



# ROTHESAY COUNCIL

OPEN SESSION  
Monday, June 22, 2009  
MINUTES



PRESENT: MAYOR WILLIAM J. BISHOP  
DEPUTY MAYOR BLAIR MacDONALD  
COUNCILLOR SCOTT COCHRANE  
COUNCILLOR PAT GALLAGHER JETTE  
COUNCILLOR TERRY KILFOIL  
COUNCILLOR NORMA MULLETT  
COUNCILLOR DON SHEA  
COUNCILLOR TOM YOUNG

TOWN MANAGER JOHN JARVIE  
TOWN CLERK MARY JANE BANKS  
DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (DDS) GAY DRESCHER

ABSENT: DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS (DO) SCOTT HATCHER

Mayor Bishop called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He advised those in attendance (~55 people) the report is in draft form and representatives from ADI Ltd. will be making a presentation. Mayor Bishop noted comments will be received until July 6, 2009. Mayor Bishop introduced Lydia Lewycky, Giovanni Paquin and Morgan Lanigan from ADI Ltd. The presentation was given by Ms. Lewycky and Mr. Paquin.

The process followed in the creation of the Master Recreation Plan was as follows:

1. Facility Inventory and Assessment
2. Consultation
3. Community Needs Assessment
4. Recommendations
5. Implementation

## **Facilities and Playgrounds**

It was noted ADI staff visited the sites and completed visual inspections, noting most buildings are in good shape but there are some rehabilitation issues with not all being universally accessible and some requiring improvement and maintenance. ADI staff also visited parks, open spaces and schools and completed an inventory map. There are a number of unstructured spaces for summer programs and several areas of land for public purposes. It was noted there are a limited number of both formal and informal trails. The playgrounds are generally good but need some improvement.

## **Consultation**

Public consultation was held during April/May through an Open House on April 15 (110 participants), use of an online survey (77 responses), stakeholder and sports groups consultations (40+), and meetings with surrounding communities. The results indicated the most needed indoor facility was a multi-purpose facility and multi-use walking/bike trails were the most needed outdoor facility. It was noted the schools are a major contributor to facilities in the Town and the Kennebecasis Public Library also offers important community programs. Recreation groups advised the existing facilities are limiting growth in participation and the adjacent recreation department representatives indicated local recreation development impacts the region. There is also support for coordination on trail systems between communities.

## **ROTHESAY COUNCIL**

Open Session  
Meeting Minutes

-2-

22 June 2009

### **Community Needs Assessment**

It was noted community needs were assessed against benchmark standards in Ontario as New Brunswick does not have a set of benchmark standards. The standard for arena needs is 1 per 8,000 population. The construction of the QPlex will provide 3 arenas in the Kennebecasis Valley for a population of 26,000. The standard for gymnasias needs are 1 per 5,000 population. There are 4 schools that provide regulation size gymnasias. Parks and open space standards were identified as: neighbourhood park 1.0 Hectares (Ha)/1,000 population (catchment area 0.8 km), community park 1.5 Ha/1,000 population (catchment area 1.5 km), regional park 3.0 Ha/1,000 population (catchment area 30 km), and open space 4.0Ha/1,000 population. In addition, it was noted adolescent, disabled persons and seniors user groups were under-represented in relation to facilities in the community.

### **Recommendations**

The consultants recommended development of trails in Rothesay, noting consideration should be given to formalizing trails and wetlands, with a view to the potential educational opportunity with Kennebecasis Park Elementary School for a trail at the KPark lagoon, upon decommissioning. The order of magnitude opinion of probable costs was identified at a cost of between \$100 - \$140/lineal metre for trail construction, suggesting a cost of \$2 - \$2.8 million for a 20 km loop or between \$2.5 - \$3.5 million for a 25 km loop (which exclude various costs as noted in the report).

The consultants recommended addressing the needs of the three under-represented groups, particularly addressing accessibility issues and indicating a more detailed building audit would be required.

