

HORNING'S MILLS COMMUNITY PARK BOARD
Meeting Minutes - Wednesday, April 5, 2023

The Horning's Mills Community Park Board held a meeting on the 5th day of April 2023 at 6:00 pm via Microsoft Teams. Members present were Deputy Mayor James McLean, Councillor Bill Neilson, Jim Hill, Nanci Malek, and Lynn Hodgson. Councillor Ruth Plowright was also in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER:

Deputy Mayor/Chair McLean called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Deputy Mayor McLean recited the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

ADDITIONS:

None

DELETIONS:

None

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Approval of the Agenda was moved by Hodgson, seconded by Councillor Neilson. Carried.

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

None

APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES:

The draft minutes of the previous meeting held on Wednesday, January 25, 2023, were reviewed and approved as circulated - moved by Hill, seconded by Councillor Neilson. Carried.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

None

CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS:

None

GENERAL BUSINESS:

2023 Park Budget and Account Balance:

The Park Board reviewed the financials and account balance as emailed to Deputy Mayor McLean by Kaitlin Chessell, Melancthon Township Administration and Finance Assistant. The account balance as of December 31, 2022, was \$7,463.22. The Township's budget for 2023 has allotted \$5,500.00 for the Horning's Mills Community Park (\$355.00 for insurance and \$2,000.00 to help cover the costs of Melancthon Day).

Ball Diamond Rental Fees:

The current ball diamond rental fees are \$10.00 per game without lights and \$25.00 per game with lights. It was brought forth that several other townships have been charging an hourly rate. After discussion, the Park Board decided that the fees would remain the same for the upcoming season in hopes of encouraging more usage of the diamond. The Board will revisit and discuss the diamond rental fees again next spring.

Status Update - Baseball at the Horning's Mills Ball Diamond:

Confirmed Playing Time

Deputy Mayor McLean spoke with Orsoyla Scace from Mansfield Minor Ball. Scace noted that their enrollment for the 2023 season has increased, and there is therefore not enough field time for all teams at the Mansfield diamond. Mansfield Minor Ball will have at least two teams playing at the park twice a week, for practices and games. The Shelburne Men's League has also voiced interest in using the Horning's Mills ball park.

Electrical to Pitching Mound

The Under 11 age group of Mansfield Minor Ball uses a pitching machine, therefore requiring an electrical source to the pitching mound. Mike Hofman of Hofman General Contracting will look after the permit process and installation. Deputy Mayor McLean met with Scace and Hofman at the park and did a walk around, also assessing the electrical and storage room area. Hofman is to reach out to Deputy Mayor McLean next week regarding the start of the installation, which will hopefully be completed by the start of the ball season in mid-May.

Storage Lockers

Deputy Mayor McLean reported that the old chest freezer in the storage room had been removed. The Mansfield Minor Ball Association is asking that shelving be installed for the storage of their ball equipment. Deputy Mayor McLean will follow up with Public Works Superintendent Craig Micks concerning the shelving. Malek and Deputy Mayor McLean will do a thorough cleaning of the storage room in the first week of May. It was discussed that a lock box would be used on the storage room door.

Sign Installation

The Park Board members reviewed the draft sign design as distributed via email by Deputy Mayor McLean. The sign would display the original "HM" 1960's ball jersey logo, the Mansfield Cubs logo, as well as "Welcome to Horning's Mills Field - Second Home of the Mansfield Cubs". Deputy Mayor McLean reached out to Dunwood Signs and Textiles Inc. of Dundalk regarding a price. A 4'x8' alupanel sign (weather protected, scratch resistant, more permanent) would cost \$469.00. The sign would potentially be installed on the fence behind home plate, above and facing the bleachers, or on the pavilion. Two additional smaller corrugated signs, each 4'x4' and costing \$140.00, may be displayed in each of the dugouts. Costs do not include installation. Deputy Mayor McLean will seek additional sign quotes for the next meeting and the Board will finalize the sign location.

Melancthon Day Draft Agenda and Budget (June 24, 2023):

The Park Board members reviewed and discussed the draft agenda as distributed by Deputy Mayor McLean.

