

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Shane Hanson, Town of Blackfalds Councillor
Mark Visscher, Lacombe County Representative
Kayla Marquis, Public at Large
Steven Haraldson, Public at Large
Louise Rellis, Public at Large

OTHERS ATTENDING

Rick Kreklewich, Director of Community Services
Carol Simpson, Abbey Centre General Manager
Jeff Heindel, Parks and Facilities Manager
Kurt Jensen, Sports and Events Coordinator

REGRETS

Jim Sands, Town of Blackfalds Councillor
Trent Kroetsch, Public at Large
Shauna Sawchuk, Public at Large

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Member at Large Rellis welcomed all attending and called the Recreation, Culture and Parks Board Meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Member at Large Haraldson moved That the Recreation, Culture and Parks Board approve the Agenda as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TREATY SIX LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

A Land Acknowledgement was read to recognize that the Town of Blackfalds is on Treaty 6 territory.

PRESENTATIONS

Municipal Development Plan Presentation – Jolene Tejkl

Jolene Tejkl, Planning & Development Manager for the Town of Blackfalds provided a presentation on the comprehensive review of the Municipal Development Plan.

Heart of Blackfalds Society – Indigenous Heart Garden

Two representatives from the Heart of Blackfalds Society presented a proposed plan for an indigenous heart garden for a Municipal Reserve area on Vista Trail.

Community Initiatives Grant – Blackfalds Agricultural Society

A representative from the Blackfalds Ag Society provided a presentation on their Community Initiatives Grant submission.

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Community Initiatives Grant – Heart of Blackfalds Society

Two representatives from the Heart of Blackfalds Society provided a presentation on their Community Initiatives Grant submission.

Community Initiatives Grant – Bookman of Blackfalds

A representative from the Bookman of Blackfalds provided a presentation on their Community Initiatives Grant submission.

Community Initiatives Grant – Optimist Club of Blackfalds

No presentation.

Community Initiatives Grant – Whimsy Studios

Two representatives from Whimsy Studios provided a presentation on their Community Initiatives Grant submission.

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Member at Large Visscher moved That the Recreation, Culture and Parks Board approve the Minutes from March 4, 2026 as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Community Initiatives Grant – Blackfalds Agricultural Society

The Recreation, Culture and Parks Board discussed the application and determined that more detailed information is required about the grant they received, the total cost of the event and what they are considering for catering/food expenses. The grant application would then be reviewed at the next meeting in September.

Member at Large Rellis moved That the Recreation, Culture and Parks Board recommend to request more information about their event and review the application at the next meeting in September.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Community Initiatives Grant – Heart of Blackfalds Society

Two representatives from the Heart of Blackfalds Society provided a Community Initiatives Grant application requesting \$2,500 towards offsetting costs to host the Blackfalds Block Party including the rental of a dunk tank, door prizes, candy, games and porta potty rentals.

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Councillor Hanson moved That the Recreation, Culture and Parks Board recommend to Council to provide grant funding of \$1,250 to the Heart of Blackfalds Society from the Community Initiatives Grant for their event.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Community Initiatives Grant – Bookman of Blackfalds

A representative from the Bookman of Blackfalds provided a Community Initiatives Grant application requesting \$2,500 towards offsetting costs for a sound system, equipment, lighting, local bands/artists, advertising and volunteer supplies.

Member at Large Visscher moved That the Recreation, Culture and Parks Board recommend that Administration request more detail related to the expenses of this event for a future application.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Community Initiatives Grant – Optimist Club of Blackfalds

The RCP Board reviewed the Community Initiatives Grant request of \$2,500 from the Optimist Club of Blackfalds to provide a DJ and live music for the Blackfalds Block Party.

Councillor Hanson moved That the Recreation, Culture and Parks Board recommend to Council to provide grant funding of \$1,250 to the Optimist Club of Blackfalds from the Community Initiatives Grant for the Blackfalds Block Party.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Community Initiatives Grant – Whimsy Studios

Representative from Whimsy Studios provided a Community Initiatives Grant application requesting \$2,500 towards offsetting costs for supplies, kiln firing and staffing related to hosting ceramic programs for the community.

Member at Large Visscher moved That the Recreation, Culture and Parks Board recommend that Administration request an adjustment to their proposed program and return to a future application.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Proposed Disc Golf Course Layout

Coordinator Jensen met with the Optimist Club and put together a proposed layout for the disc golf course at McKay Ranch. The layout includes 5 holes and would expand to 9 holes as the McKay Ranch area develops the park space. The targets can be easily moved if there are any concerns with the layout. The layout will be presented to Council at an upcoming meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Recreation Rate Review

Administration is working on updating recreation rates for review and requested the RCP Board to

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provide preliminary feedback on our rates. The RCP Board discussed the rates and were generally in favour of a moderate increase to rates. Suggestions also included removing the tournament rate. Ball diamond and soccer pitch rates are lower than comparators. The Abbey Centre membership and admission rates would see a modest increase. New rates will be provided to the RCP Board at the September meeting based and request further feedback from the RCP Board before taking the rates to Council.

Meeting Extension

Member at Large Haraldson moved That the Recreation, Culture and Parks Board extend the meeting time to 10:00 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Letter from Central Alberta Selects re Ice Time

Administration presented a letter from the Central Alberta Selects regarding additional ice time.

Councillor Hanson moved That the Recreation, Culture and Parks Board accept this letter as information and direct to request to our Ice Allocation Policy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Abbey Centre Update

- Manager Simpson presented the monthly highlights

Parks and Facilities Update

- Manager Heindel presented the monthly highlights

EBC & Sterling Industries Sports Park Update

- Coordinator Jensen presented the monthly highlights

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Indigenous Heart Garden

The RCP Board discussed the proposed park and location. Administration will bring this to a future Council Meeting.

Member at Large Marquis moved That the Recreation, Culture and Parks Board recommend That Administration bring forward this proposal to a future Council Meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Recreation, Culture and Parks Board received the items as information.

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Chair Kroetsch adjourned the Recreation, Culture & Parks Board Meeting at 9:57 p.m.

-Original Signed-

Louise Rellis, Vice-Chair

-Original Signed-

Rick Kreklewich, Director of Community Services