

Rectangular Field User Evaluation Meeting Minutes- November 16, 2011

Present: Marcelliene Rowe (Junior Ladies Soccer, ECOSA), Bruce Kidd (Peterborough Rugby), Bruce Rowe (Peterborough City Soccer Association), Cam Taylor (Ultimate Frisbee), Aldo Andreoli (Kawartha Senior Soccer), Christine Emrich (Women's Soccer), Bill Strode (Special Olympics), Mike Smith (Senior Referee), Barry Clements (Peterborough Men's Old-timers Soccer), Fred Batley (Fleming College), Kelly O'Boyle (PVNCC School Board), Mary McGee (KPR School Board), Phil Jacobs and Dave Barker (Public Works) and Terri Lynn Johnston (Recreation Division).

Regrets: Winston Ernst (Peterborough Youth Soccer), Mike Everson (Peterborough City Soccer), Mike Berardi (Durham Old-timers Soccer), John Hancock (Peterborough Touch Football), Anthony Berardi (Kinsmen Minor Football), Fred Blowes (Kawartha Field Lacrosse) and Ken Butcher (Wolverines Football).

Terri Lynn welcomed everyone to the meeting and each person introduced themselves to the group. Terri Lynn went through the package that each organization received and reviewed the following information sheets;

- **League contact sheet.** Please complete if there are any changes to President and Schedulers, phone numbers, addresses, emails, etc. If information is the same as 2011, please complete the contact name at the top and then write in same information.
- **Municipal Freedom of Information sheet.** Please sign this sheet as your league contact to allow us to provide your contact information to the community that calls into the Recreation Division looking for your league information.
- **Incident Report-** the City now has a full time staff person that is responsible for Risk management issues. If there has been an injury and the injury was the result of a maintenance issue with the facility, I will need the league contact to complete this form with as much information as possible and return the form to me, as soon as you can after the accident. Any injuries that could result in a claim with the City, now needs to be fully documented. This form will also be on line under the Recreation Division on the City Website. You do not need to report any sports injuries that happened because of the game and with no fault from the facility.
- **Rates** for 2012, budgeted 2.2% increase for fields and tournaments by Recreation Division to City Council. (see budget sheet attached)
- **Facility sheet** for providing allocation requests due January 31, 2011. Only request fields that you will be using, not the fields that you want.
- **Tournament sheet** for providing allocation requests due January 31, 2011.

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- **2012 League Information sheet**
- Start date for 2012 is Friday, May 11th. Weather permitting, we may be able to get on the field earlier, however Phil explained they need at least two full weeks of dry weather, before they can get their equipment on the fields.
- List of **restrictions** for this year (see sheet). The Kawartha Dog Show will be returning to Nicholls Oval this year.
- Schedules are due by May 1, 2012.
- Long weekends designated for play (see sheet)
- All league and tournament confirmations should be ready by the first of March
- All questions, concerns and maintenance issues will come to Terri Lynn and she will pass on any information that Phil needs to know. Please do not go to Public Works directly.
- **Pavilion** - Please note that if you are booking tournaments at Beavermead or Nicholls Oval and you want to book the Pavilions as well, that these are separate facilities and you must complete a Special Event form to book the pavilion.
- **New to Beavermead Food Rights**— For the past few years, Hippy Chippy the French fry truck food vendor has had exclusive rights for the food at Beavermead Park. This year when the RPF goes out to the community, this clause will be changed to reflect that the successful food vendor will only have rights to the front of the park, when the parking lot is. Now, all sports users and special events will be able to provide their own food to their participants as free food or fundraisers. If a third party food vendor would like to work at an event in Beavermead Park, they will still have to go through the process of obtaining a permit from the Recreation Division. This permit is \$4.10 per hour and must be obtained and paid for prior to the event taking place.
- Thank you to all the groups that observed the **Rain Policy** this year. We did have a lot of wet weather in the spring, May and June and again in August and September. This year due to saturated fields, the City and the Board of Education officially closed the fields to the users for a period of time. Please make sure that your team reps have a copy of the rain policy.
- **New Smoking Bylaw**- This is year 4 of the phased in No Smoking by law for the City of Peterborough. In 2011, we saw the addition of sports fields to the bylaw. In 2012, ALL CITY parks will be smoke free. There are now established set fines for smoking in Parks.
- **Parking Restrictions**- This year was a better year for sports users not parking in the senior condominium parking off of Walker Avenue. Public Works installed more fencing along the parking lot and added additional no parking signage. Please use the

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Ashburnham Street parking areas and walk to the **Eastgate 3**. The soccer users would like to see a new sign advising the EMS that if they are attempting to get to Eastgate #3, that it would be faster to use Walker Avenue, rather than Ashburnham Street. Phil to look into this new signage.

