



THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE COUNTY OF
LA MUNICIPALITÉ DU COMTÉ DE
RICHMOND

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

AGENDA

Date: September 12, 2024

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Richmond Arena Boardroom/Virtual

1. Call to Order
2. Items added to agenda
3. Approval of agenda
4. Election of Chair and Co-Chair
5. Review of Minutes: May 9, 2024
6. Committee Terms of Reference
7. Renumeration
8. Update from Recreation Department
 - a. Multi Use Facility Feasibility Study Update
 - b. Summer/Fall Programming Update
 - c. Future of Hockey Lab re: Open Ice Initiative
 - d. Other
9. Items Added
10. Round Table
11. Next Meeting
12. Adjournment

Recreation Advisory Committee

May 9, 2024; 7:00 p.m.

Location: Richmond Arena Boardroom/Virtual

Present: RONALDA BOUDREAU, SHARLA SAMPSON, SHANNON MURY, NATASHA MURY,
RODNEY DIGGDON, JULISSA STEWART, DAPHNE CAMPBELL, TAMMY RICHARD-MALAY

Absent: COUNCILLOR BRENT SAMPSON, RHONDA COVIN, ISAIAH BERNARD, COUNCILLOR MICHAEL
DIGGDON, JOE MCNAMARA

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m.

Items Added to the Agenda

No items added

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Daphne Campbell, seconded by Julissa Stewart, that the agenda be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Review of Minutes – April 11, 2024

Moved by Tammy Richard-Malay, seconded by Julissa Stewart, that the minutes be approved as presented. Motion carried.

Presentation: Lindsey MacIntosh, Future of Hockey Lab re: Open Ice Initiative

- Introduction from Lindsey and the committee members
- Lindsey informed the group that they are a social innovation lab working towards increasing participation in hockey and making ice time equitable and accessible
- They are working with communities on challenges and barriers and working on solutions
- They have partnered with 4 Global which is a company based in London who specialize in data capture
- Lindsey is asking for Richmond County to join them in the quest. They are looking for names (activity & type), gender, ages, co-ed, etc. They are not looking to obtain any data which has any risk based on privacy.

Update from Recreation Department

- a. Multi Use Facility Feasibility Update
 - Spoke with consultants. Council has provided a list of groups they would like to reach out to. There will be 3 extra sessions, 1 in-person engagement and 2 virtual engagements
 - Extension on???

- b. Summer programming updates
 - Summer programming is underway
 - Newsletter should be in the households by end of June
 - Currently searching for a swimming pool to be able to hold swimming lessons but it's a struggle
 - Gaining access to schools in summer is also a struggle
 - Sharla has received a list of programs and camps happening with other groups so our intent is to add to and not compete with other groups/organizations.

- c. Other
 - Not successful with grant application for bicycles

Items Added

No items added

Round Table

- Question asked if the Hall of Fame Committee evolved? Suggestion made to form a sub-committee if not already formed
- Advised that our meeting will be moving from zoom to teams

Next Meeting

Next meeting will be on June 13, 2024 at 7:00 pm in person/virtual

Adjournment

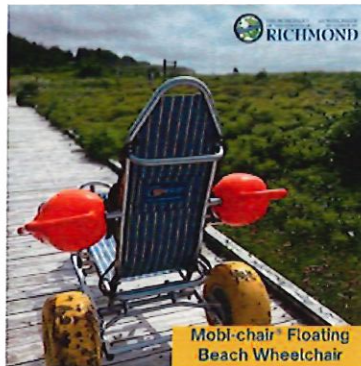
There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Accessibility Highlights

Highlighting: Richmond County's Point Michaud Accessibility Project

"Our project will provide more accessible access to the Point Michaud Beach for all persons with mobility issues." - Sharla Sampson, Richmond County Active Living/Community Engagement Coordinator

September's Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Accessibility Highlight comes from the Island of Cape Breton, where one municipality works to improve beach access for people with disabilities. Richmond County's Recreation Department has purchased two Mobi-Chairs and two Mobi-Mats to make Point Michaud an accessible beach.

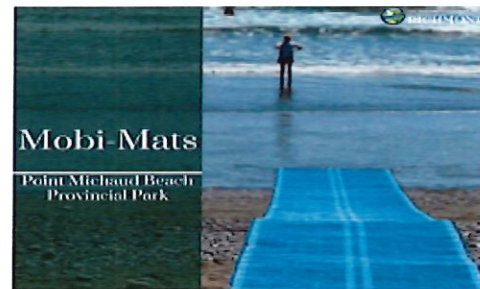


Mobi-Chairs are chairs that float and roll on the beach, designed to assist people with mobility challenges in accessing natural waterfronts. Mobi-Mats are installed over the sand to facilitate more accessible travel for the chairs towards the water or to make walking across the sand easier for everyone. Equipment is available at no cost to users, benefiting the County residents and tourists.

Each Mobi-Mat is 100 feet long with hardware to secure them in the sand. The mats are portable and made from 100% recycled materials. The Mobi-Chairs are designed with everyone in mind, including wheelchair users, people with special needs and even children, to be convenient, portable, and comfortable.

Richmond County is home to various age groups that can benefit from this equipment, from families with young children who need assistance accessing the beach to older adults or anyone with accessibility barriers. This project has allowed more people to enjoy a supervised beach and the outdoors.

The project has its challenges. Active Living/Community Engagement Coordinator Sharla Sampson says the surf at Point Michaud is rough, which created an issue with securing the mats, "Our mats are installed to the water line and, as such, need to be checked frequently for wrinkles, rocks and debris given the impact of the surf." Another challenge has been finding resources for summer staff to educate users on using the mats and chairs.



If you are considering undertaking a similar project, Sampson has some advice. "Reach out to community groups who have executed similar projects to obtain first-hand knowledge of their successes and challenges." She says it is essential to prepare for the installation and removal of the mats and have proper storage for them. The mats take up much space when stored for the off-season. For this reason, Richmond County purchased rollers, which made setup and removal much more manageable.

The Point Michaud Beach accessibility project was supported by funding through the Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage. The municipality secured 50% of the project's cost through the Community ACCESS-Ability Program.

For more information on the ACCESS-Ability Program and how it can help your community projects, visit the [Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage website](#).