

HORNING'S MILLS COMMUNITY PARK BOARD
Meeting Minutes - Wednesday, November 9, 2022

The current Horning's Mills Community Park Board held its final meeting via Zoom on the 9th day of November 2022 at 5:30 pm. Members present were Councillor James McLean, Jim Hill, Nanci Malek, and Lynn Hodgson. Mayor Darren White was not in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER:

James McLean, Councillor/Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Councillor James McLean recited the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

ADDITIONS:

Malek suggested that the Board discuss the recommendations made to Melancthon Council from the previous meeting.

DELETIONS:

None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Approval of the Agenda was moved by Malek, seconded by Hill. Carried.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

None

APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES:

The draft minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday, July 27, 2022, were reviewed and approved as circulated – moved by Malek, seconded by Hodgson. Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

None

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Financials:

Councillor McLean discussed the Horning's Mills Community Park Board financials as circulated prior to the meeting. The expenses for 2022 were \$2,854.12, leaving a reserve of \$3,285.33. It was mentioned that any revenue from baseball team usage of the diamond was not on the financial statement.

Councillor McLean will make an inquiry and recommend that the new council allocate all or a portion of the proceeds from the baseball activities to the park.

Walkway:

It was noted by Councillor McLean that in August, he, Mayor White, and Public Works Superintendent Craig Micks had a discussion concerning the construction of a pathway at the park. The walkway would run from the main entrance, located on Main Street, angling towards the ball diamond and then to the children's play equipment area. Micks had obtained a quote, but, due to time constraints, the project will be postponed until spring 2023, at which time he will acquire a revised quote for the new Board. The construction would require the use of heavy equipment, the removal of topsoil, and the laying down of limestone screenings.

Field Usage in 2023:

An increased usage of the ball diamond was noted this past summer. Mansfield Minor Baseball has been using the diamond for practices. Coaches have expressed some barriers to using the diamond for games, such as the lack of a pitching mound for the older teams, the absence of an electrical supply to the mound to operate a pitching machine for teams under eleven years of age, and an outfield fence. The labour for the electrical work would be donated, and permits will hopefully be obtained in the spring of 2023.

Councillor McLean will speak with Orsoyla Scace from the Mansfield Minor Ball Association to discuss any other items that are preventing teams from playing games at the park. Malek will market ball field availability and a ball team playing schedule on Facebook.

It was noted that the diamond needs more regular maintenance and the application of screenings to better manage the weed problem, and the issue will be discussed with the Roads Department.

Other uses for the park that were discussed included musical concerts and movie nights. Suggestions for other uses of the park will be made known in the upcoming 2023 Recreation Task Force Report.

Hill raised the continuous concern regarding the vandalism of the park and how it could be minimized or prevented. Councillor McLean will raise the issue to the Police Services Board. The posting of signs was mentioned, and Malek will follow up on sign availability with the Dufferin County Roads Department.

Investments for 2023:

Investments for the park include:

1. development of a pitching mound
2. electrical source to the mound (covered by Mansfield Minor Baseball)
3. walkway (cost to be potentially covered by Melancthon Township)

Councillor McLean mentioned that Flato Developments had reached out to Mayor White and himself regarding their presence at an open house. Councillor McLean plans on asking Flato to make an investment in the Horning's Mills Community Park regarding refencing the perimeter, the construction of a stand-alone gazebo located by the diamond, and refurbishing the existing pavilion with a gazebo.

Other:

Malek inquired as to whether the previous recommendations from the meeting on July 27, 2022, had been brought forth to Melancthon Council. Councillor McLean noted that the items had been mentioned to Sarah Culshaw (Treasurer/Deputy Clerk) and that he would add them to the agenda for the Melancthon Council meeting on November 10, 2022. Councillor McLean noted that this was the final meeting of the current Horning's Mills Community Park Board.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL:

The Horning's Mills Community Park Board puts forth a recommendation that Melancthon Township Council cover the costs of the development of the park walkway. Moved by Malek, seconded by Councillor McLean. Carried.

Councillor McLean will bring forth to Council the previous recommendations made during the July 27, 2022, Park Board meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF MOTION:

Moved by Malek, seconded by Hill. Carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:58 pm. Moved by Malek, seconded by Hodgson.