



Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

7:30 January 27, 2022

Online meeting

Norman Wells

Called to order at 7:31

Attendees: Haiden, Trevor, Alexis, Michael, Danielle, Britt, Myles

Absentees: Hannah Spenser

No declared conflicts of interests.

Amendment to the agenda:

Trevor:

- recommends taking out the Recreation Committee bylaw review until we can meet in person.
- Received unanimous support to table this item for when the committee can meet in person next meeting.

Discussion on minutes from last meeting on December 1, 2021:

Proposed changes: Remove Haiden's name from attendees as Haiden wasn't present at the meeting. No other changes are needed.

Correspondence to Delegate:

- Committee had Discussion on drafted correspondence to a Delegate on December 1, 2021.
- Suggested minor changes and the Rec manager will bounce the finalized copy off the committee before sending out to the delegate.

Old business:

Trevor:

- Announced that we are skipping over the old business (Rec Committee bylaw review) as the committee wishes it to be tabled for a meeting when we can go over the materials in person.
- Hands floor over to Alexis to speak to the Multipurpose Community Cultural Centre.

Multipurpose Community Cultural Centre:

Alexis:

The Town of Norman Wells serves the needs of its residents through programming services, recreation & infrastructure & represents the interests of Norman Wells citizens at all levels of government within the business and industry sectors & with the other communities that represent the Sahtu region to maximize the cultural, social, economical & environmental benefits for all.

After several years of recreation and infrastructure needs being sacrificed for other projects or being put aside due to Covid-19 & the downturn of the oil and gas industry.

The town of Norman Wells is looking into changing that way of thinking by establishing short, mid & long-term goals that bring positive impacts to the community and the Sahtu region. A multipurpose Community Cultural Centre would enable community members to be educated on the Sahtu Dene & Metis cultural history by local and regional peoples directly with prominent space for each Sahtu community to showcase and represent themselves. The facility would enable a space to be used as a legacy space which provides a safe place for residents and visitors to start on their own journeys of reflection and reconciliation by educating themselves on the continued trauma caused by the residential school system, on indigenous peoples, truth and reconciliation commission call to action, the murdered and missing indigenous girls report, Indian act, land claims, and the importance of self government and serve as a gathering place for community and regional events to strengthen the unity of the community & the relationship between all of the Sahtu's 5 communities.

It would also provide a meeting place for individuals, business and organizations that usually hold meetings in bigger communities because a lack of facilities and would provide a boost to the local economy and small business, serve as a place to host workshops related to the arts and cultural performances and provide a first stop for tourists to get pertinent information & contacts to help them on their exploration of Norman Wells and the Sahtu region.

The community cultural centre can also replace and improve upon aging infrastructure that no longer fulfills the needs of the community, provides space that can be used by a business or organization to service the community's childcare needs and possibly free up other spaces in the community to expand other urgent needs of the community like a warming centre.

This centre directly links to goals two and three of the town of Norman Wells Strategic Plan (support & promote a strong dynamic & innovative local economy and to promote a caring community where people can make strong connections with others and lead safe healthy and productive lives). These goals have shaped the new community plan bylaw, building bylaw, recreation masterplan & the economic development strategy plan which are currently in the implementation stage.

I propose that the Recreation Committee recommend the creation of a sub-committee to discuss create implement and build a Multipurpose Community Cultural Centre.

The sub committee should be headed by the chair and or co-chair of the recreation committee one public member from each of the towns established committees, two beneficiaries of the Norman Wells Land Corp & a board member of the Sahtu secretariate & the administrative support be provided from the SAO due to the complexity of the project.

Alexis offers floor for questions:

Mike:

- Asks for more information regarding location, funding and possibly needing to have a more solidified plan to present to council.
- Expressed concerns that not having a more solidified plan to bring to council may lead to Council withholding support for the project.

Alexis responds:

- It is a very complex conversation to have, that's why having a sub committee to discuss, create, implement & build is important.
- Even reading and going through the application form to utilize the Canada Cultural Spaces Fund requires so much information that we need a committee to get that information gathered.

Mike:

- stated that he looked at that fund before and you basically need a full-time person to handle the application which is hundreds of pages.
- We may need funding to cover someone's wages otherwise it may not be feasible.

Alexis:

- stated that she is looking at this part of the project as a mid to long-term goal. The reason being is, I think its going to be nine months to a year with a committee meeting probably once or twice a month to put together a workplan on how to accomplish what's needed for the one application let alone how to work on proposals to gather funding from Imperial and other sources of funds.

