

New Brunswick Citizens Recreation Committee
2016 Meeting Schedule

Thursday, January 21st 7pm

Thursday, April 21st 7pm

Thursday, August 18th 7pm

Thursday, October 20th 7pm

*All Meetings start at 7pm at the HUB Teen Recreation Center, 411 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, New Brunswick.

City of New Brunswick Representatives:

Ed Spencer, NB Recreation

Dave Blevins, Youth Services

New Brunswick Citizen's Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes August 18, 2016

Location: HUB Recreation Center

Attendees: Chris Coulthard, Ron Hush, Sonny Keels, Joel Martinez, and Phil R

Meeting called to order at 7:20pm by Chris Coulthard

Review Minutes: Ron Hush motioned to accept the minutes from April 21, 2016 meeting. Chris Coulthard stated to treat as committee.

Welcome/Introduction: Chris Coulthard opened the meeting by welcoming Phil from New Brunswick. Joel Martinez mentioned that he no longer works with PRAB and is working as marketing community health.

Old Business:

Sonny Keels spoke about the current stage of the Security System being installed in the Recreation Center. Sonny mentioned within the upcoming weeks installation should begin since a bid was won and approved by City Council.

New Business:

Sonny Keels gave updates on Recreation events that occurred since the last meeting, which were Day of Fun in June and Independence Celebration in July. Sonny mentioned that turnout for Day of Fun was lower than expected, however the turnout of the Independence Celebration was greater than expected. He mentioned bringing the event back to Boyd Park and the band selected helped to increase the numbers. Sonny added that the new tennis programs have low numbers but it is a start bringing back the programs. He added that another new event called the NFL Punt, Pass & Kick was coming up.

Joel Martinez spoke about the social media advertising push in the city. Sonny told him to contact Jennifer Bradshaw, as she handles all communications relating to social media within the city. Chris Coulthard mentioned the Live Well app that New Brunswick Tomorrow has been pushing and curious to know how the app is doing in terms of successful advertising events throughout the city.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48pm.

New Brunswick Citizens Recreation Committee
2015 Meeting Schedule

Thursday, January 22nd 7pm

Thursday, April 23rd 7pm

Thursday, August 20th 7pm

Thursday, October 22nd 7pm

*All Meetings start at 7pm at the HUB Teen Recreation Center, 411 Joyce Kilmer Avenue, New Brunswick.

2014 Citizens Recreation Committee Members:

Mike Bobadilla

Fred Espana

Glenn Flemming

Joni Gawlikowski

Ronald Hush

Christopher Coulthard

Franchesca Rodriguez

Ed Spencer

Cheryl Smith

City of New Brunswick Representatives:

Michael Blackwell, NB Recreation

Dave Blevins, Youth Services

New Brunswick Citizens Recreation Committee

Meeting Agenda: January 22, 2015

Time/Location: 7pm Hub Teen Center

Agenda:

- 1. Welcome - C Smith**
- 2. Introduction of New Members**
- 3. Nominations for Committee Chair**
- 4. Approval of Minutes**
- 5. Old Business Updates**
 - A. Park Improvements**
 - B. Program Updates**
- 6. New Business**
 - A. Goals for 2015**
 - B. Potential Projects**
 - C. Other**
- 7. Other Business**

New Brunswick Citizens Recreation Committee
Meeting Minutes: January 22, 2015

Attendance: Christopher Coulthard, Cheryl Smith, Joni Gawlikowski, Keith Jones, Mike Blackwell, Jermaine Dixon, Dave Blevins. Absent: Glenn Flemming, Fred Espana, Mike Bobadilla, Ron Hush, & Ed Spencer.

1. Cheryl Smith started the meeting at 7:05pm and welcomed everyone.
2. Cheryl introduced the newest member - Jermaine Dixon - Jermaine said he was born and raised in NB, Father of a 10 year old daughter, He attended Middlesex County College. The rest of the committee introduced themselves.
3. Cheryl Smith nominated Chris Coulthard for 2015 Chairperson. It was seconded by Joni Gawlikowski and unanimously approved.
4. Past minutes approval was motioned by Joni Gawlikowski and seconded by Chris Coulthard
5. Field Turf and Recreation Park Updates provided by Mike Blackwell. Cheryl is concerned with the delay in bids for the park. Why was the bid too high. Cheryl suggested that the Citizens Recreation Committee write a letter to the City Engineer asking why the bids were rejected. Dave mentioned that there were three meetings in the community to decide on the designs for Recreation park. Cheryl suggested that we continue the dog park. Keith Jones said that Rutgers may be trying to help with a temporary dog park. The committee discussed the possible addition of a new park downtown in New Brunswick when the Wolfsen Deck is removed.

