

CORPORATION OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MELANCTHON

The Township of Melancthon Parks and Recreation Board held a meeting on May 25, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Chair Bill Neilson, Vice-Chair David Thwaites, Members Jessica Plowright, Lynn Hodgson, and Doug Read, also present was Becky Cunnington, Parks and Recreation Board Secretary. Absent was member Darren White with prior notice given. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Land Acknowledgement

Chair Neilson shared the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

Additions/Deletions/Approval of Amended Agenda

Additions

None

Deletions

None

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Read, Seconded by Thwaites that the agenda be approved as circulated. Carried.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Hodgson, Seconded by R. Plowright that the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board Meeting held on April 27, 2026, be approved as circulated. Carried.

Business Arising from Minutes

None

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest or Conflict of Interest

No declarations of conflict of interest were made.

General Business

1) New

1. Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund (CSRIF) – Letter from Sylvia Jones

Chair Neilson asked that the letter be added to the agenda as an information item. The Board discussed the possibility of future grant

funding for the Horning's Mills Park project through the Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund. The Board agreed to recommend that Council send a letter to MPP Sylvia Jones.

2) Unfinished Business

1. Horning's Mills Park

i. Future Use of Park

The Board had a lengthy discussion about possible future uses for the park. Suggestions included adding a multipurpose court area, similar to the one in Dundalk, for activities such as basketball, badminton, tennis, pickleball, and ball hockey and the addition of a small pump track. The Board also discussed keeping the ball diamond and installing a fence at the edge of the outfield. There was also a discussion about the best location within the park to install these new features. Member R. Plowright volunteered to take measurements and prepare a rough layout to see what space is available. The Board also suggested contacting Southgate for information and drawings related to the Dundalk park. Vice-Chair Thwaites offered to reach out to thank the company that had come to do the onsite meeting regarding ball diamond improvements, although that project is on hold for now.

ii. Rentals

Township staff reported that the Men's League had secured diamond time in Shelburne and would no longer need the Horning's Mills diamond. They indicated they would like to offer their booked time to Mansfield Minor Ball while still paying the rental fee. Staff advised them to contact Mansfield Minor Ball directly.

Staff also noted that Cobstock has booked Horning's Mills Park for August 22 and 23, 2026.

iii. Sign

Staff were asked to obtain an estimate for installation of the second sign and to request design options from Dunwood Signs.

2. Corbetton Park

i. Slide

Township Staff advised that the preparation work had been completed and were waiting on the vendor for the installation date. Direction was given to Township Staff to reach out to request the installation be completed before the June 19th ,

2026 ahead of the scheduled Melancthon Weekend Celebrations.

- ii. Shade Covers/Sails**
Deferred.

3. Melancthon Day

- i. Ball Tournament**

The Board was advised that the OPP were unable to organize participation, so the tournament will not move forward.

- ii. Other**

Chair Neilson shared the poster he had created for the Melancthon Weekend Celebrations. Some revisions were discussed and once completed the final will be forwarded to Township Staff to print for distribution and posting.

Chair Neilson shared the draft poster for the Melancthon Weekend Celebrations. The Board discussed a few revisions, and once finalized, it will be forwarded to Township staff for printing and distribution.

Chair Neilson also shared the ticket design for the Kids Basket Raffle.

Township staff shared an update from Member White that the picnic tables would be completed in time for the Melancthon Weekend Celebrations. Two tables will go to Corbetton Park and four to Horning's Mills Park.

4. Touch a Truck Event – August 8th, 2026

Member Read advised that he did not have an update on the cost of the "Tow Mater" look-alike truck but will follow up and report back at the next meeting.

Chair Neilson will contact Blitzful Treats to ask about attending the event to provide ice cream and treats. He also confirmed that he has contacted Shelburne Fire Department and will also reach out to the OPP to ask if they can attend.

Member Hodgson suggested contacting Premier John Deere to ask whether they would be willing to provide equipment for the event, and requested a letter on Township letterhead.

Vice-Chair Thwaites volunteered to contact Base Borden to see if they would be able to participate.

The event time was set for 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

5. Fitness Day Corbetton Park/Rail Trail

The Board discussed possible dates for the event, keeping local fairs in mind. A tentative date of September 26, 2026, was suggested. The Board also discussed the option of a bike-and-walk format, with bikes travelling north and walkers heading south. Member Plowright suggested looking into whether the Firemen's Drill Exercise could be booked to take place that day.

3) Brainstorming

None

Recommendation to Council

As a result of its discussion, the Parks and Recreation Board recommends that Council send a letter to Sylvia Jones, MPP, acknowledging receipt of the correspondence and advising that the Township is actively planning for parks and recreation initiatives and looks forward to future funding opportunities through the Community Sport and Recreation Infrastructure Fund (CSRIF).

Public Question Period

None.

Confirmation Motion

Moved by Read, Seconded by Hodgson that all actions of the Members and Officers of the Parks and Recreation Board with respect to every matter addressed and/or adopted by the Board on the above date are hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed; and each motion, resolution and other actions taken by the Board Members at the meeting held on the above date are hereby adopted, ratified and confirmed. Carried.

Adjournment

7:55 p.m. - Moved by R Plowright, Seconded by Read that we adjourn this Parks and Recreation Board meeting to meet again on Monday June 15, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. or at the call of the Chair. Carried.

CHAIR

SECRETARY