- There have also been some issues this year with **Nicholls Oval** parking and Fleming College. Most players were parking their cars as close to the field as they could and were not using the appropriate parking areas. Fred to speak with his users for next year about staying off the grassed areas.
- **Parks with Lights-** This year several times the lights at Eastgate Park were left on over night. The City ends up absorbing these hydro costs and would not like to see this to continue to occur. There was discussion about a timer on the lights, to have them go off at 11:00 pm and Public Works will look into these costs. The other new item with lights for this year is that if leagues have double header games with a break in between, they will be charged for the light fees during this time. The Recreation Division realizes that during this break between games the lights are not turned off and the hydro costs still occur.
- **Drinking in the Parks-** Just be aware that drinking in the parks before and after games will not be tolerated. Please inform your team representatives, that the local Police will be patrolling sports fields this year.
- **Garbage at School Board Fields –** There was an issue this year with league leaving plastic water bottles, Tim's coffee cups, etc at the benches and fields of School Board fields. Please remind your team representatives, that it is important to take their garbage with them. The School representatives at this meeting indicated that some schools will not leave garbage containers outside during the summer months because of vandalism. There are also times when custodial staff are not working and there are no staff to pick up the garbage in a timely fashion.

Maintenance Updates:

Terri Lynn and Phil went over the maintenance projects that were completed this year:

- **Hogan Pitch –** field was closed in mid June after the main soccer tournaments. The field has been reseeded and landscaped. The irrigation system was repaired and the main valves were moved from the centre of the field to the side lines. Rain sensors were added to the valves. Public Works was able to get a “free” computerized irrigation system for Eastgate this year to test. This allows Public Works to be able to identify any problems more quickly and to be able to isolate where the problem is. Phil is able to control the irrigation system from his computer at his office. Public Works will try to budget for another computerized system to be placed at the Milroy fields.
- Phil will be completing some repairs at Mark Forester such as sodding the goal areas and centre field, but due to the lateness in the year, they are not hopeful, that the sod will take. This work may be needed to be re-scheduled in the spring.
- The Beavermead fields and King Edward are in really good shape this fall.

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- Terri Lynn has checked with the PVNCC School Boards and **Holy Cross** will be available for 2012. They have completed all their construction and repairs.
- The **James Strath** soccer fields will be in play for one more year in 2012, until August 31st. The property was not sold and the school has leased the land for one more year. Should the property sell, the school will attempt to give the Recreation Division as much notice as possible.
- **Mark Forster**- The group decided that in 2012, we will not take Mark Forester out of play. Public works has agreed to aggressively top dress and seed and fertilize the field on a monthly basis, at the start of the season to see if this will preserve the field better. It was agreed on by the group, that both **Mark Forester and Hogan Pitch** will be taken out of play the second week of October, so that the fall maintenance work can be completed. With schedules going into late October, this does not give Public Works enough time to re-sod and have this grass grow before the weather turns too cold. The information sheet has been modified to reflect these changes.

Ultimate Frisbee- Cam Taylor

- This league played on St. Peter's Main. There were some problems with the pot holes in the field and ridges where the lines are painted. These ridges caused several rolled ankle injuries. The irrigation system was not always used, as the fields were very hard.
- The players that play in the Ultimate Tournament in September, love using the Beavermead campground and find this a very attractive feature in Peterborough. There is a report going forward to City Council in January, regarding the recommendations for the Beavermead campground and if people would like to support keeping the campground in Peterborough, they have the opportunity to provide a delegation that same night. For information about the dates, any group can contact the Clerk's office at City Hall.
- The league was given very short notice about the St. Peter's needing their fields for their Track and field meet. Hopefully, the School Board will be able to give the Recreation Division more notice in 2012.

Peterborough City Soccer Association – Bruce Rowe

- Peterborough City had a great year.
- The Beavermead fields were in excellent condition and even with all the rain, very few games had to be cancelled. Along Beavermead 3, the tree line remains very soggy.
- Hogan Field looks very good this year and there were extra garbage pails at Eastgate this year. It was a challenging year scheduling with only one adult field at Eastgate for play.
- It looks like some people have tried to pull the nets out at Eastgate 3 and they need to be secured before the winter.

