

Staff Report March 9, 2021

CAO and Municipal Clerk– Alain Muisse & Lori Murphy

Municipal Administration Building *Council Priority (multiyear)

The building is advancing mostly on schedule. Since the last report we have advanced some of the storage facility work, finalized our audio visual needs, and are narrowing our work on office furniture, security and other. Some of the rooms have been painted, and crackfilling is nearing completion for most rooms. The project remains within budget parameters. The work on the roof and fascia on the storage building will be included in a change order to the project.

I have toured the facility 3 times since our last meeting, one was for media coverage. On a personal note, I am very pleased with how Garian Construction has led the project along with their subcontractors. They have proven to be very good to work with on this project.

Affordable and Alternative Housing *Council Priority (multiyear)

We received one submission for our Request for expression of interest for Tuskett affordable/alternative housing. Staff will evaluate the submission and present information to council at our Committee of the Whole meeting. It is very likely that we will be sending a second RFEIOI in the future once we assess and recommend action on the first submission.

Strategic priorities sessions

COVID rules allowing, we have set strategic priorities sessions tentatively for March 25 (late afternoon into evening, and March 26th am. Work is ongoing in preparation.

Rural Internet – WREN *Council Priority (multiyear)

Bell has sent an agreement to us to sign to enable the Rural Internet project. Council will be asked to approve signature at the next COW meeting. The agreement cements our financial commitment of about \$680,000.

COVID

Covid related funding will be included in March 31, 2021 year end figures, and some will definitely be transferred into 2021-22.

Fishing dispute

A recent announcement from DFO announced regulations surrounding moderate livelihood. The announcement was not well received by the 13 First Nation organizations of Nova Scotia. This issue is ongoing, and not yet resolved. We have had CAO regional meetings to discuss this issue, including one with Allister Surette to get an update on his mediator work. A Mayors and Warden's meeting is set for this Wednesday, as well as a meeting with Iris Communications on Monday March 9, 2021. We did not meet with Minister Jordan a second time as of yet, despite the request.

Mariners Center expansion, strategic planning and bridge to services* Council Priority 2019-20

There are multiple and ongoing meetings related to these services. The CAO's are bringing in Marc Brophy from the Town of Yarmouth to assist us with the project management. There is sobering information on the cost of the Mariners Center Expansion. The CAO's shall work collaboratively to present the information to Councils on what we desire and what the limitations are to that desire. Recently, all three Municipalities have committed an initial \$75,000 to the restoration of service. This represents an initial funding; it will enable an opening. The community will have to assist through membership and other means to aid us in delivering this service.

As it relates to a new Aquatic Center at the Mariners Center, we are aware that any Federal and Provincial funding shall be limited. Early indications suggest that funding from other levels would be at 75%, but there would be a ceiling on that number. The community and the three municipal units will have to decide how much they can afford assuming the project size and cost exceeds the tolerances of the 2 levels of government.

The committee eyed the East Hants Aquatic Center as a desirable option, but already, the estimated cost of that stand alone facility is challenging.

Mariners Center strategic planning sessions have taken place, with the most recent on March 3, 2021. Public engagement confirmed the need of the community. Far and away, the Aquatic Center is a want from the residents as an add-on to the Mariners Center facility. A far second is a fitness center and third a walking track. All three constructed will challenge our financial tolerance, so more work is required. Funding is not eminent for this project, so we have time to continue our detailed planning. There is a lot of energy invested in these projects currently.

Yarmouth International Airport Corporation *Council Priority 2019-20

At our last meeting Celtic Air was selected as the organization to lead a right-sizing of the airport. David Morgan, president of Celtic, and I met initially to discuss approach. They have received the first volley of information that will allow him to understand and lead changes. We have three active inquiries for rental or purchase of property which will require my energy to move forward. A draft budget was presented to the Corporation at the last meeting. There is lots of uncertainty in the current year as Celtic's work will have results that will impact the bottom line. The budget contemplates a reduction in municipal funding, some of which assumes sale of property. The airport budget anticipates a \$12,000 payment to Argyle for management services. In 2020-21, the amount will be \$24,000 for my services. Even if I am no longer interim manager, my time is required to assist Celtic, and to address ongoing matters that need ownership attention.

