



TOWN OF AURORA SPECIAL PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date: Thursday, March 31, 2016

Time and Location: 7 p.m., Holland Room, Aurora Town Hall

Committee Members: Councillor Michael Thompson (Chair), Councillor Tom Mrakas (Vice Chair), Juergen Daurer, Richard Doust, Stephen Kimmerer, Eric McCartney, and Brian Trussler

Member(s) Absent: None.

Other Attendees: Councillor John Abel (arrived 7:10 p.m.), Councillor Wendy Gaertner, Allan Downey, Director of Parks and Recreation Services, and Samantha Kong, Council/Committee Secretary

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

1. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

**Moved by Juergen Daurer
Seconded by Eric McCartney**

THAT the agenda as circulated by Legal and Legislative Services be approved.

CARRIED

3. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. PRS16-015 – Implementation of the Sport Plan

Staff provided a brief overview of the Sport Plan and discussed next steps to implement the Plan.

Moved by Councillor Mrakas
Seconded by Stephen Kimmerer

THAT Report No. PRS16-015 be received; and

THAT Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee recommend to Council:

THAT tasks T1, T3, T15, T16, T17, T21, and T22 be referred to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee prior to a recommendation being presented to Council.

CARRIED

2. Parks and Recreation Master Plan Implementation Schedule

Staff provided an overview of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and the corresponding Implementation Schedule.

Moved by Councillor Mrakas
Seconded by Juergen Daurer

THAT the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Implementation Schedule be received; and

THAT Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee recommend to Council:

THAT tasks T1, T4, T4a, T4b, T5, T9, T16, T27, T30, T34, and T35 be referred to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee prior to a recommendation being presented to Council; and

THAT task T41 be referred to the Trails and Active Transportation Committee prior to a recommendation being presented to Council. .

CARRIED

4. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Richard Doust
Seconded by Juergen Daurer

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

CARRIED

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS ARE NOT BINDING ON THE TOWN UNLESS ADOPTED BY COUNCIL AT A LATER MEETING.

Attachment 1 – Extract from Council Meeting of March 29, 2016, Re: Report No. PRS16-015 – Implementation of the Sport Plan

Attachment 2 – Parks and Recreation Master Plan Implementation Schedule



**EXTRACT FROM
COUNCIL MEETING OF
TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2016**

9. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS REQUIRING SEPARATE DISCUSSION

- 1. General Committee Meeting Report of March 22, 2016**
(14) PRS16-015 – Implementation of the Sport Plan

Moved by Councillor Thompson
Seconded by Councillor Pirri

THAT Report No. PRS16-015 be received; and

THAT this report satisfies the conditional approval in the 2016 Operational Budget and implementation of Sport/Sport Tourism Plan; and

THAT the services of Sport Aurora Inc. be engaged for one (1) year in the amount of \$56,000.00 to fulfill the short-term goals of the Sport Plan to be funded from the 2016 Sport Plan Implementation Funding Account.

CARRIED



TOWN OF AURORA GENERAL COMMITTEE REPORT

No. PRS16-015

SUBJECT: *Implementation of the Sport Plan*

FROM: *Allan D. Downey, Director of Parks & Recreation Services*

DATE: *March 22, 2016*

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT Report No. PRS16-015 be received; and

THAT this report satisfies the conditional approval in the 2016 Operational Budget and implementation of Sport/Sport Tourism Plan; and

THAT the services of Sport Aurora Inc. be engaged for one (1) year in the amount of \$56,000.00 to fulfill the short-term goals of the Sport Plan to be funded from the 2016 Sport Plan Implementation Funding Account.

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To receive Council approval for the engagement of Sport Aurora Inc.