Peterborough Women's Soccer – Christine Emrich

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- The goal net clips on the Milroy nets need to be repaired or replaced. They are the attachments that secure the nets to the posts. Due to people tipping the nets over to secure the nets, there are pot holes near the goal posts that will need to be repaired. The clips need to be repaired on all four nets. Public Works to make sure that these clips are ready for next season.

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Peterborough Rugby – Bruce Kidd

- The league had very successful season. They appreciated having TASS Main to use as their second field, which complimented Nicholls Oval very well. Several times they had to request to have the grass cut at TASS Main.
- They are looking forward to having their clubhouse for next season.

Junior Ladies Soccer – Marcelliene Rowe

- Junior Ladies had a good season. They did have several cancellations due to rain, but did not make them up, as they finish with a year end tournament and needed to keep the same date. They were concerned about not having players benches at one of the Beavermead fields, however these had been moved by the Soccer tournaments and had not been replaced.
- The northeast corner of Field #1, closest to the campground needs to have bushes and trees cut. Phil can complete this work during the winter time.
- Marcelliene had problems with the campground staff this year, with not allowing her to keep her vehicle at the pavilion area. This was a new rule implemented by the Campground staff and they were very strict about this. They are allowing vehicles to enter the park area with a permit, but they must be removed after they have dropped off people or supplies. This will most likely not change for next year.

Fleming College- Fred Batley

- Fred thanked the soccer users and rugby users for sharing their field space with Fleming College. There was some mis-communication in the fall, when the strike was on, but they were able to work this out with the users. They are going to have to make adjustments in 2012, with not having the use of the Eastgate fields in late October. This will be alleviated once the new fields are built at Fleming. The goal is to see them open for the fall of 2013, but it could be the spring of 2014.

Peterborough Oldtimer's – Barry Clements

- Their club used Milroy 1 & 2, Hogan pitch, King Edward, Kenner main and Crestwood main for the 2011 playing season. They were generally happy with the maintenance of the fields this year. At times the grass was too long at Milroy, King Edward and Crestwood, however due to the wet weather and fast growing season, there was not much that could be done about this for 2011. Public Works and the School Board each try and maintain a standard of 2.5 inches for grass length.
- This year the Club did not have their annual tournament.

Bill Strode and Erica- Special Olympics

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- This group only uses Keith Wightman fields for their soccer games. At times the grass was very long, particularly the north field. Public Works noted that this grass was only cut every two weeks and will add it to the weekly schedule next year.
- They wondered about washroom facilities, however, this is the only group that uses this facility on one night, so it would not warrant the cost of providing a portable washroom at this park.

Mike Smith – Senior Referee

- Mike deals with all the scheduling of the referees for soccer games and Board of Education soccer games. There were a lot of difficulties with all the wet weather that we did have this past year. The grass was long and lining was often cut away, but again that was a result of the wet fields and grass cutting being more sporadic this year.
- Mike also made an observation, that even when the City officially closed fields, players would still use them. When a field was closed, Terri Lynn would inform her league contacts, provide the information to the radio stations and print news releases in the newspapers. That is the best that can be done to keep people off the fields.

Kelly O'Boyle- PVNCC School Board

- Kelly noted that Holy Cross will be open next year for play. She also took notes from the users tonight with any concerns tonight about their school board fields. They are aware of some concerns about grass cutting, however, their grass cutters are contracted out, so it is not always easy to fix situations right away. They also had some problems at St. Peter's main with users not parking their cars in the appropriate parking spaces. They also had some issues with a group using a large tractor tire on the field. Terri Lynn did speak with the Kinsmen Minor Football league and it was not this group. Kelly noted that at some time in 2012, there will be renovations to the St. Peter's parking lot and driveway, due to the new road construction. Kelly will inform Terri Lynn of the restrictions when she is aware of them.

Mary McGee – KPR School Board

- Mary is also aware that there were grass cutting concerns this year at several KPR fields. Once these concerns were presented, they were addressed right away. The custodial staff mentioned that this past summer season was a good season, with no problems.
- Mary wanted the users to know that book indoor gym time, that the rates for adults only will be increasing on Saturdays and Sundays.

Meeting adjourned.