

1. Order and roll call

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 4, 2024, by the Chair, Mary Ann MacDonald, Beaumont representative, with the following committee members present:

- Tanni Doblanko – Leduc County Mayor
- Dal Viridi – Leduc County Councillor
- Cindy Miller – Thorsby representative
- Chris Hahn – Calmar representative
- Amanda Riemer – Leduc representative

Other attendees:

- Dean Ohnysty – Director, Community Services
- Andrea Oneski – Community Development Coordinator
- Victoria Fulton – Administrative Assistant

Regrets: None

2. Agenda Adoption

14-2024 Tanini Doblanko – that the agenda for the September 4, 2024, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

3. Adoption of previous minutes

15-2024 Cindy Miller – that the minutes from the June 25, 2024, Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting be adopted as circulated.

Carried Unanimously

4. Department reports and recommendations

a) Arts and Culture / Regional Recreation / Operating Assistance grant updates
Andrea updated the PRAC of the revised Community Association Grant program now being promoted as one funding program but still offering the same three funding streams. The application intake period is from September 1 to 30, and is being promoted on the County's website, social media and local newspapers. Application forms are revised and available online. The final reporting form is also revised to help measure results from the community organizations.

16-2024 Tani Doblanko – that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee receives the Arts and Culture / Regional Recreation / Operating Assistance grant updates as information.

Carried Unanimously



b) Summer programs and events update

Andrea shared the 2024 recreation summer programs attendee highlights followed by a presentation collage of photos and videos of those who participated in the programs.

17-2024 Chris Hahn – that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee receives the Summer programs and events update as information.

Carried Unanimously

c) Fall programs and events update

Andrea notified the PRAC of the scheduled fall programs and events. Additional programs and events are being planned for the November break and ProD Days.

18-2024 Amanda Reimer – that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee receives the Fall programs and events update as information.

Carried Unanimously

d) 2025 operational / budget plan

Dean gave an update on the Parks and Recreation 2025 budget and business plan submitted to the executive leadership for review and consideration. Once approved, the interim budget will be presented to Council in late November for final approval. Key changes include increased cost-share contributions, increased funding support to the New Sarepta Agriplex, and minor adjustments to parks operations and recreation programs to maintain service levels.

e) **19-2024** Cindy Miller – that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee receives the 2025 operational / budget plan as information.

Carried Unanimously

5. Information items

ADMINISTRATION

Dean provided the following administration updates as information:

Budget

- Council approved an operating grant of \$40,000 to the New Sarepta and District Agricultural Society to support hiring a full-time manager and an increase in their annual grant funding from \$100,000 to \$200,000 in 2025.

Business Plan

- The North Saskatchewan River Park plan is being prepared for Council on September 24, 2024. The report provides a project development timeline for Council's consideration and approval.
- A Parks Naming Policy is being developed that will help guide administration to establish a registry of approved names to consider for parks and facilities.

Community Partnerships

- Administration supported several community organizations with CFEP grant applications including, the Cloverlawn Community Association, the East Vistas Community Association and the Rolly View Community Association recently received their grant request. Leduc County will continue to support these groups as they complete their projects.



- Council approved conditional funding support to the New Sarepta and District Agricultural Society for a new ice plant condenser, furnace and arena heater upgrades. Council also supports the library feasibility study with a matching grant to support the work.
- The Yardley Jones Park grant funding from the Province of Alberta was not approved. The project will be on hold until the society can reapply in 2025.

Cost Share

- Council approved the cost-share 2023 final payments and the 2024 budget payments for the Towns of Calmar and Thorsby.
- Council approved the revised cost-share agreement with the City of Leduc with an increase from \$400,000 to \$450,000 for 2025-2027.

Community Facilities

- The Warburg Arena project is nearing completion with ice going in mid-September.

Community Resources and Support

Andrea shared that 18 community association events received support resources from April to June and approximately 4,600 people were impacted by the County's support. She also noted that the annual Community Association Grant program will open for applications from September 3 to 30.

PARKS

Parks Operations

Campgrounds

Dean gave an update on the season closing of the Jubilee Park and Centennial campgrounds on September 2, while the group campgrounds will remain open until the beginning of October.

General

The revised Park Bylaw will be presented to Council this fall to help administration address and enforce compliance issues, specifically around campgrounds, developed parks and open spaces.

Recreation

Andrea noted that the Community Connections series and partnerships with community organizations proved to be another successful summer. Key programs and events were previously highlighted from the summer programs and events update presentations. Also, the 2024 Star Awards recipients were presented to Council on August 27 and were congratulated for their leadership while attending programs and events through the summer season.

17-2024 Chirs Hahn – that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee receives the department activity report as information.

Carried Unanimously

6. Regional reports

Tanni Doblanko:

- In partnership with the FCSS, Glen Park Hall hosted their first Senior Summer Picnic in June.



Chris Hahn, representing the Calmar region:

- The Telford Community Hall renovations are completed. But looking at options to better improve the new signage. The landscaping portion of the renovation project will soon follow.
- Plans are underway for the Halloween party event on October 26, a Breakfast with Santa event with a seniors Christmas luncheon on December 14 and a Harvest Supper on November 17.
- The association is preparing to apply for the New Horizons grant for a new projector.

Cindy Miller, representing the Thorsby region:

- The Seniors Concert, in partnership with Leduc County, was a success in July.
- Also partnered with Leduc County is the upcoming Harvest Festival on October 19.

Mary-Ann McDonal, representing the Beaumont region:

- The Rural Roots fair held on August 24 was a huge success with over 1,200 attendees.

7. Next Meeting – September 4, 2024

Adjournment

17-2024 Tanni Doblanko - that the PRAC meeting be adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Carried Unanimously


Chairman


Director