The Chamber of Commerce, through Jim Smith, is actively asking questions to the airport and to potential users on a smaller scale cargo. No update to report on their work.

Other projects

Eel Brook Volunteer Fire Department – It is unlikely that there will be additional funding specific for this project. I have requested a meeting with the EBVFD as well as their project managers to obtain an update on where we are, and determine next steps. It is a very uncertain time to go to market. Despite sharp increases in material prices, the construction industry is very hot. The pricing will likely reflect this and has many concerned and questioning the proper timing to go to market. Adding complexity to this decision is the new truck on order. The truck will not fit the existing dilapidated building and therefore an alternative plan is actively in the works for another storage location in case the project cannot be completed in time. There is likely going to be another round of federal funding to support municipalities across Canada. There is no word on what that will look like, but the NSFMR was consulted by the Federal Government directly. It is possible that the funding will be capital. At that point, Council would have to decide how that funding would be utilized, and perhaps one option would be to further financially support this project, as it appears clear it is in need.

No word on our application for a Regional Planning Initiative. The department is undergoing significant change, as it will re-become solely Municipal Affairs.

Heat Pellets – The presentation was received by Council, and Council should consider the merits of being included in a study for residential heat pellet pilot project.

Port of Yarmouth -The municipal CAO's met with Greg Shay to reignite the work on divestiture of port operations. I have indicated our interest to move away from these operations as was the case established decades ago.

NSFM board retreat – I participated in an NSFM board retreat that set strategic priorities for the organization. I also participated in an AMA/NSFM board meeting where there was discussion on how both organizations can work closer, and improve services to membership.

Sat in various meetings with WREN consultants on the potential for solar energy for Airport, as well as in the Municipality, and connected consultants with our newest neighboring business to ensure that the business had the opportunity to consider solar in their construction.

With assistance from Hans, assigned work to amend bylaws to enable registration with the Department of Justice, and the improved issuance of fines for bylaw infractions.

Finance Department- Marsha d'Eon

Our tax sale that was scheduled for Thursday, February 11, 2021 was postponed until Tuesday, April 13, 2021.

The 2021 Property tax exemption application forms are now available in our office and on our website and copies have been mailed to applicants who had received it last year. It will be advertised on our web page, in the Vanguard and Lobster Bay Shopper. Deadline to apply is April 30th, 2021.

The Finance Department is coming up into busy time with year-end, budget and Tax season. Preparations for all are underway.

I am in the process of working on the HST Offset which is due on March 22, 2021.

All services, including monthly reconciliations, accounts payable, and monthly financial reporting to staff and Council continues and is on schedule.

Public Works , Facilities and Development (Hans, Louis, Alix, John, Tara)

West Pubnico Sewer Treatment Plant (WPSTP)

Plant Operations

The plant is operating at high efficiency and in compliance with NSDoE guidelines and the annual report has been submitted. Staff is still waiting, due to Covid travel restrictions on the replacement of the LEL (Lower Explosive Limit) gas detectors which are a requirement in any treatment facility. This should be installed as soon as restrictions ease for travel between provinces. Staff is also looking into having spare parts on hand for

critical components, since the plant is reaching the age for more frequent breakdowns to start occurring on parts with high run times. We are also now looking into pricing for an extra blower for our digester since without this we have no way of supplying air to our final stage of the plant and supply could be months away; this would render our plant non operational. The lift station #11 on rock road is losing all power for no apparent reason. We've had d'Entremont Electrical look at this issue with no results and Kevin Cook from KRC Controls, also with no results. This is one of the last older lift stations and could be reaching its' life expectancy. It is also the most important one, receiving all of the other lift station flows before heading to the plant. We now have a temporary alarm that will notify of a power drop to prevent overflows and have received a quote for a new system from KRC Controls if this problem persists. This will need to be addressed in the near future. An update to the Operations & Maintenance Manual for West Pubnico has been completed with all new contacts changed.

This month we didn't come across any sewer connections.

Capital Project Initiatives

We are working actively with Trident Processes to get the MD Press dewatering machine details sorted out in order to make it fit within our existing Sewer Plant. We are awaiting for the shipping info and hope to receive the equipment by end of March 2021. We are starting to source local installers and try to get quotes in time of the arrival of the equipment. More details will follow soon.

