



Minutes

Municipality of Thames Centre

Thames Centre Special Events Committee

May 8, 2024, 12:00 P.M.

**Municipal Office - Council Chambers
4305 Hamilton Road, Dorchester, ON**

- Members Present: C. Crockett, Chair/Council Representative
P. Wearne, Community Representative
A. Marr, Community Representative
K. Carter, Community Representative
M. Mundy, Community Representative
N. Abra, Community Representative
- Members Absent: M. Murray, Vice-Chair/Community Representative
D. Lockie, Council Representative
J. Kraft, Community Representative
S. Baker, Community Representative
- Staff Present: D. Brown, Staff Representative
S. MacDonald, Staff Representative
A. Malchesky, Recording Secretary
S. Henshaw, Deputy Clerk
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1. Call To Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

2. Disclosure Of Pecuniary Interest

No pecuniary interests were disclosed.

3. Previous Minutes

Resolution: # TCSEC-014-2024

Moved by: M. Mundy

Seconded by: A. Marr

THAT the minutes of the Thames Centre Special Events Committee meeting held on April 10, 2024, be received.

Carried.

4. Presentations/Delegations

No items.

5. Reports of Staff

5.1 C-TCSEC-006-2024 - Canada Day Entertainment

D. Brown, Parks & Facilities Supervisor, presented Report No. C-TCSEC-006-2024.

The Committee discussed the start and ending time for live entertainment, and what is planned for kids' entertainment.

The Committee discussed the benefits and downsides of ordering cake vs. cupcakes, and then provided direction to the Parks & Facilities Supervisor to use the existing cake budget for the 2024 Canada Day event to instead order as many cupcakes as possible.

The Committee discussed hosting a Kids Freeze Dance Party from 3:30-4:00 pm on the Monday.

The Committee discussed whether food trucks were needed at this event, or if the current food vendors were enough.

S. MacDonald, Director of Community Services & Facilities verbally reported the funding to be received for this event is through Canadian Heritage.

The Committee discussed the different options for who could be the MC for the opening ceremonies and discussed the possibilities of having a Land Acknowledgement and how that process works.

The Committee provided direction to staff to look into the possibility of having a Land Acknowledgement to open the 2024 Canada Day ceremonies and to also consult with the trainers that recently provided Indigenous Affairs training to municipal staff on advice for how the Municipality can approach Canada Day.

Resolution: TCSEC-015-2024

Moved by: K. Carter

Seconded by: N. Abra

THAT Report No. C-TCSEC-006-2024 **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

5.2 C-TCSEC-007-2024 - Corn Fest Vendor and Entertainment

D. Brown, Parks & Facilities Supervisor, presented Report No. C-TCSEC-007-2024.

The Committee discussed the number of vendor registrations so far and compared the budgets for live entertainment of BridgeFest and Corn Fest.

The Committee discussed the possibility of having a more established local artist with a longer set time on Saturday night and also discussed incorporating buskers into the event, potentially on the Friday night.

The Committee discussed scheduling the time for live entertainment to start around 12:00 pm and having music or a playlist playing through speakers from 9:00 am-12:00 pm.

The Committee discussed the location of the stage relative to food and vendors, to eliminate noise complaints.

The Committee discussed remaining entertainment options to fill in time such as potentially getting line dancing lessons as well as potentially

turning on the community park Christmas lights for the night market portion.

The Committee discussed the future scheduling of a subcommittee meeting for fundraising and advised Committee members to reach out to Dorchester and Thorndale Agricultural Societies regarding sweet corn vendors/suppliers.

The Committee discussed the possibility of inviting food trucks and the idea of promoting corn-themed options available on the menus for food vendors.

The Committee discussed the prior Corn Fest that was held in Dorchester.

D. Brown, Parks & Facilities Supervisor advised that Corn Fest would be set up like Canada Day.

The Committee provided direction for staff to look into purchasing an advertisement banner to promote Corn Fest.

The Committee provided direction for staff to reach out to local service groups to see if they want to participate in being a food vendor at Corn Fest.

Resolution: TCSEC-016-2024

Moved by: K. Carter

Seconded by: P. Wearne

THAT Report No. C-TCSEC-007-2024 **BE RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

6. Committee Business

6.1 Thames Centre's 25th Anniversary (January 1, 2026) - Committee Discussion

S. Henshaw, Deputy Clerk presented and discussed the committee's previous meeting ideas of holding it on New Years Eve and also the potential of having a time vault/capsule.

The Committee discussed and asked about updating the book on the Reeves from 1850-2000 and adding the next 25 years of Mayor and Council.

The Committee discussed the potential to have a banner advertisement to promote at community events, and, or have Canada Day Fireworks in 2025 display skywriting to celebrate the anniversary.

The Committee discussed the potential for a New Year's Day Open House to invite people for tours of Thames Centre's fire halls, offices, community centres, etc.

The Committee discussed the possibility of not holding a celebration, but rather showing acknowledgement through potential advertising.

Municipal staff discussed the idea to refer this topic to the August 14, 2024, meeting to be timely with 2025 Budget Preparations.

Resolution: TCSEC-017-2024

Moved by: K. Carter

Seconded by: M. Mundy

THAT Agenda Item 6.1, "Thames Centre's 25th Anniversary (January 1, 2026) – Committee Discussion" **BE REFERRED** to the Regular Meeting scheduled on Wednesday, August 14, 2024, ahead of 2025 Budget Preparations.

Carried.

7. Correspondence

No items.

8. Unfinished Business

No items.

9. New Business

S. MacDonald, Director of Community Services & Facilities, provided a verbal update on the Home of Boone Jenner sign, as well as the upcoming event being held for it at the end of May.

S. MacDonald, Director of Community Services & Facilities discussed the possibility of having a ceremony with balloons and speeches and potentially inviting Dorchester Minor Hockey Association.

The Committee discussed and inquired about why comments are turned off for the Municipality of Thames Centre's social media page and discussed the benefits for comments turned on for the community to be able to share and participate in posts.

The Committee provided direction for the Parks & Facilities Supervisor to reach out to the Communications Coordinator to inquire if commenting can be turned on for community events posts.

N. Abra advised she will use Committee minutes to promote the committee's events (after minutes are approved by Council) and further advised she would write articles in the newspaper she is affiliated with regarding this committee's upcoming events.

10. Scheduling of Meetings

The next meeting is scheduled to be held June 12, 2024, at 12:00 p.m.

11. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss it was:

Resolution: TCSEC-018-2024

Moved by: P. Wearne

Seconded by: K. Carter

RESOLVED THAT the meeting adjourn at 12:58 p.m.

Carried.