

**HORNING'S MILLS COMMUNITY PARK BOARD**  
**Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, March 13, 2024**

The Horning's Mills Community Park Board held a meeting at the Horning's Mills Community Hall on the 13th day of March 2024 at 7:00 pm. Members present were Deputy Mayor James McLean, Jim Hill, Nanci Malek, and Lynn Hodgson. Councillor Bill Neilson sent his regards.

**MOTION TO APPOINT CHAIR, VICE-CHAIR, AND SECRETARY:**

Chair: Deputy Mayor James McLean – nominated by Hodgson, seconded by Malek. Carried.

Vice-Chair: Nanci Malek – nominated by Deputy Mayor McLean, seconded by Hill. Carried.

Secretary: Lynn Hodgson – nominated by Malek, seconded by Deputy Mayor McLean. Carried.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Deputy Mayor McLean/Chair McLean called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

**LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:**

Deputy Mayor McLean recited the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

**ADDITIONS:**

Malek requested discussion of a potential fundraising aspect of the Melancthon Day celebrations.

Deputy Mayor McLean requested that a regular date for monthly meetings be established.

**DELETIONS:**

None

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Approval of the agenda was moved by Hodgson, seconded by Malek. Carried.

**DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST:**

None

**APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES:**

The draft minutes of the previous meeting held on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, were reviewed and approved as circulated – moved by Malek, seconded by Hill. Carried.

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:**

None

**PUBLIC QUESTION PERIOD:**

None

**CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS:**

None

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

**Finances**

Deputy Mayor McLean reported that Melancthon Township will be finalizing its 2024 budget on March 21st. In 2024, the Township has set aside \$5,500 for the Horning's Mills Community Park. It was noted that Melancthon Township has \$11,350 in their recreation reserve and that these funds could potentially be released to the Corbetton and Horning's Mills parks. Deputy Mayor McLean will email Denise Holmes with a recommendation to council concerning the distribution of the money reserve.

The potential of hosting a charity walk/run on the old section of the Melancthon Township rail trail was brought forth by Deputy Mayor McLean. The money raised would be split between the Corbetton and Horning's Mills Community Park Boards. It was reported that Councillor Ruth Plowright had made the suggestion. The event would take place in September, and the two boards would come together to organize and run the event. Deputy Mayor McLean will reach out to Mayor Darren White, also the chair of the Corbetton Park Board, to see if the board would be willing to collaborate on the event. Deputy Mayor McLean reported that Melancthon Council has set aside the funds to hire a full-time employee who would be responsible for maintaining the township parks, the community hall, and the cemeteries. At the park, the employee would ensure garbage is cleaned up and collected, the grass is cut regularly, and the ball diamond is maintained.

#### **Priorities for 2024**

##### *Pavilion Reconstruction*

A request was made to Melancthon Township Council to set aside funding to obtain engineered drawings for a redesigned, new pavilion. The drawings would need to be completed by fall 2024 in order to submit an application to the Ontario Trillium Foundation so construction could potentially begin in 2025. The new pavilion would be of a similar size with a concrete patio-picnic area, while trying to maintain the present character. Deputy Mayor McLean will obtain the name of the engineer used for the new Corbetton pavilion, as well as bring a copy of their drawings. Board members feel that a new pavilion would promote an increase in rentals.

##### *Flower Gardens*

Deputy Mayor McLean reported that an individual has come forward offering to create some flower gardens at the park. Up to this point, a lack of water to maintain the beds has been an issue, but the Board now has access to rain barrels. The flower gardens would potentially be located at the pavilion entrance to the park. The existing vegetable garden was not a success, and the Public Works Department would need to clean up, level, and reseed the area.

##### *Walkway*

A walkway throughout the park would need to be professionally engineered. It would require break areas with benches, all at a significant expense. The project is not currently feasible.

##### *North Gate*

Deputy Mayor McLean will approach Council about making the north entrance gate near the play equipment more accessible for those with mobility issues. The entrance is currently very uneven.