BACKGROUND

The Sport Plan was approved by Council on March 8, 2015. Twenty-Two tasks within the Sport Plan were subject of that approval and were to be completed over a period of five years. Staff have placed the tasks in the following chart and identified the year in which each recommendation will be presented to Council for approval:

Task Number	TASK - Project Goals	YEAR 1	YEAR 2-3	YEAR 4-5	
	Sport Leadership	YEAR 1	YEAR 2-3	YEAR 4-5	
T1	Develop an Aurora Sport Policy that outlines the role of sport in the community. The policy should specifically address the roles and responsibilities of the Town and local sport stakeholders including sport clubs and collectives, the business sector, education, public health, etc.	✓			

T2	Change the name of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee to the Parks, Recreation and Sport Coordinating Committee. Expand the Committee's mandate to include sport matters including the implementation of the Aurora Sport Plan and ensuring Town-wide priorities are addressed through parks, recreation and sport.	√		
T3	Reconstitute Sport Aurora into a Sport Council with an expanded mandate and representation from the entire sport community. The Sport Council's Executive Committee should be appointed through a fair and transparent democratic process.	√		
T4	Add a Sport Development Officer as a new position in Parks and Recreation Department to implement initiatives of the Aurora Sport Plan.	√		
Sport Sustainability		YEAR 1	YEAR 2- 3	YEAR 4- 5
T5	Develop three year budget projections to deliver on the recommendations of the Aurora Sport Plan and identify stable and alternate funding sources.	√	√	√
T6	Seek Partnerships to address the financial implications of the Sport Plan to secure and retain stable and alternate funding.	√	√	√
T7	Develop a Sport Development Grant Program to assist groups in implementing elements of the Sport Plan as well as in their efforts to address their own sport priorities.		√	√
T8	Develop a list of sport opportunities that could benefit from sponsorships and create a mechanism that simplifies funders' responses to sponsorship opportunities.		√	√
T9	Create a Volunteer Development Strategy that addresses volunteer recruitment, selection, training, retention and recognition.		√	
T10	Develop training programs and an e-tool kit that is focused on sport volunteer priorities and that provides insights into recruitment, screening, training, retention and recognition for use by sport stakeholder groups.		√	√
T11	Procure volunteer software that serves to develop a database of community volunteers and matches perspective volunteers with the opportunities that become available within the community. The software should also track the number of active community volunteers and the annual number and value of volunteer hours.		√	√
T12	Develop performance measures to capture the inputs, outputs, efficiencies and effectiveness of sport delivery in Aurora. Annually report on the results and any impacts on plans for the subsequent year.		√	√

Task Number	TASK	YEAR 1	YEAR 2-3	YEAR 4-5
	Sport Participant			
T13	Continue to provide the Physical Literacy training for persons working and volunteering with pre-school and children's groups and expand the program to include all age groups.	√	√	√
T14	Train staff and volunteers in working with culturally diverse groups to better understand their sport needs and look to other communities within the region that have responded to changing demographics by providing both culturally appropriate sports and an introduction to traditional Canadian sports (Markham and Richmond Hill).		√	√
T15	Convene a meeting with agencies supporting persons with disabilities to better understand their needs in being included in sport in Aurora.	√		
T16	Develop a Recreation and Sport Access Policy that identifies barriers to participation and addresses mechanisms that can increase participation and full access for residents from low income backgrounds.	√	√	
T17	Work with Social Service staff from the Region of York to introduce sport opportunities and support funding for persons from low income backgrounds. Develop a brochure for Social Service workers to help their clients navigate the sport system.		√	
T18	Inventory existing participation of girls and women in sport to determine if there are any gaps in participation.		√	
T19	Assess the current provision of sports for older adults by all sectors in Aurora and work with the older adult population to address gaps and emerging sport needs.		√	
T20	Quantify participation of diverse and marginalized groups in sport and measure the effectiveness of interventions.		√	
	Sport Promotion and Celebration	YEAR 1	YEAR 2-3	YEAR 4-5
T21	Develop a broad based Sport Marketing Strategy.	√		
	Sport Tourism	YEAR 1	YEAR 2-3	YEAR 4-5
T22	Develop an Aurora Sport Tourism Strategy.		√	

COMMENTS

Sport Aurora has played an integral role in the creation and development of the Sport Plan and has now provided a proposal for the execution of tasks within the Sport Plan.

