **See Motion #3 Below**

Item #3 (Use of ball diamond for fair rides)

- Concerns around the safety of children presently playing soccer and potential ball teams using the field,
- it is recommended that a motion be made to prevent fair rides from using the ball field as damage occurs as a result and results in ruts, potholes and generally uneven ground where kids are playing sports
- **See Motion #4 Below**

Correspondence: none

Notice of Motion: (4 in total)

#1 Move that the Eastons Corners Playground Committee ball tournament, to be held on June 1st and 2nd, 2012 where all proceeds will be donated to the play structure fund, is sponsored by the Merrickville Wolford Recreation Advisory Committee.

Moved: Brian McDougall

Second: Troy Murphy

#2 Move that approval be given for \$500.00 toward construction and electricity hook up for batting cage.

Moved: Marcia Wilson

Second: Rhys Knott

#3 Move that the Merrickville Ball Diamond have netting erected on side of diamond nearest to the play structure to protect children at play and that there be no charge for the use of the diamond if the people from hardball group complete the modifications to the pitchers mound as well as the extension of the infield by 15 feet.

Moved: Brian McDougall

Second: Marcia Wilson

#4 Move that amusement park portion of annual Merrickville Fair NOT be set up on the ball diamond and prohibit any heavy equipment or vehicles from driving on the area as damage occurs which impacts safety of soccer and ball players who use the field.

Moved: Brian McDougall

Second: Eddy Yeoumans

Next Meeting: Monday, June 4, 2012

Adjourned: 8:26 p.m.

