



MUNICIPALITY OF THAMES CENTRE

REPORT NO. CS-005-24

TO: Mayor and Members of Council
FROM: Director of Community Services and Facilities
MEETING DATE: March 11, 2024
SUBJECT: Naming of Harrietsville-Mossley Ball Diamond

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Report No. CS-005-24 be **RECEIVED** for information;

AND THAT Council **APPROVE** naming the baseball diamond, located at Harrietsville-Mossley Community Park, "Frost Field."

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to name the baseball diamond located at Harrietsville-Mossley after the Frost family.

BACKGROUND:

During the Special Meeting of Council in December 2023, dedicated to finalizing the 2024 Municipal Budget, there were questions around the possibility/process of naming the baseball diamond at Harrietsville-Mossley Community Park after Max Frost. This suggestion was not finalized during budget deliberations, however, Council did approve budget funds in 2024 for "recreation signage." Since that time, staff have received a formal request for this naming.

COMMENTS:

Our Municipal Policy Number CP-G-1.11, "Naming/Renaming Municipal Parks, Open Spaces, Trails and Facilities" includes criteria whereby a park or open space may be named after "a group that has made a major contribution(s) to the community." This policy also dictates that such requests will be submitted to the applicable department Director, who in turn will process the request through Council.

Staff are in receipt of a formal request from a friend of the Frost family, Dave Secord, making the request to name the ball diamond "Frost Field", in memory of Max Frost, who passed away in late 2023.

Mr. Secord's notes that, "Max was the pioneer and pillar of the sports aspect of Harrietsville for many, many years. Max laid the foundation to make the ballpark what it is today. A high percentage of the history of the park was a direct result of Max's efforts, direction and management. Max, with the efforts and support of his family, made vast commitments to maintain and enhance sports (baseball and hockey) for the Harrietsville community."

For context, in 2020, Council approved naming a ball diamond at Dorchester Community Park after the late Bob Davis. This sign was installed in the spring of 2021:



For consistency, staff is recommending that the "Frost Field" sign requested for Harrietsville-Mossley Community Park be the same design/style as the sign shown above in Dorchester. This style of sign is consistent with all other ball diamond signs in place at other Municipal baseball diamonds. Further, the Frost family is also in agreement with this style of sign.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The cost of the proposed sign is \$3,300, including installation. Thames Centre's 2024 Capital Budget includes \$25,000 for recreation signage. This will cover the cost to bring the remaining ballparks (excluding Royal Field) in Thames Centre up to the same standard of signs as those already in place (4 diamonds at Dorchester Community Park, the original diamond at the Outdoor Recreation Complex and the hardball diamond in Thorndale). Therefore, there are enough funds in the approved 2024 budget to accommodate this request.

STRATEGIC PLAN LINK

Pillar: *Active Living*

Goal: *Increase the accessibility and programming of recreational services, especially to community youth and seniors*

CONSULTATION:

Family and friends of Max Frost

REFERENCES:

Municipal Policy Number CP-G-1.11 – Naming/Renaming Municipal Parks, Open Spaces, Trails and Facilities

ATTACHMENTS:

None.

Prepared by: S. MacDonald, Director of Community Services & Facilities

Reviewed by: D. Barrick, Chief Administrative Officer