
MEMBERS PRESENT

Shane Hanson, Town of Blackfalds Councillor
Jim Sands, Town of Blackfalds Councillor
Mark Visscher, Lacombe County Representative
Kayla Marquis, Public at Large
Trent Kroetsch, Public at Large
Shauna Sawchuk, Public at Large
Steven Haraldson, 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

Louise Rellis, Public at Large

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Director Kreklewich welcomed all attending and called the Recreation, Culture and Parks Board Meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Member at Large Visscher 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

Red Deer Kinsmen Club & Youth HQ

A representative from the Red Deer Kinsmen Club and Youth HQ provided a presentation on their submission Community Initiatives Grant Submission.

BUSINESS

Minutes

Member at Large Haraldson moved That the Recreation, Culture and Parks Board approve the Minutes from February 4, 2026 as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Community Initiatives Grant Policy Discussion

The Recreation, Culture and Parks Board discussed the draft Community Initiatives Grant Policy presented by Administration. Suggested changes included providing the RCP Board with the authority to approve or deny applications, the deadline was removed, local organizations were changed to organizations, the funding limit was added, acknowledgment of the Town on promotional materials, conflict of interest and clarity on what the funding is being used for. Suggested changes from the discussion included a clause under the criteria section relating to reinvesting proceeds within the community. Party Alcohol Liability (PAL) insurance should be listed as an ineligible expense. The old FOIP statement would need to be removed from the application form and the new statement POPA statement added.

Member at Large Kroetsch moved That the Recreation, Culture and Parks Board recommend to Council to consider approval of the Community Initiatives Grant Policy with the amended changes as discussed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**Community Initiatives Grant – Red Deer Kinsmen Club**

A representative from the Red Deer Kinsmen Club and Youth HQ provided a Community Initiatives Grant application requesting \$2,500 towards offsetting costs related to supplies, entertainment, diamond fees and prizing. The Board requested that the application be revised to include what expenses would be applied to this funding.

Member at Large Marquis moved That the Recreation, Culture and Parks Board recommend to Council to provide grant funding of \$2,500 to the Red Deer Kinsmen Club from the Community Initiatives Grant for their event upon receiving a revised application of what expenses would be applied to this funding.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**Public Use & Facility Rentals Policy Discussion**

Council had directed Administration to develop a policy for rental spaces in Blackfalds. Administration developed the policy for the RCP Board to review and discuss. Suggested changes from the discussion included the policy title, include all rentable facilities (indoor and outdoor), removing safe and respectful wording and instead use lawful, and add Facility Renter Insurance Requirements and Community Standards Bylaw under Related Documents. An acknowledgment would also be added to information packages referencing this policy.

Councillor Hanson moved That the Recreation, Culture and Parks Board recommend to Council to consider approval of the Public Use of Rentable Facilities with the amended changes as discussed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Clarification on Council Update

Administration confirmed that Council can provide updates to the Recreation, Culture and Parks Board. Councillor Hanson discussed the Public Donation Policy and how it overlaps with the Community Initiatives Grant. Also, the BMX Track is on hold as funding has been challenging to secure as per an email received by Administration. A Notice of Motion is upcoming for the Disc Golf Course.

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

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

Chair Kroetsch adjourned the Recreation, Culture & Parks Board Meeting at 8:19 p.m.

-Original Signed-

Trent Kroetsch, Chair

-Original Signed-

Rick Kreklewich, Director of Community Services