

LACOMBE AND DISTRICT RECREATION, PARKS AND CULTURE BOARD

Regular Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 16, 2021

Council Chambers, City Hall & Virtual through MS Teams

- Present:** Kirstin Bouwsema, County Representative (Chairperson)
Emma Vockeroth, City Representative (virtually)
Dani Ducross, City Representative (Vice-Chairperson) Arrived at 5:41 pm
Ken Weenik, County Councillor
Ashley Morrison, County Representative
Diana Wiebe, City Representative Left at 6:06 pm
Katie Radke Student Representative
Sandi Stewart, Manager of Recreation and Culture
Maureen MacKenzie, Recreation & Culture Assistant
- Regrets:** Chris Ross, City Councillor
Teresa Johnson, City Representative

1. Call to order/Introductions

Kirstin Bouwsema called the meeting to order at 5:14 PM
Round table introductions

2. Additions to / Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Ashley Morrison that the agenda for November 16, 2021, be adopted as presented

CARRIED *unanimously*

3. Adoption of September 21, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Moved by Ashley Morrison that the minutes of the September 21, 2021 meeting of the Lacombe and District Recreation, Parks and Culture Board be approved as presented

CARRIED *unanimously*

4. Presentations/Correspondence

4.0. Board Orientation

4.1.1. Sandi Stewart provided orientation for the Board.

5. Ongoing Business

5.0. Facility Rental Assistance Grant (FRAG) (\$3,767 left)

5.0.1. Lacombe Performing Arts Centre

- The Lacombe Performing Arts Centre applied for \$749 FRAG funding to host a Patsy Cline Tribute Christmas Concert on December 20, 2021.

- Their facility is too small to host a concert, so they want to use the LMC so that more people can attend within current COVID guidelines.

Moved by Dani Ducross that the Lacombe Performing Arts Centre receive \$749 to host the Tribute Concert

CARRIED Unanimously

5.0.2. 2022 Relaxed FRAG Guidelines

- Sandi shared the revised 2022 guidelines. This is not intended to be extended beyond 2022.
- A member asked if there was any stipulation that the business, organization must be in Lacombe? There are no stipulations of this nature as long the funding will serve / benefit Lacombians

5.0.3 2021 FRAG Extensions into 2022

- Some grant recipients did not host their activities/meetings due to COVID, so not all 2021 allocated funds have been used.
- Discussion evolved around which organizations this affects, and what has been discussed with the groups, whether a deadline is set so that all funds are used by the end of 2022 for activities (& meetings) that had to be postponed due to COVID.

Moved by Dani Ducross that the Board extend the approved 2021 FRAG until the end of 2022 for recipients to use funds for delayed activities due to the pandemic.

CARRIED Unanimously

5.1. Rec & Culture Grant

5.1.1. Primary Care Network PCN – no updates have been received.

5.1.2. 2021 Updates – CLLLA, MCM Public Library, Shadow Box, Team Jigger, KidSport

- **CLLLA** – ad funding for local non-funded community groups has worked well for the Don't Hibernate publication.
- The Library is awaiting the arrival of the snowshoes.
- Updates have not been received from the other organizations, however the final reports are not due until the end of February 2022.

5.1.3. Review of Rec & Culture Grant Application form for 2022

- Previously, the application form had been combined with the final report into one document.
- #9 – additional information. Alter the wording to read: “when will the evaluation tool take place? “ so that it is less confusing regarding when this is to take place or be completed.
- Sustainability was added to the report. Will their program be sustainable without the grant in the future? This will ensure that applicants are looking at their program/initiative long-term and if it will be operational without grant funding in subsequent years.
- Page 3 shows some of the criteria to be considered for new initiatives.

- The funding being applied for must be for a new initiative and must serve Lacombians, but does not necessarily have to occur in Lacombe.
- Once Council reviews the 2022 budget, hopefully, the amount available for this grant will increase to \$20K
- New applicants can contact Sandi for additional information regarding the application form.