Sport Aurora has been a key driver in the development and delivery of many initiatives related to Sports and Recreation over the past several years. They have developed the expertise and volunteer base to establish community events such as:

- The Breakfast of Champions;
 - Volunteer Recognition;
 - Sports Hall of Fame;
 - All Kids Can Play; and
 - Coaching Clinics.
- to mention a few.

They have also been successful in the promotion of sport tourism and the engagement of local sponsors to support these events.

Sport Aurora Inc. has approached the Town with a proposal to deliver the tasks of the Sport Plan and continue with their efforts to elevate sports and recreation in the community. They would be a contracted service to the Parks and Recreation Services Department eliminating the requirement for a Sports Development Officer at this time.

Sport Aurora Inc. has outlined their deliverables and the metrics for measuring success that will be the subject of an annual report to Council. Recommendations will be presented to Council by staff on the effectiveness of this contract and whatever extension to the contract or modifications are warranted. Staff will be reporting to Council on the effectiveness of this community partnership during the 2017 Operating Budget deliberations.

ALTERNATIVE(S) TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Council could request that the Town not enter into a contract. This option would require the hiring of a Sports Development Officer to assign the tasks identified in the Sport Plan.
2. Further Options as required.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Sport Aurora Inc. has identified a fee of \$56,000.00 for year one. Council has budgeted \$100,000.00 in the 2016 Operating Budget to support the recommendations of the Sport Plan.

CONCLUSIONS

The partnership with Sport Aurora Inc. has been very successful for several years and with the establishment of an infrastructure to deliver services to the Town, the engagement of their services as a contract provider is an important step in continuing the success of that partnership.

Staff will be providing recommendation to Council on extension of this contract for an additional two years during the 2017 Budget deliberations.

PREVIOUS REPORTS

PR15-008 Development of a Sport Plan, March 24, 2015

PRS16-012 Sport Plan Master Plan, March 1, 2016

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment #1 – Sport Aurora Inc. Proposal for Providing Sport Plan Delivery Services to the Town of Aurora

PRE-SUBMISSION REVIEW

Executive Leadership Team Meeting, Tuesday, March 8, 2016.

Prepared by: Allan D. Downey, Director of Parks & Recreation Services - Ext. 4752



Allan D. Downey
Director of Parks and Recreation



Doug Nadorozny
Chief Administrative Officer

Park and Recreation Master Plan Implementation Schedule

Task Number	TASK - Project Goals	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Priority	Task Dependencies	Task Assignment (PMR)	Target Start Date	Percentage Completed	Target date to be completed	Budget Required	Approach
	Indoor Recreation Facilities														
T1	Undertake an architectural facility fit and concept design exploring the feasibility associated with expanding the Stronach Aurora Recreation Complex (SARC) to include a gymnasium, multi-purpose program spaces and/or a full service fitness centre (the latter subject to Recommendation #8). Implementation of this recommendation depends on the Town of Aurora's chosen course of action for indoor aquatics (see Recommendation #4) as expansion of the SARC is only a plausible consideration if not proceeding with a new multi-purpose community centre.														
T2	Existing municipal facilities should be evaluated for ways to improve comfort and facilitate opportunities for informal interactions and socialization to take place (including within lobbies and other common areas) among all residents, including but not limited to families, youth and older adults.														
T3	Maintain a supply of five ice pads over the next five years with a greater emphasis placed on tracking user registrations (particularly among residents of Aurora) along with monitoring arena bookings and utilization rates.														
T4	In the event that the Town of Aurora is not interested in maintaining the status quo regarding provision of indoor aquatics centres, cannot secure an acceptable partnership agreement with a third party to access new pool times, and is comfortable with the level of risk associated with adding new aquatic infrastructure, one new 25 metre, 6 lane rectangular pool tank should be explored in the following order of priority:														
#4a	Undertake an Architectural and Engineering Study to determine the feasibility and costs associated with adding a 6 lane, 25 metre pool tank to the existing Aurora Family Leisure Complex (AFLC) through expansion of the building envelop to the east of the existing aquatic centre space. This Study should also include the feasibility and costs associated with renovation of the existing hot tub and conversion of the leisure/lane hybrid tank to a warmer water leisure tank.														
T4B	#4b Should the Study (noted above) deem the expansion of the AFLC aquatic space not feasible or too costly, undertake a site selection process (as per Recommendation #38) for the provision of a new indoor aquatic facility containing a 6 lane, 25 metre tank, a warmer water leisure/therapeutic tank. The provision of this aquatic facility should include a gymnasium, multi-purpose program rooms and possibly a fitness centre (in-lieu of facilities being added at the SARC). In tandem with this recommendation, explore alternative uses for the existing aquatic facility space at the AFLC as this facility would become redundant.														

