

Emo Recreation Committee

Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 30, 2023

Meeting called to order at 6:08 p.m.

Present: Councilor Phil Whatley, Administrative Services Clerk Ceri Schraa, John Laplante, Maria Fuhrer, Deb DeGroot, Ken Brown at 6:53 p.m.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure: None

Resolutions:

23-22 **DEGROOT – FUHRER:** That we hereby approve the Emo Recreational Committee Regular Meeting Minutes for July 31, 2023, and August 28, 2023.

CARRIED

23-23 **FUHRER – DEGROOT:** That we hereby approve the agenda for Monday, October 30, 2023, Regular Recreational Committee meeting.

CARRIED

23-24 **LAPLANTE – DEGROOT:** Recreation Committee makes the recommendation to approve the Emo Recreation Committee Terms of Reference.

CARRIED

23-25 **FUHRER – LAPLANTE:** Recreation Committee recommends presenting the letter from the Health Unit to Council for partnering with Recreation Committee and Northwestern Health Unit for funding.

CARRIED

23-26 **BROWN – LAPLANTE:** That we hereby adjourn to meet again on Monday, November 27, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

CARRIED

The Committee discussed the following:

July 31 Minutes:

- Reminder regarding the Thunderstorm Policy from Fort Frances High School. Deb DeGroot will follow up on this.

- Subdivision did not move forward with having a fall garage sale. They will potentially have one in the spring that the Recreation Committee can take part in.
- Clarified that two new soccer nets had been received.

Terms of Reference:

- Motion was made to present the Terms of Reference to Council for approval after making a slight change to the Composition statement and scheduling meetings.
- Phil gave a reminder of contacting the office if not able to make it to the meetings by sending an email to cao@emo.ca

Emo Township/Northwestern Health Unit Partnership:

- Deb went over the potential programs that Recreation and the Health Unit could partner on. There has been lots of interest expressed in having the different programs, such as youth pickleball, You're the Chef, Culinary Champs and Healthy for Life.
- Deb expressed the if able to offer these programs at low or no cost to the participants, it would generate more opportunity for youth and adults to take part.
- Deb was confident that the Health Unit would provide funding to cover one session of each of the following programs, You're the Chef, Healthy for Life and Culinary Champs. If Recreation partnered with the Health Unit, it would allow for Deb to run two sessions of each program.
- Pickleball equipment would be a one-time purchase for more rackets and nets. This equipment could be used for all age groups.
- There was some discussion regarding the Township of Emo promoting all programs on social media. Ceri reminded everyone of the Social Media Policy that the Township has and Phil brought forth that items have to fall under the scope of Recreation.
- Recreation Committee members were all in agreement that these programs would be beneficial to the community.

Equipment Storage:

- John expressed concern for having proper storage for equipment if the Recreation committee is going to purchase new equipment. He also felt it would be beneficial for the community if there was an equipment exchange, allowing for youth and adults to have access to equipment if they don't own their own. John pointed out that there were programs like this in other communities that are very successful.
- Equipment would need to be tracked if lent out to the community and stored in an easily accessible location, such as upstairs in the arena, if a storage area could be created.
- Phil suggested that John speak with Jamie Booth, Arena Manager, regarding the potential of this.
- Maria would like some clarification regarding the use of the snowshoes and if other schools can use them. Ceri stated she would look into this.

Police Record Checks:

- All members received their letters to submit online for record checks. Phil suggested allowing 30 mins to complete the application.

Holly Daze 2023:

- Reviewed past years of Holly Daze and Recreations involvement. There was no interest in volunteering, and it was suggested to have high school students volunteer again this year for handing out hot chocolate and cookies.

Rentals/BBQ's at the Sports Field:

- Recreation members agreed that the BBQ's at the Sports Field should be rented out for activities taking place there. There was discussion of having a damage deposit of \$25 per BBQ. Users would have to supply their own propane tanks. Currently they are not being used.
- Ken brought up that it can be confusing knowing what was purchased by the Recreation Committee and what belongs to the Township. Ken explained that in the past, Recreation has purchased sports equipment, the line machine and the BBQ's. Further clarification would be helpful before making decisions on rentals.

Recreation Budget:

- John brought forth about Recreation having an operating budget. This would eliminate the need to take everything to Council for final approval. Smaller purchases such as soccer nets, soccer balls, baseball helmets, would be purchased with the funds from the operating budget and larger capital expenses would still need approval from Council.
- There was discussion that the monthly meetings should include financial information to help Recreation Committee members better understand the revenues and expenses.
- Phil will speak with Crystal regarding financials and include the information discussed in his report to Council.

Next meeting is November 27, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.