6. New Business

Nothing to report

7. Information

7.0. Recreation Service Monthly Report – information only

- Sandi shared highlights from the report
- 2022 rates and fees stay the same as 2021. The CAO can approve rates.
- The Light-Up Festival runs November 25 – 27th
- East Side Rec Area new dog park is now open, and has been very well received, seeing increased usage over previous dog park.
- Lacombe Moves – outdoor fitness equipment videos were shown on Facebook
- Find the Right Fit has launched
- Kew Gardens playground has been installed.
- Two new playgrounds are planned for 2022
- International Artist AJ McCoy’s wildlife paintings exhibition is ongoing in the LMC until the end of December.
- Anna Maria’s Café in the LMC is running with the REP program.

7.1. Kinsmen Aquatic Centre Stats

- Sandi reviewed the stats for October.

Moved by Katie Radke to accept the reports as presented.

CARRIED *unanimously*

7.2. ARPA Conference (CommUNITY) -

7.2.1. Diana spoke to the Board regarding the ARPA Conference before leaving earlier.

- It was a great experience for learning and meeting other recreation people from across the province.
- Sessions included recreation in general, pillars of public recreation, Alberta Recreation and Parks Mandate etc.
- It was noted that the purpose of recreation doesn’t always go well with the \$\$ available. To keep facilities and parks running well and efficiently, loyalty and support is needed from the community. User support is critical.
- If there is an event in a facility, those people will return to the facility another time because they are more familiar with it. Better facility use and keeping recreation in the forefront is essential.
- Risky play is good for development etc. Europe plays vastly differently and play isn’t as “bubble wrapped” regarding safety etc., as we see in Canada.
- It is important for volunteers to support the skate park to keep it in good condition.

- Police in recreation can serve as hockey coaches, etc. Service members can be involved in recreation and other areas than policing. Awareness and involvement help keep kids busy, and they are less likely to get into mischief.

Ashley spoke about sessions she attended.

- Of particular note was [Fly OverPark](#) in Calgary, which was an awkward space under a freeway that wasn't inviting. Previously, it was filthy, unsafe with needles, drug use, garbage, etc.
- The project was child-led by kids in the neighborhood and took 5 years to complete.
- Dubbed "The park that never should have been." The area was cleaned up, murals were added to alleviate tagging & graffiti. A big tree-like fixture was installed that featured big lighted bubbles that produces a light show every hour.
- Park benches, playground items etc. were added.
- It has been an incredibly successful project, however, funding was difficult to source because it was seen as a "needle park" before it was converted to a useable happy space.
- One presentation discussed the idea of converting the old greyhound bus depot in Calgary for homelessness with mini-suites, lockers etc.
- Other topics included the importance of play, technology, resilience, Indigenous relations, getting kids outside, aging, physical challenges, coming out of the pandemic, and risky play.

7.3 Other / Round Table

- Mouse armor sculptural piece has been commissioned with Jeff deBoer for the Art Collection.
- Staff often hike together, particularly on the trail between Lacombe and Blackfalds.
- The Rams Football team is doing really well. Basketball is starting soon.
- Winter Don't Hibernate is being put together. Early bird deadline for payment and booking was implemented. Classes – new course ideas are wanted and are being added without specific dates because people don't often want to commit until the last minute. Once a certain number of applicants are received, a date will be chosen.
- Library can run programs starting in January.
- The new dog park is in use.
- Our County Rep also sits on the Regional Tourism board – is a joint meeting possible? Need to promote economic development to get the economy rolling again
- The Arena REP program will affect Midget hockey players who will be 18 in January, and no longer able to play. It was recommended that Minor Hockey write to Council with their concerns.
- Committee members are asked to keep an eye on their e-mails should a couple more FRAG applications be received.

8. Next Meeting

February 15, 2022 5 PM, Rotary Board Room, Lacombe Memorial Centre

9. Adjournment

Moved by Ken Weenik to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 PM

CARRIED unanimously