The West Pubnico Distillery connection is near completion and we are awaiting the approval from the engineer in order to issue the acceptance on this connection.

We received a comprehensive report on the Red Cap pump station issue and are working through the report to make adjustments in the future with the goal to reduce the overflow risk at this location.

Tusket Sewer Treatment Plant

Plant Operations

The plant is operating at high efficiency and is in compliance with NSDoE. We are still awaiting on the report from CBCL as to their findings why our PH level is so low and so many solids end up in the treatment plant filters. Pumps and filters need more careful observation and more frequent cleaning due to these solids. This in turn increases the durability of our pumps which are at a high cost to replace. All 112 septic systems have been maintained for the season and no major issues to report. The lift station is operating without any issues to report.

We are still waiting for engineering ideas for the Tusket brewery field bed. This is still causing issues and hopefully will have results soon. We did not receive any new connection request.

Capital Project Initiatives

The Mission Communication Module is working well for us and we are collecting valuable data each day and noticed reduced overtime on monitoring and troubleshooting of the plant and pump station already.

East Pubnico Water Utility

System Operations

Staff continues to monitor and repair as needed and meter reading are done on a regular basis. Water has been running at full capacity since the pump repair at civic #432 Willet Road.

Capital Project Initiatives

The tender to hire a contractor closed On February 3rd, 2021 and we received higher than expected quotes and are working through post tender adjustments in order to achieve an outcome that is within budget allowances. Unfortunately this process delayed the project a bit further. Depending on the weather and post tender negotiations we hope to perform the installation work as soon as possible.

Wedgeport Sewer Improvement Program

System Operations

All 42 systems are in full operation with no major issues. Some of the BIO PRO systems needed minor adjustments since these are smaller versions of treatment plants but all are working without any issues to report.

Capital Project Initiatives

We submitted 42 new locations to the consultant with the goal to get the conceptual design going and are making progress on receiving a couple more applications for the program. COVID is the biggest challenge regarding scheduling the field work because the engineer is coming from Halifax and recently updated restrictions in the HRM area are throwing us another curve ball. The goal is still to enter construction this summer and replace as many sewers as possible and up to 50 units max.

Municipal Administration Building

We are actively engaged in the project and are supporting all involved parties with material selection, site clarifications, financial project claims and other upcoming questions. Garian Construction is the lead contractor and they are managing the project well to stay on schedule to move into the new building by June 2021 or a bit earlier. We appreciate staff's engagement during the project with all kinds of material and color selection questions.

The last pieces on the outside of the building will be fully completed as soon as weather allows for paving the top layer and the contractor is focusing entirely on the inside of the building right now. They are working on finishing the drywall work over the next few

days and start painting soon after. Tiles for floors and walls should start within the next week or two. The solar panels were installed and are fully operational. Final touch ups on the landscaping and parking areas will be performed in the Spring. All is on schedule for us to move into the building by end of May or early June.

Tusket New Road Development

The new road in Tusket is substantially completed and the final touch will be done in the spring 2021. It is now known as Rue JE Hatfield Court. NS Power is working on the installation of the power lines and things are starting to come together.

The stormwater pond was successfully installed and proved to be working well. Further planting improvements will be performed by our own staff next year.

Policy and By-Law Working Group

We are further developing our SOT schedule with the support of a legal team and hope to have provincial concerns addressed and our By-Laws registered for the use of Summary Offence Tickets. This process will most likely require a series of By-Law changes and we will present the affected By-Laws in the coming months. This could help us with the enforcement of several by-laws and increase our options on how to respond to certain situations in a more effective way.

The municipal clerk is working on several staff policies regarding code of conduct, progressive discipline and other guiding rules to better guide and protect staff and the organization in case of any questions or concerns.