The consultants recommended consideration be given to a recreation campus – which would include a multi-purpose facility, renovations to the Rothesay Arena, and the Kennebecasis Public Library. It was noted most of property owned by the Town is wetlands or located near the Mackay Highway. It was suggested a good central location be considered to create connectivity between facilities. The first option presented was the Scott Avenue area, adjacent to the Rothesay Arena and the two schools, across from the Town Hall and a block away from the Arthur Miller fields. The total land area is 4.75 acres. Possible components for the multi-purpose facility include 2 gymnasias, a multi-purpose room, meeting rooms, a fitness room, daycare, walking track and a non-commercial kitchen. The property could accommodate a “recreation campus” that could include the following: Rothesay Arena renovations (\$3.25 million), future twin ice pad (\$6.3 million), multi-purpose facility (\$6.3 million), Kennebecasis Public Library (\$7.8 million) and apartments (\$4.52 million). It was noted this type of development would be interconnected, would create synergy, and would address the needs of all user groups. The second option presented was the corner of Hillcrest Drive and Hampton Road. Its proximity to the Arthur Miller fields and the schools was noted. The site is 2 acres in total and would accommodate a multi-purpose facility.

The consultants noted a visual inspection only was carried out on the playground areas. It was suggested a certified inspector be contracted to complete a professional audit (~\$3600). It was further noted per season maintenance would cost approximately \$2250 and refurbishment is estimated at \$315,000.

## **ROTHESAY COUNCIL**

Open Session  
Meeting Minutes

-3-

22 June 2009

Additional recommendations included:

- encouraging unstructured activities
- promoting eco-tourism and educational enhancement potential of wetland areas
- promoting communication, cooperation and coordination
- promoting sustainable transportation\
- development of a dog park

### **Implementation**

The consultants noted the Implementation Table outlines the actions to be taken, the timing of each action (short, medium, long-term), the personnel, the order of magnitude opinion of probable cost and included general comments. The policy implementation evaluation process was briefly explained and the consultants spoke briefly to potential funding sources.

Mayor Bishop thanked the consultants and opened the floor to questions from Council. He indicated costs would be in the area of \$30 million but the recommendations could be implemented independent of one another.

Council requested clarification on the following: capacity of 2 gymnasias to allow for indoor soccer, the need for a multi-purpose room, consideration of the arena at Rothesay-Netherwood School (RNS) and consultations with taxpayers. Upon questioning, Charles Jensen, Recreation Director indicated 2 gymnasias would likely not support indoor soccer. Ms. Lewycky advised the multi-purpose room could be used as a teen drop-in centre for those who do not want to participate in structured activities. She further noted they had met with the Headmaster at RNS who suggested their arena not be included in the recreation system for Rothesay. It was noted there were various options for the walking track – either an elevated track inside the gymnasium or on the main level. Ms. Lewycky reiterated the methods of public consultation used in the development of the plan, including the Open House, online survey, meetings with stakeholders, flyers sent to churches and voice messages sent from the area schools.

The following people from the audience spoke: Larry Watson, Wedgewood Drive; Paul Wilson, Dofred Road, and Wayne Crawford, Donlyn Drive. The following comments were made: consideration should be given to local recreation parks that have a paved surface for tennis, basketball, pick-up hockey and similar activities that could be staffed by summer staff. It was also suggested perhaps areas for lawnbowling or shuffleboard could be considered as well. Reference was made to the Wells area that is cut off from the north side of Rothesay by the Mackay Highway and the lack of trails for the young people to walk or bike on. Clarification was requested on whether other potential sites were considered and whether an indoor swimming pool was considered.

Ms. Lewycky noted that trails and parks development should be taken into consideration with future development in the Wells area. In addition, she indicated the majority of the property owned by the Town is wetlands and the two properties considered are more centrally located and accessible. Ms. Lewycky noted an indoor pool was mentioned a few times but indicated the Amsterdam Inn offers some programming and the Town funds the Aquatic Centre through its participation in the Regional Facilities Commission.

Mayor Bishop thanked Ms. Lewycky, Mr. Paquin and Mr. Lanigan and thanked those in attendance.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**ROTHESAY COUNCIL**

Open Session  
Meeting Minutes

-4-

22 June 2009

**MOVED** by Counc. Young and seconded by Counc. Kilfoil the meeting be adjourned.

**CARRIED.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

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MAYOR

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CLERK