



**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF MERRITT**  
**RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

July 11, 2024  
5:30 pm  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL  
2185 Voght Street  
Merritt, B.C

**PRESENT:**

- Ms. A Douthwright, Chair**
- Mayor M. Goetz**
- Ms. L. Dewinter (arrived at 5:35 pm)**
- Mr. J. Halverson**
- Ms. B. Porada**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

- Ms. C. White, CAO**
- Ms. L. Brick, Director of Corporate Services**
- Mr. D. Zakall, Director of Community Services**
- Ms. A. Gush, Committee Clerk**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Goetz called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

**1.1 Land Acknowledgement**

*We would like to begin this meeting by acknowledging that we are gathered on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territories of the Nlaka'pamux and Syilx people.*

**2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

Nil

**3. GENERAL MATTERS - Delegations and Recognitions**

Nil

**4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Nil

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

**5.1 Election of Chair**

**THAT Amy Douthwright be voted in as Chair.**

**Moved, Seconded, CARRIED**

**5.2 Review of Terms of Reference**

*Committee to review Recreation Advisory Committee Terms of Reference.*

Review Committee duties as outlined in the Terms of Reference

CAO White made introductory comments outlining the roles and responsibilities of the Recreation Committee.

Ms. L. Dewinter joined at 5:35 pm.

Ms. L. Dewinter spoke on the possibility of Elder attendance at future meetings. Suggestions were provided by CAO White and Mayor Goetz.

CAO White left the meeting at 5:53 pm.

**THAT the Committee will meet once per month until budget review in October.**

**Moved, Seconded, CARRIED**

**5.3 Pickleball Club Lease**

*Referred for review to the Recreation Advisory Committee from the Policy Review Committee on April 18, 2024.*

The Committee reviewed the Pickleball Lease; discussions ensued around public access, expansion costs, responsibility of maintenance, and fund recovery.

Mr. J. Halverson highlighted the substantial growth of the association, the work of volunteers, and the ever-growing need for more space.

**5.4 Tennis Club Lease**

*Referred for review to the Recreation Advisory Committee from the Policy Review Committee on April 18, 2024.*

The Committee discussed the state of the tennis courts highlighting the need for relocation of the courts and club house due to ongoing erosion caused by constant water exposure at the current location.

The Committee discussed the courts be moved to Nicola Park, placing all racket sports in one location.

Discussions around accessing funding streams such as grants ensued.

Future review of the financials of the Pickleball Association and Tennis Club were discussed.

The Tennis Club Lease will remain on the agenda for next meeting review.

## **5.5 Recreation Advisory Workplan**

*Committee to discuss workplan.*

The Committee discussed the anticipated workplan and came away with the following areas of focus.

- a. That the CFO provide an overview of a rent raise increase focusing on the breakdown of pricing before budget.
  - To be brought forward two meetings from now
- b. Lights for baseball fields 3 and 4; costs associated, and diagrams provided
- c. Expansion of soccer in Merritt;
  - designated space
  - outbuilding for storage
- d. Outdoor arena;
  - help with maintenance such as flooding of the rink, snow removal, renting a Zamboni and the various costs associated

Mayor Goetz briefly touched on electric scooter and bike rental transportation. It was not noted as a Workplan goal at this time, but likely subsequent conversations will follow.

## **6. NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for August 22, 2024

**7. TERMINATION OF MEETING**

The Chair declared the meeting ended at 7:21 pm.

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Chair  
Amy Douthwright