Planning Department / GIS Work

Alix is actively working on the following projects and initiatives:

- Ongoing civic address maintenance and other regular tasks
- Helped Ginette with a trails brochure that Upland is developing.
- Research on the Sims Rd (a.k.a. Shipyard Rd) in Plymouth
- Created an amendment map and list of owners near a rezoning on L.W. Pubnico
- Picked up and stored a wind and wave sensor at Abbott's Harbour Wharf for CMAR (Centre for Marine Applied Research)
- Looked at optimal sites for a solar array with Hans/Alain
- Created an excel spreadsheet for mail merge for residents that require a new/replacement civic sign in Amiraults Hill
- Cleaned the DPC office in preparation for the move
- Photographed the new admin building for the newsletter
- February 9 virtual and Feb 24 in-person meeting with Spiri Robotics about possible data acquisition in support of ADA
- February 12 ADA (Aquaculture Development Area) Data meeting
- February 17 ADA Stakeholder meeting
- February 23 ADA informal meeting

- February 26 ADA Steering Committee meeting
- Several meetings with fishermen for the ADA

The new Land Use By-Law was adopted by council in July of 2020 and went into effect (effective date) November 2020. MODA has engage WSP to handle all our planning issues on a contract basis for the immediate future. The adoption of the new LUB is the trigger for mapping updates and renaming of existing development zones, which is being handled by Alix.

Animal Control

SPCA is handling all of our domestic animal complaints and they had a few calls without major issues. With the loss of the Yarmouth Dispatch center we also lost the service for dog control issues. The SPCA can be directly reached under 902-307-0475 in case of any dog issues.

No other animal complaints were filed.

Garbage Handling

We are working with Wastecheck on a few garbage complaints and optimized the Fall and Spring clean up routes with the Pick up contractor.

After recent discussion with the current contractor we started to receive all rejection notifications and are keeping track of residents that are not properly disposing their waste. WasteCheck and the Collection contractor have increased their activities in checking green bins for plastics due to severe issues at the composting facility. This will avoid cost increases due to fines.

All other collection activities are running as per schedule and weather permitted delays are being handled on time and we have a great communication style with the contractor to handle individual requests in a timely manner.

Building Inspection Report

In the 2020 building season, staff have issued 131 Building Permits. Staff has also issued 112 development permits. Note: a Demolition Permit is tallied under the Building Permit numbers and the adoption of the new LUB require all development within the municipality to start with a Development Permit. We have provided background information for several possible rezoning inquires. 9 letters for Zoning Confirmations have also been issued.

Fire Inspections

The primary concern for a Fire Inspector is to look for ways in which a fire could start within a building. During a Fire Inspection I will be looking to see if the proper safety systems such as smoke alarms, fire extinguishers, lighted exit sign, and emergency lighting are in place. In preparation for these inspections, I have been reaching out to

local Business's and property owners to introducing myself as the new Fire Inspector for the Municipality of Argyle.

Sub-Division Activity

We had a total of 19 sub-division files in 2020. The type of subdivision, be it Instrument of Subdivision or Final Plan of Subdivision, is pretty well equal. There are no large multi lot subdivisions on the books, as the majority of activity, is 2-3 lot subdivisions or consolidation of existing lots. One large subdivision created over the past two calendar year has been expanding, both in lot count and building development activity. Substantial economic gains for the municipality have been generated by this development.

Unsightly or Dangerous

The legal actions regarding the Noise Complaint are still ongoing and deferred by the judge till mid-March. We are also working on a series of new garbage related complaints and are still trying to resolve ongoing issues. We keep getting new complaints and are assessing the situation over the next few days and are waiting to hear back from a few residents. We came across an illegal waste burning situation and sent out warning letters with reminders that this activity is not tolerated and in violation of the by-law. The toxins set free during this process are harmful to the environment and neighborhood. Next steps will be taken if we don't hear from them in time. We are focusing on the severe situations first and then handling the remaining situations on a case by case basis. We are also trying to identify areas of training and PPE that would be needed to improve our operations and procedures to make it safer for staff and residents.

Maintenance

Staff is now working hard at the storage building trying to get it finished with the anticipation of spring being just around the corner. We have insulated the concrete walls and made some additional framing supports so paper files can be stored in the basement. The upstairs has been completely gutted and will hose mostly recreation department supplies once ready. Equipment maintenance has been completed in preparation for spring season with more properties to be maintained. All projects are moving forward and maintenance is being done at a high level of excellence.

Industrial Park

We continue to receive requests from interested buyers for the remaining lots. It appears that the medicinal processing plant will proceed and we are available to support the owner with the sewer connection requirements. The Tusket Falls Brewery is reviewing their chances on re-zoning their lot and are looking into a possible food serving use. We still have 2 lots available for sale.

