



**Town of LaSalle
Culture and Recreation/Parks Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday December 12, 2017
5:30 pm
Sandwich Room 236, Town Hall**

MINUTES

Present: C. Meloche, Councillor
S. Desjarlais, Councillor
M. Akpata, Councillor
J. Columbus, Director of Culture & Recreation
M. Beggs, Manager of Parks & Roads
P. Marra, Director, Public Works
D. Langlois, Manager of Finance, Deputy Treasurer
K. Scherer, Assistant to the Director of Culture & Recreation
B. Miles, LaSalle Stompers
T. Hummell, LaSalle Stompers
M. Sakalow, LaSalle Stompers

1. Call to Order

C. Meloche called the meeting to order at 5:30pm

2. LaSalle Stompers

i) Extra Soccer Fields at Back(South) part of Complex

B. Miles inquired about extra soccer fields at the south end of the Vollmer complex and indicated that they were told (in discussions with Stompers Board of Directors & T. Fink) that they could use this area for 9v9 fields and indicated that this is not what is happening and that each year they inquire if they are ready. B. Miles indicated that they are currently using an area behind the arena temporarily and indicated that they were very surprised when told by J. Columbus recently that it was never in the plan for this area to become permanent soccer fields and they would like to know why.

P. Marra indicated that the area in question was always designated as an excess fill site and was never discussed to be

soccer fields and indicated that the area lacks parking, road access and that there is no field drainage there.

P. Marra indicated that in the 2018 Budget there is an item for the Vollmer Master Plan and that what happens at the Vollmer complex is subject to the Master Plan.

P. Marra indicated that there is an abundance of community needs and only so much land to work with. M. Beggs indicated that the area was never confirmed to be soccer fields.

T. Hummel indicated that the Stompers are currently at capacity and struggle with the lack of 9v9 and w fields and indicated that the 2 temporary fields behind the Vollmer complex are not scaled to size.

J. Columbus indicated that the Master Plan will provide a 5 year plan for major user groups. S. Desjarlais indicated that the Vollmer complex is more than soccer fields alone and with the Master Plan we want to take a good look at what we can do there (mountain bike path, baseball diamonds, dog park, etc.) and indicated that what happens at the Vollmer complex is subject to the Master Plan.

ii) **Irrigation:**

D. Langlois indicated that irrigation for soccer fields would cost approximately \$800,000 plus the cost of water. P. Marra pointed out that this cost does not include baseball diamond irrigation. D. Langlois indicated that funds for irrigation would have to be built up and mentioned that when grants are available that the Town qualifies for, applications are submitted, however the Town has not always been successful with this and that today's grants focus on replacement of infrastructure and that there are not million dollar grants available for recreation. J. Columbus suggested the Stompers research community grants such as the Kraft Heinz Project Play and suggested that perhaps the Stompers come up with a 5 year irrigation fundraising plan.

iii) **Gates to stop traffic by Clubhouse and East Parking Lot :**

P. Marra indicated that gates can be installed in the spring time. T. Hummel indicated that there were 2 near misses this summer involving kids.

- iv) **Sponsorship:**
T. Hummel inquired if there is anything preventing the Stompers from going to their sponsors for financial contributions. J. Columbus indicated that as long as they work with the Town so that actions are approved by the Culture & Recreation/Parks Advisory Committee.

- v) **Other Projects (turf, indoor facility for multi sports):**
The committee indicated that any additional amenities requested will be part of the Master Plan which will determine what we move forward with. S. Desjarlais indicated that we will be meeting with other user groups as well to review their wish lists which include items such as outdoor hockey rinks, basketball nets, pickle ball courts, etc. and that the Master Plan will address everything. Staff discussed private partnerships & sponsors as an option for funding indoor facilities. J. Columbus indicated that she can work with Stompers to come up with a sponsor plan.

- vi) **Sunday Night Baseball Players:**
T. Hummel indicated that the Stompers adult house league teams play on Sunday nights at the same time as the Sunday night baseball players and indicated that in the summer there was a drunk baseball player doing wheelies along the dirt lot near the fields and that he damaged a sign. C. Meloche indicated that in the future the Stompers should notify the LaSalle police. P. Marra indicated that they have requested extra police patrol in the area as we don't have staff available to monitor. C. Meloche suggested that the Stompers should submit any further questions in an email format to discuss at our next meeting.

3. Next Meeting Date: Thursday January 18, 2018 @ 9:00am

4. Adjournment: C. Meloche adjourned the meeting at 6:00pm