



**Town of Aurora
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes**

Date: Thursday, May 16, 2024
Time: 7 p.m.
Location: Holland Room, Aurora Town Hall

Committee Members: Councillor Ron Weese (Chair)
Bo Brkic
Irene Clement
Michelle Dakin (Vice Chair)*
Jessie Fraser*
Shaheen Moledina

Members Absent: Adrian Martin
Corrina Tai

Other Attendees: Matthew Volpintesta, Manager, Parks and Fleet Divisions*
Lisa Warth, Manager, Recreation*
Linda Bottos, Council/Committee Coordinator

*Attended electronically

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

The Committee acknowledged that the meeting took place on Anishinaabe lands, the traditional and treaty territory of the Chippewas of Georgina Island, recognizing the many other Nations whose presence here continues to this day, the special relationship the Chippewas have with the lands and waters of this territory, and that Aurora has shared responsibility for the stewardship of these lands and waters. It was noted that Aurora is part of the treaty lands of the

Mississaugas and Chippewas, recognized through Treaty #13 and the Williams Treaties of 1923.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Moved by Shaheen Moledina

Seconded by Irene Clement

That the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services be approved.

Carried

4. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. M.50*.

5. Receipt of the Minutes

5.1 Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of January 18, 2024

Moved by Irene Clement

Seconded by Bo Brkic

1. That the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of January 18, 2024, be received for information.

Carried

6. Delegations

None.

7. Matters for Consideration

7.1 Memorandum from Manager of Parks and Fleet; Re: Town Park Accessible Playground Update

Staff provided an overview of the memorandum and proposed Town Park accessible playground features and key components. The Committee and staff discussed various matters including: (1) playground footprint and

curb; (2) safety, lifespan, and maintenance of the new rubber tile surface; (3) playground safety and security concerns, and the need for increased lighting and security cameras; (4) water drainage and rubber surface permeability; (5) Town Park splash pad upgrades; (6) project budget increase and accessibility grant application; and (7) the Town Park Area Residents Ratepayers Association is working with potential sponsors in case additional funding is needed. It was further noted that the Town would continue to hold community information meetings for any new park or park upgrade.

Moved by Jessie Fraser

Seconded by Michelle Dakin

1. That the memorandum regarding Town Park Accessible Playground Update be received; and
2. That the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee comments regarding Town Park Accessible Playground Update be received and referred to staff for consideration and further action as appropriate.

Carried

8. Informational Items

8.1 Memorandum from Manager, Recreation; Re: Recreation Needs Assessment for Persons with Disabilities - What We Heard

Staff provided an overview of the memorandum and results of the community engagement and surveys. The Committee and staff discussed various aspects including: (1) the need for appropriate compensation in order to attract the right talent for staff who are leading programs; (2) the demographics of those persons who identify with some form of disability; (3) the need for a thorough intake process; (4) other municipality models and experiences; (5) additional support for leaders of programs; and (6) partnering with third-party external resources, professionals, and experts for staff training.

Moved by Shaheen Moledina

Seconded by Irene Clement

1. That the memorandum regarding Recreation Needs Assessment for Persons with Disabilities – What We Heard be received for information.

Carried

9. New Business

Staff advised that June is Recreation and Parks Month (JRPM), a provincial initiative spearheaded by Parks and Recreation Ontario to raise awareness about the importance and benefits of recreation and parks for our physical, social, and environmental health. It was noted that the Town will have many extra activities and events, at no cost, during the month of June and full details can be found at aurora.ca/jrpm. The Committee was encouraged to share this information with friends and neighbours.

10. Adjournment

Moved by Shaheen Moledina

Seconded by Irene Clement

That the meeting be adjourned at 8 p.m.

Carried