Staff

Tara is finishing her class room training and was accepted by the Fire Marshall as Fire Inspector in Training to gain her field experience and finish her Level 1 inspector certificate within the coming months.

Software

At present all software used in the Public Works and Inspection office is up to date and working well. In the winter months of 2021 software functions will be reviewed and updated for the building permit, fire inspection and development permit functions. Changes to applicable Nova Scotia Codes make these software changes necessary.

Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee

The Municipality Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee had paused shortly with the outbreak of the pandemic but resumed very quickly after and released a series of work safe procedures and guidelines to ensure the safety of all staff. We are meeting on a monthly basis and renewed our program as required on an annual basis. We are looking into specific training for all JOHSC members to better prepare them for this role.

Staff is moving along good with the establishment of certain work safe procedures that are needed for a variety of special tasks and that are not covered by national standards. We are also making immediate changes and improvements to tasks that create a high risk or have resulted in injuries.

Any safety related issues should be reported immediately to your supervisor or committee member!

Miscellaneous

1. Staff is working on the improvement of the Comeau's Hill Rd Wharf. The window of opportunity has closed on this project until spring 2021. The pavement plant is shut down and weight restrictions will come into effect until late May. I was in contact with Aberdeen Paving Ltd and they have assured us the quoted price will stand for next spring.
2. We are also looking into the opportunity to introduce alternative heating systems to the community with the goal to offer more affordable heating options in a more economic viable and environmentally friendly way. We are working with Torchlight Bioresources to explore the option of pellet heating and how it could create a positive change to the region and open potential doors for the local forestry sector. We are in the Chicken and Egg situation and are trying to review ways to foster biomass heating solutions.
3. The Director of Public Works and Development is sitting on a variety of committees for the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA) and is current president for the Atlantic Provinces Association of Landscape Architects (APALA). He is representing Argyle on a Climate Change Adaptation panel, which meets monthly to discuss municipal initiatives across Canada regarding climate change and developing an educational video about the work of a Landscape Architect in Atlantic Canada.

Community Development Officer Report-Charlene LeBlanc

Feb 5- March 5, 2021

- Assisted a business with a plan for expansion of services.
- Submitted my draft budget
- Dept of Fisheries and Aquaculture released a series of videos, one which is promoting our ADA work
- Attended a webinar “The surprisingly science of Public Input”
- Attended a WREN meeting/presentation on transit
- Attended numerous meetings related to the ADA (Aquaculture Development Area)
- Designed and printed a few brochures for ADA
- Working with industry and Merinov on R & D projects
- Met with Hans and Alain re: suitable projects ideas to use funding (healthy community initiatives)
- Attended a workshop on End-of Life gear
- Did stakeholder engagements with fishers
- Attended the YASTA meeting and Doctor Recruitment meeting
- Workplace Wellness had 4 “Over the Hump” afternoon breaks with random prize draws, and a pancake breakfast
- Met Spiri Robotics re: services for ADA
- Attended a “Solar garden” meeting
- Agreed to visit a classroom virtually for Agriculture/Aquaculture Literacy. French immersion in West Pictou.
- Attended the Tourism Webinar for Attracting Remote workers
- Attended a Bon Temps meeting with Tim Doucette, Gwen L and Allison B on a variety of topics (CMA/lighting/board)
- Attended the AANS annual general meeting
- Attended the Community Health Board meeting/ presentations by funding recipients

Court House & Archives – HDO & Archivist Report – Judy Frotten

Municipal Research Assistant – The job competition for the new position closed February 19th, with 16 applications received. We interviewed top four candidates in Council Chambers on March 1st (interview team: Lori Murphy, Kaitlin Wood and Judy). Applicants were given a skill-testing task after the interview. We are in the process of making a final decision, including contacting references. Depending on which candidate is selected, they could start as early as Mar. 8th, or as late as early April.5th. Kaitlin Wood intends to work until April 30th.

PADP Project – Peter Crowell is wrapping up the specially funded PADP project “Municipality of Argyle 2000-2010 records processing project”. Kaitlin’s MemoryNS training session was postponed until March 8th. Part of the process to finalize the project will be uploading the description to the provincial database, MemoryNS.

