



Regular Meeting Minutes
Municipality of Thames Centre
Thames Centre Special Events Committee

May 7, 2025, 12:00 P.M.
Municipal Office - Council Chambers
4305 Hamilton Road, Dorchester, ON

Members Present: Chantel Crockett, Chair/Council Representative
Mike Murray, Vice-Chair/Community Representative
Danielle Lockie, Council Representative
Penny Wearne, Community Representative
Al Marr, Community Representative
Jennifer Kraft, Community Representative
Michelle Mundy, Community Representative
Nancy Abra, Community Representative

Members Absent: Kaela Carter, Community Representative
Sean Baker, Community Representative

Staff Present: Devon Brown, Parks & Facilities Manager/Staff Representative
Steve MacDonald, Director of Community Services &
Facilities/Staff Representative
Abby Malchesky, Administrative Assistant of Recreation &
Fire/Recording Secretary
Mike Ramnanan, Communications Manager

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Resolution #TCSEC-006-2025

Moved by: D. Lockie

Seconded by: A. Marr

THAT the May 7, 2025 Regular Meeting Agenda of the Thames Centre Special Events Committee **BE APPROVED** as circulated.

Carried.

3. Disclosure Of Pecuniary Interest

No pecuniary interests were disclosed.

4. Previous Minutes

Resolution #TCSEC-007-2025

Moved by: P. Wearne

Seconded by: N. Abra

THAT the minutes of the Thames Centre Special Events Committee Regular Meeting held on February 12, 2025 **BE RECEIVED**.

Carried.

5. Presentations/Delegations

6. Reports of Staff

6.1 Canada Day 2025

The Committee discussed potential attendance levels based on attendees work schedules, if the times were kept the same, as Canada Day is on a Tuesday in 2025. The Committee further discussed the times of the Canada Day event;

Monday, June 30, 2025, from 5:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 1, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The Committee discussed the flow of events of the 2024 event and further discussed if they wanted to keep the schedule the same.

The Committee inquired about having a singer perform the national anthem this year and discussed who would be speaking at the opening ceremonies.

The Committee discussed scheduling the time for live entertainment on June 30, 2025, to start at 6:00 p.m. and having music continue after the fireworks.

The Committee inquired about having another friendly competition aspect such as the corn husking event. The Committee further discussed alternative games that could be played.

S. MacDonald verbally reported that with the Celebrate Canada grant that Thames Centre has received, all promotional flyers will need to be bilingual and follow all grant requirements, which he will forward to the Communications Manager.

The Committee inquired about the donation amount that the TCSEC provides to the Dorchester & District Lions Club to help support their firework display.

The Committee provided direction to staff to arrange for live entertainment and to reach out to local groups such as the boy scouts and the Cookie Nook to gauge their interest in selling their products at this event.

Resolution #TCSEC-008-2025

Moved by: D. Lockie

Seconded by: M. Mundy

THAT Report C-TCSEC-02-25 be **RECEIVED** for information;

AND THAT the donation to the Dorchester & District Lions Club for the fireworks on Canada Day, be increased to \$2000.00 in 2025.

Carried.

6.2 Movie Nights 2025

The Committee discussed the dates of the two movie nights in Thames Centre:

Thorndale - Friday, July 11, 2025

Dorchester - Friday, August 8, 2025

The Committee discussed that they would pick movies for each event closer to the date, as new movies are still being released.

Resolution #TCSEC-009-2025

Moved by: J. Kraft

Seconded by: M. Murray

THAT Report C-TCSEC-03-25 be **RECEIVED** for information.

Carried.

7. Committee Business

7.1 CornFest Vendor Application & Promotion

The Committee discussed that the location of the 2025 CornFest event will be in the Dorchester Community Park on September 6, 2025.

The Committee inquired about having the location of vendors more central to the pavilion, rather than on the path closer to the FlightExec Centre.

The Committee discussed the previous years event and inquired about having the same children's entertainment.

The Committee discussed how to encourage vendors to stay for the whole event and how to make set-up and take-down a smooth transition. The Committee further discussed whether vehicles should be allowed in the park to assist vendors.

The Committee discussed the application for CornFest and the cost associated with this event.

The Committee directed staff to amend the application to state no vehicles will be permitted in the park for set-up and clean-up, and adding a health unit section for food vendors to comply.

Resolution #TCSEC-010-2025

Moved by: J. Kraft

Seconded by: A. Marr

THAT the hours of CornFest on September 6, 2025, be 10:00am-10:00pm.

Carried.

7.2 Monster Walk Event

The Committee discussed the resolution that was passed at the February 12, 2025, TCSEC meeting regarding the Economic Development Advisory Committee discussing the feasibility of this Monster Walk Event.

The Committee invited any members of the TCSEC to attend the next Economic Development Advisory Committee meeting on May 22, 2025, to discuss this idea further.

8. Correspondence

9. Unfinished Business

10. New Business

D. Brown inquired if the TCSEC would be interested in creating a local light display similar to what Ingersoll, Belmont, London and other surrounding areas put on in their parks during the winter months for residents to enjoy.

D. Brown explained that he has met with a business representative that could design different light displays for the Municipality to purchase.

D. Brown further explained that this could be a sponsorship/advertising opportunity where local businesses pay a fee to have their naming rights on that display for that one season and can renew the next year.

The Committee inquired if such light display could be in Dorchester and Thorndale.

The Committee provided direction to staff to look into the possibility of this further and to find out costs associated with these light displays.

11. Scheduling of Meetings

Wednesday, June 11, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.

12. Adjournment

Resolution #TCSEC-011-2025

Moved by: D. Lockie

Seconded by: P. Wearne

RESOLVED THAT the meeting **ADJOURN** at 12:56 p.m.

Carried.