Attachment 2

Task Number	Task - Project Goals	2016					2017		2018		2019		2020		2021		Priority	Task Dependencies	Task Assignment (PMR)	Target Start Date	Percentage Completed	Target date to be completed	Budget Required	Approach		
		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020																				
T5	Reclassify Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning and afternoon time slots as prime time pool hours to encourage greater use of remaining pool capacity, possibly through a review of the Town of Aurora Pool Allocation Policy.	✓															High	Review Pool Allocation Policy								
T6	Undertake architectural concept plan and costing exercise to determine the feasibility of constructing a gymnasium at the SARC (also refer to Recommendation #1). The design of this gymnasium should be 'sport friendly' features to facilitate objectives congruent with the Sport Plan and provide the necessary features to facilitate locally-based sporting activities to occur. Implementation of this recommendation will depend on the Town of Aurora's chosen course of action for indoor aquatics (see Recommendation #4) as expansion of the SARC is only a plausible consideration if the Town does not proceed with a new multi-purpose community centre.																✓	Refer to Recommendation #1								
T7	Conduct an operating performance review of the AFLC's gymnasium after it has completed a minimum of two full years of operation whether programming and rental opportunities are being maximized, along with any operational adjustments or improvements required to this end.																✓	Medium	Operating performance review							
T8	Proactively monitor membership, program participation, member retention/satisfaction and other appropriate performance metrics associated with the rejuvenated Club Aurora for a minimum of two years in order to inform a subsequent business planning process that explores the viability and suitability of expanding the Town's full service fitness centre model to another location(s).																✓	Medium	Refer to Recommendation #1							
T9	An indoor tennis facility should only be pursued using an operating model that is consistent with the Town's existing practices, whereby the Town could be a partner in the provision of land but would assume no operating responsibilities or financial costs of operation, instead placing such responsibilities on a third party that demonstrates a capability to sustainably do so. This will require a Council decision to be made.																✓	Medium	Decision required regarding desired type of partnership							
T10	Continue to promote membership and program opportunities through the AFLC squash courts in order to optimize use of these facilities, provided that there continues to be market support and that the level of use justifies the financial costs of operations.																✓	Low	Ongoing process							
T11	Multi-purpose program rooms located within existing community centres should be evaluated for improvement to increase their appeal and flexibility that expands usage.																✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Medium	Cost depends on type of enhancement			
T12	New multi-purpose rooms should be assessed through the proposed expansion of the SARC (see Recommendation #1) and other appropriate projects, as well as explored as part of private land development projects in areas of intensification																✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Medium	Ongoing process			
T13	Consistent with the Aurora Public Library Facility Needs Assessment, the Town should initiate discussions with the Aurora Public Library to discuss the merit of reassigning responsibility of the Magna and Lebovic Rooms to the Library, and/or redefining the programming focus in collaboration with Library Staff to service mutually complementary objectives																✓	High	Discussions with Library Board							

