

Parks and Recreation committees to return



By Karen Fallon

Council agreed not to go with the concept of a combined Recreation and Parks Committee and instead keep the status quo of two individual groups.

In January 2011, following a recommendation from administration, council agreed to 'hold in abeyance' the appointment of the Recreation and Parks Committee while the Terms of reference and structure of the new Committee could be

formalized.

"I think one of the issues is and I will ball park it at 50 per cent of the time, the recreation committee lacked quorum," said councillor John Sutton. "It was certainly not through the fault of the leadership of that committee, be it administration, the chairperson, or the members of the committee that represented the user groups."

A problem, continued Sutton, was that the members of the committee really didn't understand the mandate of the committee and there was an overlap between the two committees.

"It was their suggestion that we combine the two so that they would have more bang for their buck," said Sutton. "I would hate for us to take a position where we feel like a fifty per cent time quorum for volunteers is value added for them."

"I think that separating the committees doesn't jive with that objective," he continued.

Councillor Diane Pouget says when talking to people in the community who were formerly involved with the recreation committee it was felt that there were reasons the recreation committee wasn't

as successful as it might have been.

"The parks committee had a mandate and they knew what that mandate was," said Pouget, who noted that combining the two committees would result in something that was "too broad."

The parks committee, she noted was made up of "special people" who for the most part have expertise in the area and they didn't have any interest with the local sports groups.

Members of the recreation committee should be broader than just representatives of the various user groups, says councillor Carolyn

Davies, who advised that the town advertise for members of the committee.

"Have a committee that you have attendance taken and if you miss three times without just cause...they have to be committed to this," she said. "If they specialize in their own areas (the groups) they will be more interested in attending all of the meetings."

"It is the people you put on the committee that are going to make the difference," agreed councillor Bart DiPasqualie.

However, noted councillor Robert Pillon, there is a need to have representatives from the different user groups on the recreation committee to garner their opinion of various matters.

"We had a good group a good mix," Pillon said of the former recreation committee.

Pamela Malott says the terms of reference for the two groups will come back to council before committee members are sought.

Money keeps rolling in for the new complex

By Karen Fallon

The latest donor to support the fundraising efforts of the Communities Credit Union Complex Ray Tracey, CEO and president of Essex Power Corporation, was presented by Debi Croucher, fundraising coordinator for the town at the council meeting held April 4.

Tracey presented a cheque for \$10,000 for the naming rights of the dressing room at the new complex.

Essex Power Corporation notes Croucher, strives to be a "good corporate citizen and neighbor" and as such donates \$20,000 annually in support of various community programs and services throughout the four communities it serves.

Among this support is their sponsorship



RTT PHOTO BY JOEL CHARRON

In photo: (L to R) Mayor Wayne Hurst, fundraising coordinator Debi Croucher and Essex Power Corporation CEO and President Ray Tracey

of drug awareness youth campaigns and financial assistance of local festivals and parades, youth organizations and non-profit groups.

Essex Power, says Croucher, has already

supported the Amherstburg Community Foundation via the golf tournament in the summer of 2010.

Tracey says he has toured the complex and deems it a won-

derful project.

"You have done a great job and congratulations," he told council.

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4 yr.	3.45%	4 yr.	3.35%	4 yr.	3.16%	4 yr.	3.16%
5 yr.	3.50%	5 yr.	3.46%	5 yr.	3.46%	5 yr.	3.46%

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