Program Updates: Dave Blevins mentioned that 900+ students were engaged in the after school YSS program. 1700 students were engaged in the Play Safe program.

Dave also mentioned that Redshaw School opened this January to accommodate students. The school offers a full gymnasium, full industrial kitchen, food storage, playground, and more. Dave said the school has many smaller bathrooms everywhere throughout the school. Gymnasium is located on the second floor. Classrooms include smart boards and digital projectors in every classroom. 3 separate computer labs. Redshaw School will become a community school and will be able to allow access for community groups. Multipurpose room has professional lighting and sound for arts, play, or concerts.

New Brunswick Recreation Program updates; Mike Blackwell indicated that Basketball and Volleyball have increased participation by 22% from last year. Mike indicated that Little League is now registering for spring. Mike provided an update that teen center has become more active with the new indoor soccer arena that he built. The HUB Teen Center now has a more active setting with soccer, basketball, fitness, and dance programs. Teen Center attendance is way up this year. NB Recreation is sponsoring running

clubs, hub fitness club for youth this year. Many of the Recreation programs are adding health, nutrition, and fitness programs to help combat obesity in our community.

6. Citizens Recreation Committee Goals for 2015: Chris would like to see the metrics for programs in 2014 and encourage this committee to try and help increase participants by 10% in 2015. He suggested by promoting the registration dates in advance it would help. Chris also suggested that the City web site activities link up together with special event dates. Signage on city streets should help. The committee would like to begin hosting a booth at Ciclovía events.

Chris would like to change the make up of the Citizens Recreation Committee this year with 3 sub committees as follows:

Community Outreach 3 members

Funding Facilities: 3 members

Special Events Committee: 3 members

Chris Coulthard also encouraged each Committee Member to select one of the current youth sports programs to help increase participants by 10% this year.

Marketing: Cross Promo Marketing with RWJ Wellness Center and New Brunswick Recreation Board - Utilizing New Horizon's Swim Program.
Basketball Volleyball/ Swimming Pools

Live Well – Vivir Bien Chris passed out an article about the program. Chris would like to meet with Jaymie Santiago at NBT.

Chris and Jermaine want Keith to help provide more feedback from the Mayor's Office about what is expected of this committee going forward.

Meeting adjourned at 8:19pm

Minutes recorded by M. Blackwell

New Brunswick Citizens Recreation Committee

Meeting Agenda: August 20, 2015

Time/Location: 7pm Hub Teen Center

Agenda:

- 1. Opening Introductions and Remarks**
- 2. Introduction of new member Kathryn Ruhno**
- 3. Approval of April 2015 Minutes**
- 4. Old Business**
 - A. Park Improvements**
 - B. Ciclovía**
 - C. Subcommittees**
 - D. Live Well Program**
- 5. New Business**
 - A. Summer Program Updates**
 - B. Sub Committee Reports**
 - C. Other New Business**
- 6. Additional Comments**

New Brunswick Citizen's Recreation Committee
Meeting Minutes August 20, 2015

Attendance: Chris Coulthard, Cheryl Smith, Jermaine Dixon, Ron Hush, Mike Blackwell, Dave Blevins, and Kathryn Ruhno.

Welcome: Chris Coulthard opened the meeting by welcoming the newest member Kathryn Ruhno. Chris also recognized the accomplishments of Joni Gawlikowski and mentioned that he had a chance to meet her family at her memorial service. Chris also mentioned that he will continue to promote cross marketing at the RWJ Wellness Center and Recreation Centers for all programs that are offered in New Brunswick. Chris said that the focus should be on the whole New Brunswick community and shared cross marketing for the program offerings.

New Member Introduction: Kathryn Ruhno was introduced and had a chance to speak about her background and expertise. Kathryn works as a trainer at the RWJ Wellness Center and lives on Welton Street in New Brunswick. Kathryn mentioned that she loves working at the Wellness Center that has more than 7,000 members. She said that the wellness center offers a variety of classes in addition to swim & fitness that include rehab and cooking classes. The wellness center also has a day care for parents with children.