Task Number	Task - Project Goals	2016						Priority	Task Dependencies	Task Assignment (PMR)	Target Start Date	Percentage Completed	Budget Required	Approach
		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021								
T14	Pending outcomes of the Aurora Cultural Precinct Plan and other formal studies within the Aurora Promenade, undertake a potential use study of the former public library on Victoria Street to determine its suitability, capability and associated costs for delivering services offered by the Parks & Recreation Department or other municipal departments in order to address the needs of intensifying populations that are expected to arrive shortly after the master planning period in the Aurora Promenade	✓					High	Re-use Study						
T15	Continually assess, and augment where necessary, the delivery of 'youth-friendly' services and programming within the Town of Aurora's existing multi-use community centres and other civic destinations (e.g. Aurora Public Library, former public library, etc.) by considering opportunities to improve spaces such as multi-use program rooms, studio space, common areas and other appropriate areas (also refer to Recommendation #2).									Cost depends on type of enhancement				
T16	Continue to position the Aurora Senior's Centre as the primary hub for 55+ programming while exploring ways to extend the reach of services into neighbourhoods through use of existing multi-use community centres, parks and other civic destinations (e.g. Aurora Public Library, the former public library branch, etc.).						✓	✓	✓	Cost depends on type of enhancement				
Outdoor Recreation Facilities														
T17	Establish a sports field complex containing a minimum of three lit full-size rectangular fields and supported by appropriate facilities oriented to further the player and/or spectator experience. One of these fields should be designed as a 'multi-use' field capable of accommodating field sports beyond soccer.						✓			Capital cost range from 500K to 750K per field				
T18	Construct one outdoor artificial turf field at Stewart Burnett Park, as per current municipal plans, to service a broad range of field sports while providing the Town with flexibility to accommodate future needs. Any additional artificial turf fields beyond this one should be subject to confirmation through municipal business planning exercises as per current practice.									Capital costs range from \$1 M to \$1.5 M per field				
T19	Continue to work with educational, industrial and other suitable partners to provide rectangular sports fields on non-municipal lands. Any adjustment to the supply of non-municipal fields should be considered and appropriately reconciled by the Town of Aurora using existing and/or future parks, and potentially through field capacity improvements such as lighting and/or artificial turf.									High	Ongoing process			
T20	In consultation with local ball associations, construct one new ball diamond that is designed to be 'sport-friendly' and employs a larger design template in order to accommodate use by adult leagues and/or hardball users.						✓	✓	✓	Cost depends on upgrades undertaken				
T21	Construct two additional outdoor tennis courts, preferably located in the northeast to bolster geographic access across the Town.									Capital costs range from \$5K to \$7K per court				

