



Western Valley Regional Service Commission: Recreation Committee

Meeting of November 5, 2015, 6.30 p.m. – Hartland Town Hall

**Attendance:**

Brian Hayden (Chair)  
Craig Melanson  
Jill Hunter  
Kent Kuhn  
Elaine English

Jim Kennedy  
Chris Stacey  
Kari Harper-Merrithew  
Paul Bradley  
Terry Ritchie

Katelyn Hayden (Planning Director)

**Regrets:**

None

**Absent:**

**Guests:**

Stephen Stone, Dillion Consulting

**Presentation:**

Stephen Stone, Dillon Consulting

**Call to Order:**

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by the Chair.

**Agenda:**

It was moved by Elaine English and seconded by Craig Melanson the agenda be approved.

**Motion carried.**

**Approval of Minutes:**

It was moved by Jim Kennedy and seconded by Paul Bradley to approve the minutes of the meeting October 5, 2015 as circulated.

The Chair asked if there was any business arising from those minutes, no committee members noted any.

**Motion carried.**



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### **Recreation Master Plan**

Brian Hayden introduced and welcomed Stephen Stone, the Project Co-ordinator and Lead Planner from Dillon Consulting. Stephen Stone presented and discussed with the Committee the Draft Recreation Needs Assessment. (A copy of the Draft Recreation Needs Assessment can be found as Appendix A)

Stephen indicated that the Draft Vision Statement and Guiding Principles were changed based on previous discussions, including the elimination of 2 principles and the addition of accessible recreation principle.

Stephen presented the draft needs assessment with particular discussion around the following topics:

- Regional Recreation Director- *Craig Melanson inquired whether the cost of this individual would be billed back to the communities. It was indicated that there was Provincial funding available for the position in a similar cost sharing model which funded the Master Plan.*
- Divide the Region into Recreation Catchment Areas
- Volunteer Recruitment and Retention
- Recreation Communications Strategy
- Seek Alternative Funding Sources
- Develop Strategic Partnership with Landowners
- Update Local Municipal Plans to include Detailed Recreation Policies
- Development of Trail Networks
- Inventory of Facility Availability and Database for public use
- Community Use of Schools
- Hartland Regional Facility – *There should be a complete renovation or replacement of the Hartland Arena to create a regional facility with one ice surface including spectator seating and the potential for the future addition of a second ice surface. The facility should be sited within the Municipality to ensure long-term sustainability; however, the Town should partner with the surrounding areas to ensure it serves regional recreation needs. Craig Melanson noted they have explored the basic arena, but have yet to explore what other activities the facility could host.*



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- Outdoor wading pool in the Woodstock Area- *It was evident thorough survey results the community would like to see an outdoor aquatic facility in the Woodstock Area. However, it is suggested a full scale swimming pool would not be sustainable, and that a wading pool in close proximity to the splash pad would be a better alternative.*
- Enforcement & Enhancement of the NB Trail System
- Increase Access to Waterways - *There are many access points, but the public awareness of their locations is low. Therefore, better signage is needed. The region also lacks waterfront parks and camping opportunities, which should be explored in the lakes region.*
- Develop a Long-term Recreation Infrastructure Sustainability Plan
- Innovate Existing Recreation Assets- *Innovate programs and facilities to be age and ability friendly, update programs and share resources.*

The Implementation Plan (Timeline) was reviewed, giving each recommendation a priority level as follows: Immediate – within one year, Short Term – one to three years, Medium Terms - three to six years, Long-Term – six to ten years.

The committee suggested recommendation 2.3.4: Increase Access to Waterways, be changed from Long-term to short term, and recommendation 2.2.6: Develop Strategic Partnerships with landowners be changed from Medium-term to Short-term.

The Committee discussed the next steps? All of the components will be compiled into a final document which will be presented to the Board of Directors at the December meeting.

The Chair asked the committee do a round table, giving each member the ability to add anything to the discussion or comment if they felt there was anything missing from the documents reviewed to date. The following comments were made:

Jim Kennedy- How will the Recreation Director work with LSD`s? Where they used to be on their own, the recreation councils or groups will have the support of a full time staff members to assist them with their recreation programs.

Kent Kuhn- Suggested that helping to organize the LSD`s and the creation of recreation committees may also helpful.

Craig Melanson- Can one person do the job alone?



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Chris Stacey – Indicated, as a member of WVRA, there were no surprises in the report so far.

Jill Hunter- Wondered who would pay for it. (ask and answered during the discussion of recommendation 2.2.1)

**Next Meeting: TBA**

**It was moved by Elaine English and seconded by Craig Melanson to adjourn the meeting at 8.10 p.m.**

**Motion Carried**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Hayden", is written over a horizontal line. Below the line, the name "Brian Hayden, Chair" is printed in a bold, black, sans-serif font. A large, stylized flourish or scribble extends from the end of the signature line downwards and to the right.