Draft Agenda

2:00 pm Yoga in the Park

- Louise Phillips may lead

3:00 pm Bouncy Castle

- was suggested to have a smaller-sized structure this year, as some voiced safety concerns over the height of the inflatable last year
- the bouncy castle would need to be supervised at all times
- potentially limited to children under 7 to 8 years old

3:00 pm Vendor Market

- the Horning's Mills Hall Board has offered to help organize
- potentially set up along the east fence at the park

5:00 pm Live Music

- Deputy Mayor McLean will reach out to Gary Heaslip about performing again this year
- Malek will contact The Campfire Poets as a possible second band at a cost of around \$1,000.00 for 2 40-minute sets

5:00 pm Kids' Activities

- a group of moms have again this year offered to organize and run the activities, including a bean bag race, tug of war, etc.
- the Park Board will cover any costs they may encounter

5:30 pm Firefighters' BBQ

- the Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Department will organize and run the BBQ, with prices similar to last year
- Deputy Mayor McLean will inquire if the MMFD can approach Chapman's Ice Cream

7:00 pm Second Annual First Responders' Challenge

- Deputy Mayor McLean has reached out to the Dufferin County Paramedic Service
- will invite the Rosemont District Fire Department, Grand Valley and District Fire Department, Shelburne and District Fire Department, Dundalk Fire Department, and the Dufferin OPP to participate

7:30 pm Glow Balloons, etc.

- Malek will look into the cost of the glow balloons and potentially sparklers for the children
- a small fee would be charged to purchase a glow balloon; sparklers would be free

8:00 pm Movie in the Park

- it was suggested to hang white sheets on the ball diamond fence behind home plate for the screen
- concerns if lighting/darkness would be adequate at this time
- Malek to contact Greg Holmes to inquire about screen rental

Dusk Fireworks

- cost would be \$1,250.00

Other Items Discussed:

Evening Snacks

- a suggestion was made to sell popcorn, chips, drinks in the evening to increase revenue
- Malek will ask the Museum of Dufferin if the Board can borrow their large popcorn machine

Beer Garden

- it was discussed if there was an interest in setting up a beer garden, which would require a licence, Smart Servers, getting alcohol on site, having a fenced-in area, security, etc.
- involves high liability
- it was decided that a beer garden would not be appropriate for this family event

Theme

- 1970s hippy theme

Heritage Board

- Deputy Mayor McLean reported that the Heritage Board is wanting to unveil the new heritage plaques for homes in the township
- the Heritage Board is also wanting to collect an oral history of the schoolhouses in Melancthon Township
- hoping to make the public aware during Melancthon Day, and those wanting to participate can sign up to tell their stories in an interview

Miscellaneous

- have someone at both entrances collecting donations
- Malek will work to develop a Horning's Mills Community Park Facebook page
- Deputy Mayor McLean suggested posting any events on the Mulmur-Melancthon Facebook page
- Malek will design a poster, and Hill will colour print about 50 posters

Walking Trail and Garden:

Public Works Superintendent Micks got a quote last fall for the creation of the park's walking path. An updated quote will be needed before commencing with construction this spring. Deputy Mayor McLean noted that when he receives the revised quote, he will forward it to the Board members and call a meeting if there are any questions or concerns. A recommendation to Council will follow.

Community member Alicia Janssen-Thayer has expressed interest in organizing the park's community garden again this year on a smaller scale. It was suggested in the future to look at beautifying the park's appearance with flowers and shrubs.

Other/Additions:

None

DELEGATIONS:

Councillor Ruth Plowright proceeded to discuss advertising at the Horning's Mills Community Park. The Board members reviewed the sponsorship sheet, as forwarded by Councillor Plowright, outlining the different costs based on the various advertising packages available, which vary depending on factors including the location in the park in which the sign would be mounted. Encouraging businesses to advertise in the park could raise additional revenue. Members of the Board raised concerns regarding sign vandalism and weather durability. The Board will discuss the suggestion further.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL:

The Horning's Mills Community Park Board puts forth a recommendation that Melancthon Township staff proceed with the installation of the walking pathway at the park.

CONFIRMATION MOTION:

Moved by Malek, seconded by Hodgson. Carried.

ADJOURNMENT AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting is slated potentially for the first week of May and will be decided upon at the call of Deputy Mayor McLean.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:16 pm. Moved by Malek, seconded by Neilson. Carried.