Professional Development – Judy is registered to take a Heritage Interpretation day-long workshop with facilitator Hal Theriault in Barrington on March 4th. She also participated in a virtual museum workshop “How to Be an Ally” which took place in three sessions, on Jan. 28, Feb.4 and Feb.11.

Budget – Judy submitted the Court House draft Budget 2021-2022 to Marsha and is working on our department’s priorities/objectives for the coming year.

JOHSC – Judy attended JOHSC meeting on Feb. 10th and next one is scheduled for March 9th.

MODA Core Group – Judy was invited to participate in Core Group on March 2nd. The Committee has resumed after being unable to meet for many months due to Covid-19, and now has reformed with new members.

Wellness Committee – Kaitlin attended the meeting on Feb. 17th.

ANSM – Judy participated in ANSM’s virtual “Deep Dive” on “Appeals Process” on Feb. 11th. The next one is on “Documentation Review” scheduled for March 11th. This series is offered by Association of NS Museums (ANSM) to assist participating museums with preparation for Museum Evaluation Program (MEP).

AMHGS / Strategic Plan – Judy and Kaitlin continue to support and assist the Historical Society (AMHGS) with the development of a new Strategic Plan which has been meeting a couple times a month for a while now. The next AMHGS Board meeting is March 17th.

MEP (Museum Evaluation) – Judy has started the process to gather documentation/policies which need to be uploaded by early May. The site visit portion of the evaluation will take place in July. Preparing for this evaluation is a priority and is ongoing.

The Argus – Work on the spring 2021 issue of The Argus is underway with expected delivery to members in April.

Director of Programming and Active Living -Ginette d’Entremont

Parc des Jeunes

After researching what other municipalities are doing with playgrounds, we have decided to re-open the playground to the public and going forward the disinfecting procedures are no longer necessary.

I have also been in touch with Wayne Matheson for the ACCESS-ability program and will be applying for funding to go towards making the playground accessible to all.

Glenwood Park Project

A subcommittee from the ARC committee was formed to discuss the Glenwood Park Project. Four areas have been identified as potential projects, an expanded swim area, a beach volleyball court, a floating dock, and a natural playground. I sent a letter to DNR indicating our interest and we are now awaiting their response. In the meantime, Scott and I have spent some time discussing the project and have involved Hans and Alix for their input in the potential location of the structures. After speaking with Wayne Matheson about the ACCESS-ability program, he suggested the floating dock would fit in that grant application. I have been in touch with Anna Haanstra to see if the Beach Volleyball court would fit with the Recreation Facility Development grant.

East Pubnico Bike Park

A subcommittee from the ARC committee was formed to discuss the Bike Park project. We were informed that the community would like to have a community garden, smaller bike structure for younger children (Under 7), benches and a bike rack. I have found information for the community garden and already have a community champion willing to organize it.

Seniors

We will be offering another free take-out lunch for seniors on Thursday March 25th at the Club Acadien in SAR from 11:30am to 1:00pm. The lunch will be soup and desert. Senior will have to call the Recreation Department to reserve a lunch.

Active Communities Fund

I have completed the final report for the 2020-2021 funding application and have now started working on projects that will qualify for funding for the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

Meetings (Through Zoom)

February 3 – 55+ senior games meeting (venue locations)
February 4 & 22 – Nakile Trail committee meeting
February 8 – East Pubnico Bike Park project meeting
February 10 – Drumlin School Advisory Committee meeting
February 16 – Belleville CEC committee meeting
February 18 – ARC committee meeting
February 25 – RNS town hall
March 2 – Community Health Board Wellness Celebrations
March 3 – Active Communities Fund Brainstorming session
March 4 – South Shore Connect meeting

Wellness Committee

Worked with the wellness committee members to put together 4 wellness breaks and the wellness calendar.

March break activities

I have worked with Scott in planning the March break activities and have secured the schools and ice surfaces for our activities. We will be partnering with Yarmouth Recreation for the cost-sharing of the ice surface for sledge and free skates.

Volunteer Celebrations

I have submitted the name of our Municipal Volunteer Representative, Darryl Crosby to the Provincial Volunteer committee. The virtual volunteer celebrations will take place on Monday April 26th. I have been in touch with the councilors to inform them of volunteer nominations for our Municipal volunteer celebrations.

