

COUNCIL COMMITTEE – PRESENTATION MEETING

The Council Committee/Presentations Meeting of the Municipality of the County of Colchester was conducted in-person and virtually via Zoom Webinars, on January 3, 2023, beginning at 6:00 pm.

In peace and friendship, and in the spirit of truth and reconciliation, Deputy Mayor Stewart acknowledged that the Municipality of Colchester is in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq.

Roll Call

The roll was called with the following Councillors in attendance:

Mayor Christine Blair	
Cllr. Laurie Sandeson	District 2
Deputy Mayor Geoff Stewart, Chair	District 3
Cllr. Mike Cooper	District 4
Cllr. Tim Johnson	District 5
Cllr. Karen MacKenzie	District 6
Cllr. Michael Gregory	District 7 (<i>virtually</i>)
Cllr. Lisa Patton	District 8
Cllr. Marie Benoit	District 9 (<i>virtually arrived at 6:25 pm</i>)
Cllr. Victoria Lomond	District 10
Cllr. Wade Parker	District 11

Regrets

Cllr. Eric Boutilier	District 1
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Staff Present

Rob Simonds, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
 Dennis James, Municipal Solicitor
 Tracey Veno, Recording Secretary
 Tim Smith, IT Manager

PRESENTATIONS

VON – Annual Grant Update

Presenters - Charlotte Kennedy and Monique Natividad

Ms. Natividad and Ms. Kennedy appeared before Council to provide an update on the Adult Day Program administered through VON. The Program benefits so many in the community and targets two distinct groups:

- Clients – consisting of $\frac{3}{4}$ seniors, most with some degree of dementia, as well as a growing group of younger adults who do not have a place to go/don't have a place to fit in; and,
- Caregivers – providing opportunities to those caring for the clients to tend to their own needs and responsibilities or just to have some down time.

The main goal of the Program is to provide clients with a safe and secure environment with days filled with laughter, joy and meaningful activities; helps to stabilize a person's functional abilities to maintain some independence; maintains and improve on skills; introduce leisure activities; and provide respite to caregivers. Also included in the presentation were the many benefits of the Program for the clients; the various locations and days/times of Program offerings; examples of daily schedules including meals and activities; and a slideshow of photos of clients and activities. In conclusion, Ms. Natividad and Ms. Kennedy stressed the importance of the

Program, the benefits it provides in the communities, and expressed appreciation for the continued support provided by the Municipality.

At this point, Councillor Benoit joined the meeting.

Discussion points following the presentation included transportation and attendance; maximum daily #'s and waiting list; provincial funding and client fees; how coping with additional costs during Covid and now with inflation costs; donations accepted; importance of volunteers; and, the Program being paramount in our communities.

Moved by Councillor Sandeson and seconded by Councillor Patton

“That the presentation on the VON Adult Day Program be received.” Carried unanimously.

**North Colchester River Restoration Association – Annual Grant Update
Presenter – Alex Feix**

Mr. Feix provided a brief introduction of himself, noting that this is his third year as Chairperson of the North Colchester River Restoration Association. He began his presentation by thanking the Board members of the organization, as well as all the sponsors and funding contributors.

The objective of the organization has remained the same since the beginning, which is to enhance the fish habitat in local streams and rivers. Cleaning rivers provides many benefits including improving the quality of drinking water in the French River Watershed. The projects of the organization provide summer student employment and valuable experience. This year’s plan includes continued work in the Waugh and French River watersheds. Work includes building structures to stop bank erosion, making deeper pools and more resting spots, spawning areas and keeping the rivers on a straight clean path. Other activities include collection and transportation of salmon to the fish hatchery and managing the process before being released back to the river from which originally collected. Also included in the presentation were detailed descriptions of the various projects undertaken, maps, and a number of before and after photos highlighting the work of the North Colchester River Restoration Association.

Brief discussion was held on tracking abilities once fish are released back into the rivers; challenges of dealing with beaver dams; budget constraints; other provincial and/or federal funding opportunities; and looking into summer student grant opportunities to assist with wages. Additional discussion took place on Hurricane Fiona and the extent of the damage. Mr. Feix indicated that preliminary investigations shows lower sections of the rivers having more damage but there is still a lot of areas to cover. The challenges are the hazardous conditions and how to carry out clean-up safely. More funding may be required depending on the extent of the damage.

Copies of the North Colchester River Restoration Association’s 2022 Annual Report were distributed to Council at the start of the presentation.

Moved by Mayor Blair and seconded by Councillor Lomond

“That the presentation from the North Colchester River Restoration Association be received.” Carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

Moved by Councillor Patton and seconded by Councillor Sandeson

“That the meeting go into closed session at 7:06 pm.” Carried unanimously.

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie and seconded by Councillor Patton

“That the meeting reconvene in open session at 7:37 pm.” Carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Councillor MacKenzie and seconded by Councillor Patton

“That the meeting adjourn at 7:38 pm.” Carried unanimously.

Tracey Veno
Recording Secretary