Trevor:

- summarizes the committees role in the project.
- The committee makes the decision to votes yes or no in support to bring a recommendation to council. -the chair & co-chair would then bring the recommendation to council and council would then make the decision to move forward or not depending on if they believe the project is feasible or realistic to accomplish.

Mike:

- suggests the committee should consider having a more concrete action plan with all our ducks in a row so council is more inclined to support the project including overhead and operational costs.

Alexis:

- Responds that she can answer those questions as she has thought a lot on the topic.
- Talks on a proposed area considering the old Mack House Lot.
- Talks to establishing a possible legacy fund resembling a trust with imperial to help with costing operations and maintenance.
- Mentions that the sub committee if approved by council would take on the role of doing the necessary research, putting together a comprehensive action plan and service delivery model.
- Reported that she only presented a summarized version to the committee as she has ten pages of information regarding the project.

Trevor:

- Council will probably have questions and it will be no problem coming back with more information and even presenting to council more than once if needed.
- We are just proposing the idea to gauge council support before we move forward with a more detailed plan.

Mike:

- Can we bring this to NWLC & SSI gauging their support before we go to council to avoid stepping on toes in case they are already planning something similar?

Alexis:

- I cant see council saying no to looking into the idea.
- Reiterates the importance of having at least two members from NWLC on the proposed subcommittee.
- We need to have room to have further discussions to go over an implementation plan, what's going to be in the building, design, training, employment.
- Emphasized that there is quite a bit of information to go over.
- Mentioned that conversations with Paul Tan with NWLC has already taken place regarding this funding in the past.
- Stated that she has no problem reaching out to NWLC to guage support moving forward on the project.
- Agreed to taking on the role of sending correspondence to NWLC asking to work together on this project.
- including reaching out to all board members of NWLC with the goal that the organization will appoint one person from the board of directors and two beneficiaries to sit on the sub-committee.

Mike:

- stated his belief that the NWLC should play a major role in the project.

Trevor:

- Puts it up to a vote to ask council to approve starting a sub committee to discuss the planning of the proposed Cultural Centre.

Unanimously supported by the committee.

Recreation Update:

- Public Health Order delayed the opening of our Recreation Venues till the end of January
- Summarized programming.

- Pool update

- Reported on Community Hall freeze. no interruption to regular programming due to enacted public health order

- update on skating pond delay.

- No questions from the committee regarding the Recreation Update

Open Forum

Trevor:

Summarizes the purpose for the Committee Forum to our new committee member.
opens floor to starts round table discussions.

Haiden:

- Expressed support for Alexis' presentation regarding the cultural centre.

Britt:

- Talks on 4h club sewing club.

- Every kid would pay \$130 and 4H would send us the supplies.

- Said she can apply for MACA funding up to five thousand dollars to support covering registration fees for attendees.

Trevor:

- stated that he believed it was a good idea especially if the funding is approved.

- Asked if Britt would be running the program.

Britt:

- replied that she would run the program with help from volunteers Kylie & Jenna and possibly have town staff involved.

- Talked on the sewing program and Rabbit program with a possible rabbit show at the end on the program.

Alexis:

- Asked about 4H and possibly running a program teaching how to prepare wild game meat after hunting.

Britt:

- 4H can help us come up with new programs just we will have to cover the supplies.
- I talked to Dorathy and she said she can assist with teaching traditional sewing as well.

Myles:

- Agreed to look into I getting Ethan at the YNEC involved or Christina with her programming.

Trevor:

- Is there anything that the Recreation Dpt. Can assist with?

Britt:

- we would have to decide a location and set a time to meet.
- talked to the endless opportunities that 4H can offer as we can develop our own specific 4H programs.

Trevor:

- Suggests getting Christine to coordinate with Britt on starting a 4H club.

Danielle:

- offered help to Britt on the 4H program.

Alexis:

- Nothing to add

Trevor:

- Asked Mike about Traditional games event he requested support from the committee with.

Mike:

- Responded the event was canceled or postponed due to Covid-19.
- Informed the committee that the school got approved to get traditional games equipment and they have no problem sharing with the community to help facilitate traditional games in the community.
- Mentioned that there is interest in traditional games programming with the youth.

Trevor:

No additions to open forum.

Next Meeting: March 2, 7:30pm

Adjourned: 8:32