



The Corporation of the Town of Essex
Arts, Culture and Tourism Meeting Minutes

May 8, 2024, 5:30 pm
Barnett Room, 60 Fairview Ave W, Essex, ON N8M 1B6
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Present: Chair - Maguire, Grant
Vice Chair - Meloche, Richard
Councillor - Allard, Brad, Ward 3
Councillor - Hammond, Rodney, Ward 4
Member - Armstrong, Tracy
Member - Atkinson, Nicole

Regrets: Member – Freele, Peter

Also Present: Mayor – Bondy, Sherry
Cynthia Cakebread, Manager, Recreation and Culture
Rylee Livingston, Recording Secretary (Acting)

Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request. Please contact the Clerk's Office at clerks@essex.ca or 519-776-7336 extension 1100 or 1101.

1. Call to Order

Grant Maguire, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:29 PM.

2. Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that this land is the traditional territory of the Three Fires Confederacy of First Nations (comprised of the Ojibway, the Odawa, and the Potawatomi Peoples), and of the Huron-Wendat Peoples. We value the significant historical and contemporary contributions of local and regional First Nations and all of the Original Peoples of Turtle Island who have been living and working on the land from time immemorial.

3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest noted at this time.

4. Adoption of Published Agenda

4.1 Arts, Culture and Tourism Meeting Agenda for May 8, 2024

ACT24-05 -001

Moved By Nicole Atkinson

Seconded By Councillor Allard

That the published agenda for the May 8, 2024 Arts, Culture and Tourism Meeting be adopted as presented.

Carried

5. Adoption of Minutes

5.1 Arts, Culture and Tourism Minutes for April 10, 2024

ACT24-05 -002

Moved By Councillor Allard

Seconded By Nicole Atkinson

That the minutes of the Arts, Culture and Tourism meeting held April 10, 2024 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

6. Public Presentations

6.1 Kristopher Marentette

re: Tune Up the Parks

Kristopher Marentette requested that the Committee consider providing financial compensation for artists at Tune Up the Parks events and added that he feels financial compensation would be beneficial for all artists regardless of whether they are performing as hobbyists or professionals. Kristopher added that he recognizes it may be too late to make changes for this year's events and that he is not suggesting the event be cancelled or boycotted, noting that he feels more free events like this should happen. Kristopher suggested that seeking sponsorships or grants for the event may enable it to remain free while providing funding for performers.

Cynthia Cakebread, Manager, Recreation and Culture explained that the Committee began offering Tune Up the Parks at the suggestion of two former Committee members who were also musical artists with the intent being to provide an open place for musical artists to perform rather than it being a music festival.

In response to a question from Richard Meloche, Deputy Chair, Kristopher Marentette expressed potential interest in handling sponsorships and helping to facilitate the event. He noted that he is currently working on organizing an Arts Resource Council.

ACT24-05 -003

Moved By Richard Meloche, Vice Chair

Seconded By Councillor Allard

That the delegation by Kristopher Marentette regarding Tune Up the Parks be received.

Carried

7. Unfinished Business

7.1 Live Art Event

Grant Maguire, Chair, noted that he continues to be in contact with Ann Ducharme of the Art Society of Kingsville regarding the event and at this point has nothing further to report. Councillor Rodney Hammond suggested that the Committee consider hosting a live art event on the date that Kingsville Essex Associated Band performs at Tune Up the Parks.

7.2 Sidewalk Astronomy

Cynthia Cakebread, Manager, Recreation and Culture informed the Committee that the following dates have been confirmed for Sidewalk Astronomy:

- July 15, 2024 (Colchester)
- August 15, 2024 (Essex Centre)
- September 21, 2024 (Essex Centre)

Mayor Sherry Bondy noted that 8000 pairs of eclipse glasses have been donated to Astronomers Without Borders via the Essex County Library.

7.3 Art/Tourism Projects

Cynthia Cakebread, Manager, Recreation and Culture provided the Committee with an update on the status of planned Committee projects:

- The scope for the restoration of the Liberation Mural has been submitted to the artist
- Cynthia continues to be in communication with Canada Post regarding the possibility of a mural in McGregor and added that she will update the Committee on the status at a future meeting as well as provide an update on a potential tourist photo site art installation
- The Glow Ride has been scheduled for May 24, 2024 from 6:00PM - 8:00PM at Sadler's Pond Nature Park. Cynthia noted that Bike Windsor-Essex and Essex Fire and Rescue Services will participate at the event with Cogeco co-sponsoring the event

7.4 Tune Up the Parks

Cynthia Cakebread, Manager, Recreation and Culture noted that there were 30 submissions indicating interest in performing at Tune Up the Parks in response to the call for artists and that performances are being scheduled. She added that most performers this year are new to the event and that Windsor Essex Children's Aid Society has requested to set up as a vendor during one of the performances. Based on discussion, the Committee agreed to host them as a vendor and Mayor Sherry Bondy suggested the Glow Ride may be a good fit.

The Committee discussed the current format of Tune Up the Parks, funding for Committee events and the feasibility of seeking sponsorships to provide additional compensation to artists for future events. Based on discussion, the Committee agreed to place a greater emphasis on encouraging gratuities at this year's events while agreeing to further consider changes for future events during the priority setting meeting in January 2025.

8. New Business

9. Adjournment

ACT25-05 -004

Moved By Councillor Hammond

Seconded By Councillor Allard

That the meeting be adjourned at 6:22 PM.

Carried

10. Future Meetings

June 12, 2024 at 5:30 PM

Location: Barnett Room - Essex Centre Sports Complex

Chair

Recording Secretary