Director of Recreation Services

Firstly, please allow me to introduce myself: Scott Surette resident of Abrams River and the new Director of Recreation Services. I am extremely excited to join the Municipality of Argyle team. I have been part of this team, indirectly for the past 12 years as a member of the Argyle Recreation committee. I started my work career here at the age of 16, as a Day camp/Baseball counsellor many years ago. I was also part of the organization committee as Coordinators of sports programming for “Les Grand Jeux in 2012” held here in the Municipality of Argyle. These games were a huge success and our Municipality should be extremely proud of this event.

Having only started this new position last week, February 22, 2021, I've been on a learning curve and spend most of my days working alongside Ginette to better understand my role and the role of the MPAL Director. Here are few things that we have worked on together in the past two weeks:

Strategic Planning

Reviewing the following documents to better understand the Recreation Strategic plan for Municipality.

- Argyle Recreation Physical Activity Strategy
- Argyle Recreation Strategy Plan
- Active Transportation plan

Reviewing these documents has provided me with a better understanding what are the recreation/physical activity goals for the Municipality and what has been completed and what needs attention as we move forward.

Planning

We also discussed many different topics for next fiscal year such as:

- Budget for next year.
- What will Daycamp look like for this year
- How many staff need to be hired?
- Events for this year

- We are also putting a year plan in place to apply for Active Community Funds through the Department of Communities Culture and Heritage.

March Break Schedule

We will be organizing several events during March break week which includes the following:

- Drop in Free-Play activities with a younger target audience (10 and under) in Wedgeport and Pubnico Schools in the mornings.
- Volleyball for older students, ages 11 - 17 at Par-en-Bas School in the afternoons.
- Sledge hockey on Thursday afternoon and Friday Morning at Mariner Center
- Free skate on Friday afternoon at Mariner Center.

All sites have been booked and we will advertised via social media.

Below is the Schedule:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Locaton	Pubnico	Pubnico	Wedgeport	Wedgport	Mariner Center (Arena 1)
Time	10am to noon	10am to noon	10am to noon	10am to noon	10-11am
Event	Free play/ Family Tim	Free play/ Family Tim	Free play/ Family Time	Free play/ Family Time	Sledge
Ages	10 and under	10 and under	10 and under	10 and under	All Ages
Locaton	Par-En Bas	Par-En Bas	Par-En Bas	Mariner Center (Arena 2)	Mariner Center Arena 1 & 2)
Time	1pm to 3pm	1pm to 3pm	1pm to 3pm	2pm to 3pm	2pm to 3pm
Event	Volleyball Female	Volleyball Male	Volleyball Female	Sledge	Free Skate Mariner Center
Ages	Ages 10-14	Ages 14-18	Ages 15-18	All ages	All ages

Nakile Trail

I meet with a few key stakeholders in regards to the Nakile trail to see how we can assist in the development of this trail. We will have another meeting early next week to plan our next steps.

Glenwood Park Improvement project;

This project consists of 4 projects

1. Beach Volleyball Court
2. Enlarging the swimming area to make it more accessible
3. Boat launch for non- motorized boats
4. Natural Playground for youths

As the Municipality has already received approval from DNR for the volleyball court, we are focusing our attention on this project for this year. Therefore, we have started discussion with staff to see where the best location for the Volleyball court would be. I have also looked into what is needed to construct a volleyball court so that we can proceed in getting quotes.

We have submitted a letter to DNR for the approval on the rest of the project. Once approval is confirmed, we will also look at the Boat launch for this year through the Accessible Grant. These two projects will be our priority for this year however we will work with our committee to make sure that we can complete all task in a few phases.

Pickleball

We have started a new Pickleball group in West Pubnico. We have also restarted the Pickleball group from Belleville school that was playing prior to COVID. Currently Belleville school is not available therefore this group will be playing in Plymouth.

Other Meeting Attended

- February 25 – Recreation Nova Scotia Town Hall Meeting
- February 26 – Gwen Leblanc CDENE – Potential funding for Nakile Trail
- March 2 - Core Group Meeting

Senior Safety Coordinator-Peggy Boudreau

No report submitted.