Task Number	Task - Project Goals	2016						Priority	Task Dependencies	Task Assignment (PMR)	Target Start Date	Percentage Completed	Target date to be completed	Budget Required	Approach
		2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022								
T22	Create opportunities for outdoor pickleball through use of a multi-use court template (e.g. lining new or existing tennis courts for both tennis and pickleball) and providing a minimum of two courts that are preferably located in an area having a high concentration of older adults.	✓						Medium						Capital costs range from \$5K to \$7K per court	
T23	Explore the integration of multi-use courts through park renewal and revitalization projects in areas where geographic gaps exist.			✓	✓	✓	✓	Medium	✓					Capital costs range from \$35K to \$60K per court	
T24	Integrate minor skateboarding and biking zones within appropriate community-level parks undergoing renewal and revitalization activities, largely consisting of one or two basic elements similar to the Town's existing model.			✓				Medium	✓					Capital costs range from \$25K to \$50K per zone	
T25	Construct an urban water feature employing a dual purpose design that facilitates recreational use and lends itself to Town's urban design and civic placemaking objectives, potentially through revitalization project within the Aurora Promenade.							High	✓					Costs depend on size and scale	
T26	Integrate two 'minor' splash pads consisting of basic cooling elements (designed to a smaller scale than the existing municipal template) to service residential areas located west of Yonge Street, north and south of Wellington Street.				✓			Medium	✓					Capital cost range from \$100K to \$150K per minor splash pad	
T27	The provision of additional off-leash parks in Aurora should be evaluated using a model similar to that used at Canine Commons, whereby a community organization is primarily involved with the establishment, general maintenance and ongoing operation of the off-leash area.							Medium							
T28	Playgrounds should be provided in new and existing residential areas where geographic gaps exist, generally calculated through application of an 800 metre service radius that is unobstructed by major pedestrian barriers.				✓	✓	✓	High	✓					Ongoing process	
T29	Through the playground inspection and renewal process, evaluate opportunities in which to incorporate barrier-free components to facilitate access to, and use within the playground apparatus for persons with disabilities.					✓		High	✓					Cost depends on size and scale	
T30	An outdoor artificial rink, either in a new location or by upgrading an existing natural surface, should be a consideration when undertaking civic planning, urban design and/or economic development analyses given the sizeable costs to construct and operate refrigerated rinks.				✓	✓	✓	Low	✓					Cost depends on size and scale	
T31	Remain apprised of trends and usage at the McMahon Park lawn bowling green through continued collaboration with the Aurora Lawn Bowling Club.			✓	✓	✓	✓	Low	✓					Ongoing process	
T32	Requests for facilities presently not part of the Town of Aurora's core parks and recreation service mandate should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, after first considering the municipality's role in providing the service in relation to quantified market demand and cost-effectiveness of such services, while also identifying potential strategies to address long-term need for such requests should a sufficient level of demand be expressed.							High							

Task Number	Task Name	TASK - Project Goals						Task Dependencies	Task Assignment (PMR)	Target Start Date	Percentage Completed	Target date to be completed	Budget Required	Approach
		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021							
T33	To supplement decision-making and performance measurement exercises supporting investment in facilities falling within and beyond the Town of Aurora's core recreation facility service mandate, collect registration information from user groups regularly booking time in arenas, indoor pools, sports fields and other major recreational facilities including through implementation of allocation policies and other appropriate means.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		High	Ongoing process				
	Parks													
T34	Re-examine and adjust, where necessary, the municipal parkland classification system through the next Official Plan Review process based upon envisioned land use forms and densities. In particular, the service level for Community Parks should be revised downwards in the range of 1.0 to 1.5 hectares per 1,000 residents to better reflect current rate of provision, programmed and unprogrammed space needs, and recognizing the limited availability of land as the Town reaches build out of greenfield lands. Similarly, the Neighbourhood Park/Parkette designations should also collectively target provision between 1.0 and 1.5 hectares per 1,000.								High					
T35	Through the Town of Aurora Official Plan Review, integrate policies that prescribe the ability to situate permitted active parks and outdoor recreational uses within the Oak Ridges, where such parks and recreation uses cannot be accommodated within the designated built-up or greenfield areas.								High					
T36	At a minimum, target between 10 and 16.5 hectares of developable tablelands within the quantum of parkland required to meet the parkland service ratios articulated in the Town of Aurora Official Plan (as revised per Recommendation #34), in order to accommodate active recreational facilities. The balance of outstanding parkland requirements can be satisfied at the Town's discretion through either active or passive recreational and/or cultural purposes.								✓	✓	✓	✓	High	Costs depend on acreage, location,conveyance amounts etc.
T37	Acquire larger Neighbourhood Parks and Community Parks as a priority to ensure future populations have sufficient access to spaces that are capable of accommodating a broad range of active recreational pursuits. Partnerships with area municipalities should be explored as a means to bolstering active parkland supplies since few opportunities remain to cost-effectively acquire and develop larger tracts of parkland for active recreational use.								✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Costs depend on acreage, location,conveyance amounts etc.
T38	Utilize a land banking approach to explore the potential acquisition of land(s) for a future indoor and/or outdoor recreation facility complex that may be required to service needs beyond the current five year master planning timeframe.								✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Actual costs depend on location, acreage, etc.

