



Town of Aurora  
Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services  
Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes

**Date:** Thursday, February 16, 2017

**Time and Location:** 7 p.m., Leksand 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:** Allan Downey, Director of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, and Samantha Kong, Council/Committee Secretary

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The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

## 1. Approval of the Agenda

**Moved by Stephen Kimmerer**

**Seconded by Brian Trussler**

That the agenda as circulated by Legislative Services, with the following addition, be approved:

- Delegation (b) Howard Crangle, Resident; Re: Item 1 – PRCSAC17-001 – Leash Free Park

**Carried**

## **2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and General Nature Thereof**

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

## **3. Receipt of the Minutes**

**Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2016**

**Moved by Richard Doust  
Seconded by Stephen Kimmerer**

That the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting minutes of November 17, 2016, be received for information.

**Carried**

## **4. Delegations**

**(a) Reg Chappell, Sport Aurora  
Re: Future Facility Development**

Mr. Chappell discussed the increased demand for sport facilities due to population growth and inquired whether staff and Council have considered investigating the current and future needs for facility development in the Town. The Committee expressed support regarding the investigation.

**Moved by Stephen Kimmerer  
Seconded by Juergen Daurer**

That the comments of the delegation be received for information.

**Carried**

**(b) Howard Crangle, Resident  
Re: Item 1 – PRSCAC17-001 – Leash Free Park**

Mr. Crangle discussed the list of improvements within the staff report and identified the parking lot, gate, and fence as high priorities for replacement or repairs.

**Moved by Stephen Kimmerer**  
**Seconded by Juergen Daurer**

That the comments of the delegation be received and referred to Item 1.

**Carried**

## **5. Matters for Consideration**

### **1. PRCSAC17-001 – Leash Free Park**

Staff provided background information regarding Canine Commons which was a resident-initiated request to use and maintain the land. Staff advised that the parking lot was constructed using permeable materials since it is located within the flood plain.

The Committee discussed creating separate sections within Canine Commons for smaller and larger dogs, as well as investigating alternative locations. The Committee expressed support for the list of improvements; however, it was suggested that Council consider rectifying the top priority concerns this year, and consider the rest within the 2018 Capital and Operating budgets. Staff indicated that the estimated cost of the proposed 2017 improvements would be \$170,000.

**Moved by Councillor Thompson**  
**Seconded by Richard Doust**

1. That Report No. PRCSAC17-001 be received; and
2. That the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Advisory Committee recommend to Council:
  - (a) That the Canine Commons continue to be operated based on the status quo; and

- (b) That all upgrades and operational requirements be presented in both the 2018 Capital and Operating budgets; and
- (c) That staff be directed to work with the Canine Commons Committee to determine priority issues, expectations and overall satisfaction of the existing facility and future uses; and
- (d) That staff be directed to report back to Council with a list of priorities for improvements to Canine Commons; and
- (e) That the following issues be considered as top priority, and to be undertaken in 2017:
  - i. Paving of parking lot; and
  - ii. Replacement of fencing and gate.

**Carried**

## **6. Informational Items**

- 2. **Extract from Council Meeting of December 13, 2016**  
**Re: Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2016**

**Moved by Councillor Thompson**  
**Seconded by Stephen Kimmerer**

- 1. That the Extract from Council Meeting of December 13, 2016, regarding the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee meeting minutes of November 17, 2016, be received for information.

**Carried**

## **7. New Business**

The Committee discussed facility requirements to meet the demands of the growing population.

**New Business Motion No. 1**

**Moved by Juergen Daurer**

**Seconded by Stephen Kimmerer**

1. That the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Advisory Committee recommend to Council:

- (a) That staff be directed to investigate the current and future needs for facility development in the Town, and report back to the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Advisory Committee.

**Carried**

Steven Kimmerer advised that Reg Chappell would be the second representative from Sport Aurora to be joining the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Advisory Committee, as per the new Terms of Reference.

Steven Kimmerer extended an invitation to the Committee to join in an event held by Sport Aurora at the Aurora Public Library, Magna Room, on February 22, 2017, at 7 p.m.

Eric McCartney discussed the need for creating educational programs and videos to inform residents about trail etiquette, as the use of Town trails is increasing.

Staff provided a verbal update with regard to projects and initiatives that the Committee has resolved.

**8. Adjournment**

**Moved by Councillor Thompson**

**Seconded by Juergen Daurer**

That the meeting be adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

**Carried**

Committee recommendations are not binding on the Town unless otherwise adopted by Council at a later meeting.