



The Corporation of the City of Stratford Community Services Sub-committee MINUTES

Date: March 11, 2021
Time: 3:30 P.M.
Location: Electronic Meeting

Sub-committee Present: Councillor Beatty - Chair Presiding, Councillor Sebben - Vice Chair, Councillor Burbach

Regrets: Councillor Clifford, Councillor Henderson

Staff Present: David St. Louis - Director of Community Services, Danielle Clayton - Recording Secretary, Chris Bantock – Deputy Clerk, Jodi Akins – Council Clerk Secretary

1. Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to Order.

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof

The *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act* requires any member of Council declaring a pecuniary interest and the general nature thereof, where the interest of a member of Council has not been disclosed by reason of the member's absence from the meeting, to disclose the interest at the first open meeting attended by the member of Council and otherwise comply with the *Act*.

Name, Item and General Nature of Pecuniary Interest

No disclosures of pecuniary interest were made at the March 11, 2021 Community Services Sub-committee meeting.

3. Delegations

None scheduled.

4. Department Update

Sub-committee discussion: The Director of Community Services provided an update on the department's February 2021 activities. He noted that the Park's staff have been completing garbage pick-up in park system, snow removal, picnic table repair and painting and removing dead ash trees. He stated that the Goose Control RFP has closed and been awarded to the same contractor as last year. The Director indicated that the Cemetery office is open by appointment only and has an intercom system in place. The riding mower quote has been awarded and the purchase has taken place.

The Director stated that transit ridership has been low during lockdown. The Saturday on-demand service has been progressing well and staff are made available on Saturdays to help citizens navigate the new system. He noted that in some cases, travel times have been reduced to half depending on the route and the department has received positive comments. The Director stated that there have been other transit organizations and departments reaching out to our transit department for feedback on our experience with the new system. As well, the four buses that were ordered have now arrived and are in service.

The Director outlined the current activities that are taking place on the Stratford Lakeside Active Adults Facebook page.

The Director stated that the ice has been removed from the Allman Arena and that it will remain closed until September 2021. The Dufferin Arena and Rotary Complex are open and all bookings are full. There have been groups from other regions calling to try to get ice time but are not accepted if they are in a more restricted region. Staff are actively screening all patrons entering the facilities and are controlling the number of patrons within the facilities. Once the Rotary hockey has been completed at the end of April, the ice will be removed.

The lighting project for the Rotary Complex and Agriplex that was approved by Council has begun. The Director indicated that money has been set aside to subsidize the Youth Centre rental of space and discussions are happening with the YMCA for the possibility of relocating the space.

In response to Sub-committee questioning, the Director indicated that Public Works has stored the table and chairs for Market Square throughout the winter

and will be moving them back this spring. As well, there was an announcement from the Federal Government regarding additional funding for electric buses.

In response to Sub-committee questioning, the Director stated that they are working with the Agricultural Society to try to keep the floor in as long as possible so that other user groups are able to utilize the space.

The Director stated that a press release announced that the City has been awarded the Under 21 Curling Championships for March 2022.

5. Advisory Committee/Outside Board Minutes

The following Advisory Committee/Outside Board minutes were provided for the information of Sub-committee:

- Communities in Bloom Advisory Committee minutes of November 5, 2020 and January 7, 2021
- Ad-Hoc Transit Committee minutes of January 21 and September 15, 2020

6. Next Sub-committee Meeting

The next Community Services Sub-committee meeting is Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 3:30 p.m.

7. Adjournment

Motion by Councillor Burbach

Sub-committee Decision: THAT the Community Services Sub-committee meeting be adjourned.

Carried

Meeting Start Time: 3:33 p.m.

Meeting End Time: 3:45 p.m.