

**Community Development Committee (CDC)  
Meeting Minutes  
December 10, 2020 @ 6:30 PM  
Via WebEx virtual meetings**

In Attendance: Chair Councillor Mike Trinacty  
Councillor Rod Reeves  
Councillor Ty Walsh  
Heather Morse  
Carol Hiscock-White  
CAO Mike Payne

Regrets: Beth Wilson

1. The meeting was called to order by Chair Mike Trinacty at 6:32 PM.
2. The minutes of the 2020 October 22 meeting were approved as circulated.
3. The Agenda was approved as circulated.

**4. Business Arising**

*a) Downtown Park Plan Update*

Chris Cooke of Town Parks-Public Works continues to work through his initial plans for accessible pathways at Centennial and Rainforth Parks. Dedicated time and space have been made available over the next week or so to substantially conclude draft drawings. The barbed wire has been removed from all residential abutting properties.

*b) Grants Update*

Spicer Park

Confirmed that Public Works are actively working to build pathways from Cottage Street south to the park, and to the parking area off Hayden Drive. A path has also been carved east/west to the border with Morse's lands and south only to Hayden Drive. Several loads of crushed stone have been placed in the area of the parking lot.

Rainforth Park Musical Equipment

These plans were well received and strongly supported. The presentation was well received; the Committee recommended that the barbed wire around the park fencing be removed promptly. Some effort should be put into designing a new utility building and location so that pathways properly line up. Mr. Cooke should continue working on the draft plans and present the next iteration to the whole of the new Town Council.

*c) Public Consultation Policy*

Strong support for this effort and a documented policy for the Town. Reviewed the draft framework with the CDC and obtained the following feedback:

*How do you define a major project? There are other factors in addition to overall costs. Potential impacts for residents should be a significant consideration. Project proposals should be brought to the Committee or Council who may offer unique input that might warrant additional public consultation.*

*d) Holiday Events*

Reviewed Taylor Boylan's reports and promotional materials. The Light Fight and Santa Clause 'parade' in particular were well received. It was noted that the Berwick business community had some complementary events as well. The conversation morphed into Town sponsored events generally speaking and a recognition that cultural diversity is increasingly important. Future efforts around promoting and supporting multiculturalism would be great as well as dedicated efforts to promote the Town's Centennial anniversary in 2022.

**5. Old Business:**

*a) CDC Terms of Reference Review*

No changes recommended. Some conversation about the Town's Healthy Eating policy and the need to dust that off and promote it.

*b) Feedback from Council Committee Review Session*

This committee will consider many topics and issues that will eventually land at the Council table. The Committee will meet bimonthly on the first Thursday of the month at 5:30 PM. As required, special meetings can be called with brief agendas and backgrounders.

Reviewed Council's draft 'Committees of Council' document. There are a number of additions to the initial draft re some existing committees. Considerable discussion about 'diversity and inclusion' and the importance of doing some proactive work in these areas. Councillor Reeves and Diana Brothers (a former Warden of MoK) have had some conversation about Berwick hosting a diversity event. Councillor Walsh is a member of the Kings region 'Diversity and Inclusion' group and intends to be actively involved. Ms. Morse advised that the Community Health Board is involved in cultural change as well. They are looking at colonialism and reconciliation from Mi'kmaq perspectives, and strengthening relationships.

There was a collective recognition by the CDC that 'diversity and inclusion' are such an important mandate that they deserve their own committee. They warrant a dedicated, community driven group to work on relationship building and charting a way forward.

*c) Valley Regional Enterprise Network presentation*

Reviewed the presentation. Emphasized that Valley REN is looking for community leaders to refer Valley REN services to local business. The Valley REN has a strong network of business partnerships, relationships and business supports. CDC members can be informal champions for the REN and liaising with local business

d) *Subcommittees/Working Groups (that support the mandate of the CDC)*

Park Planning Committee

An historical committee that has not met in recent years but with a mandate similar to the CDC.

Sports Hall of Fame Committee

In existence over twenty years, a strong community group promoting the sports history of the Town with good support from the Town.

Trails Committee

Well connected to the work of the CDC; the perimeter trail is an important initiative.

KMCC Governance Committee

A tenant's organization (excluding the two private businesses) that meet bimonthly to resolve concerns, address common expenditures and the distribution of funds

Gala Days /Council Working Group

Shared exploration of a new Gala Days site as it may have outgrown the current Centennial/Rainforth site particularly once the former BBS property is sold and will likely no longer be available. How does Gala Days uses align with the proposed plans for the two parks?

**6. Next Meeting:**

Thursday January 7 @ 6:30 PM

**7. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.**