Minutes from April 23, 2015 meeting: Cheryl Smith motioned to accept the minutes. Ron Hush seconded the minutes and everyone approved the minutes without change.

Old Business:

Park Improvements:

Dave Blevins and Mike Blackwell provided updates on the new turf at Memorial Stadium. The turf is completed and the track is underway with a goal of finishing the track by the end of September in order to begin playing High School and Pop Warner games by the end of September or early October. Ron Hush voiced his displeasure that the track was only going to be a 6-lane track and mentioned that we really need an 8-lane track in order to host State and Regional Track meets.

Cheryl Smith provided an update for Recreation Park and mentioned that work has begun on the park. Cheryl mentioned that the park would include a large and small multipurpose field, Skate Park, community garden, basketball courts, bathrooms, water features and a fitness trail. She also indicated that the reconstruction would also include water features for summer time fun and off street parking in two locations. Cheryl mentioned that the city is waiting for condemnation of a Reservoir Street property to add a new extension of Sandford Street so that residents would have greater access to properties located behind the park. Currently residents that live behind the park have only one road that accesses those properties.

Old Business Continued:

Ciclovía: Mike Blackwell mentioned that the next Ciclovía will be held on Sunday, October 4th with the full 3 mile route throughout the City. Mike provided an update about the summer Ciclovía that utilized an abbreviated route of approximately 2 miles of city streets. The summer event included several water stations with sprinklers that were well received by the participants. The summer route included 12 activity stations and a passport program that rewarded participants based on the # of stations they visited.

Citizens Recreation Committee Subcommittees and Research: Chairperson Chris Coulthard mentioned that he was assigning CRC members with a subcommittee that they were comfortable with to complete research of the various city offerings. Committees included the major sports and fitness offerings in the City of New Brunswick. Chris wants committee members to complete research and report back at the next CRC Meeting.

Live Well Program: Chris Coulthard mentioned that New Brunswick Tomorrow was promoting the Live Well program and that he was recently receiving a lack of response from New Brunswick Tomorrow about this subject.

New Business:

Summer Program Updates: Dave Blevins spoke about the Play Safe Programs overwhelming success this summer with 1,800 students engaged. Dave said the free breakfast program helped 12 other non-profits this summer while serving over 2,000 breakfasts a day. Play safe included swimming, sports, arts and crafts, trips, and a field day at the end.

Mike Blackwell provided an update that included the success of a couple of summer teen programs; Learn to Earn with 100 students and Nature to Nurture with 200 students. Mike also mentioned that the Men's Open Baseball League concluded this week and that the league has been running successfully for more than 80 years in the City; however the number of teams in the league are down to four teams now. Mike also mentioned that the Coed Softball League has gone in the opposite positive direction with 18 teams currently. The Coed league has become the largest in the state of NJ.

Dave Blevins stated that he maintains a list of all program offerings in the city and can provide this at the next meeting. Dave also mentioned that catholic Charities offer programs on a sliding scale for fees based on family income.

Jermaine Dixon said that the Pop Warner program is seeing increasing numbers of participants and that this year they are having the best turnout for registration in quite some time. Jermained mentioned that the teams are practicing at the Youth Sports Complex on the upper field and that there is a need for a porta john there.

Jermaine also stated that the Jonathon Casillas camp was great and certainly helped increase the registration with Pop Warner.

Ron Hush provided an update for the Supersonics Track program. Ron mentioned that 14 kids qualified for the AAU Summer Nationals. Ron also mentioned that the team participated in the Northeast Coast Invitational and had success there in 800& 400 meter boys and girls relays.

Kathryn mentioned that she is currently working with the 30 Day Fitness Challenge with members at the RWJ Wellness Center. She is also working with non-members on blood pressure screenings, HIV Awareness, and many other programs. Kathryn also mentioned that Key Foods was opening soon below the Wellness Center that will be a great asset for the community.

Dave Blevins spoke about the Paul Robeson School work that will double the size of the school and should be completed by September 2018. Dave also mentioned that the Wellness Center is providing a 5th grade swim program over the winter for New Brunswick Elementary School students. Dave thanked Mike Blackwell for his service and mentioned that the City of New Brunswick is currently accepting applications/resumes for the Superintendent of Recreation position that Mike is vacating at the end of August.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.