##### *Dog Park Area*

The idea of a fenced-in area for a dog park at the west end of the park was brought forth. It was noted that currently, dog owners are allowing their off-leash pets to roam freely in the park. This could be a liability issue if someone were to come in contact with an aggressive dog. Signs may need to be posted that dogs must be on a leash. Deputy Mayor McLean will bring forth this issue to Council.

#### **Melancthon Day – June 22, 2024**

The following items were discussed by the Board members for Melancthon Day 2024:

##### *Theme*

Celebrate Summer – The Beach

##### *Bouncy Castles*

Hodgson will reach out to We The Bounce, who provided the inflatables for last year's event, and ask for a quote. Board members wish to have the similar *Blue Package*, which included two inflatable castles, an obstacle course, popcorn machine with servings, and the necessary attendants required for adequate

supervision. Hodgson will email We The Bounce and, if agreed upon by the Board, Deputy Mayor McLean will then forward the quote to the Township when a deposit is required for booking.

#### *Music*

Deputy Mayor McLean reported that Dufferin County Line reached out to him to see if the Board members were interested in having them perform again at this year's event. The Board agreed to book the band for 2024. Deputy Mayor McLean will contact Dufferin County Line to book them from 6:00 pm until 11:00 pm, with an intermission during the fireworks display.

#### *Firefighters' BBQ*

Deputy Mayor McLean reported that the Mulmur-Melancthon Fire Department was interested in having their BBQ again this year, serving hamburgers and hotdogs.

#### *Vendor Trucks*

Malek will organize two or three vendor trucks to attend the event. She will reach out to Blitzfull Treats from Shelburne and The Wood Smoke Shack from Honeywood. Malek will inquire at the Orangeville Farmers' Market to see if there are any other vendors interested.

#### *First Responders' Challenge*

Deputy Mayor McLean will organize the challenge.

#### *Ball Game*

Deputy Mayor McLean will reach out to Mansfield Minor Ball to see if a couple of teams would be interested in having a game on Melancthon Day.

#### *Fireworks*

Malek will contact Troy Gallimore regarding the fireworks display and ask if we can increase the length of the show to an expense of \$1,500. Last year's event was \$1,250. The fireworks would begin at around 9:30 pm.

#### *Potential Fundraising Idea*

Malek presented a potential fundraising idea, which would take place on Melancthon Day to raise money for NDACT: A bar/beer garden that would potentially have two or three microbreweries, located near the pavilion, and live music beginning at 7:00 pm. The area would be secured by a fence, put up by the Public Works Department. NDACT would staff the event with their volunteers, and entrance would require a cover charge (currently undecided), with proceeds going to NDACT. The only additional expense would be the security. Malek will reach out to the Dufferin OPP to see if a couple of officers would volunteer to secure the event.

#### *MISCELLANEOUS*

Hodgson will make approximately 125 candy kabobs. The charging price is currently undecided.

Malek will ask Shelburne Home Hardware if they would be willing to donate a tent for the bar/beer garden.

The Horning's Mills Community Hall Board may potentially organize activities and games for the children.

Malek will look after all social media graphics.

Deputy Mayor McLean reported that Melancthon Council had passed a motion to recognize someone from the community for their leadership role. The recipient would be announced and awarded with a plaque during Melancthon Day. The nomination process, criteria, and deadline will be outlined and open to the public.

**Other/Additions**

Deputy Mayor McLean requested that a regular meeting date be set for the Park Board. The second Wednesday of every month was decided upon, and the hall will be the home base for most meetings.

**RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL:**

The Horning's Mills Community Park Board puts forth a recommendation that Council distribute the \$11,350 currently in the Mulmur-Melancthon Recreation Reserve to the Horning's Mills Park Board and Corbetton Park Board. The recommendation was sent by Deputy Mayor McLean.

**CONFIRMATION MOTION:**

Moved by Malek, seconded by Hill. Carried.

**ADJOURNMENT AND DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

The next meeting will be held at the Horning's Mills Community Park on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at 7:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm. Moved by Malek, seconded by Hill. Carried.