

Chair's Report – Community of Miltonvale Park
To be presented by Chair Don Aitken - Annual General Meeting - March 19, 2007

On behalf of the Council, I wish to welcome you to the Annual General Meeting for the Community of Miltonvale Park. This evening you will hear reports from Council committees, review the financial statements from 2006, vote on the proposed expenditures for 2007, and have an opportunity to raise any issues or concerns you may have.

The powers of the Council are set out by the Province of PEI in the Municipalities Act, and Council acts within these powers. We have the authority to set and enforce bylaws, and issue development permits. We set the municipal portion of residential and commercial tax rates, and endeavor to spend this income in a way which benefits the Community of Miltonvale Park.

Fire Protection

Our fire protection for the community is provided by the North River Fire Department, who continue to serve the community well.

Planning – (Further report by Planning Board Chair Betty Pryor)

Council is striving to provide better service to residents in the area of development permits. We have replaced our out-of-province planner with the contracted services of Alfie Wakelin as Development Officer. Alfie works one day a week from Spring to Fall, and as needed at other times, and has proven himself to be very accommodating in his dealings with residents. Twenty -one development permits were approved in 2006, and there were six applications approved for lot subdivisions or revisions. Miltonvale Park is restricted in its development, as it is part of the Charlottetown Special Planning Area, in which stringent regulations attempt to minimize the extent to which unserviced residential, commercial and industrial development may occur, protecting the rural-ness of the Community of Miltonvale Park.

Residents are reminded to apply for, and receive, a development permit before starting to build. A Council motion passed in 2006 calls for development fees to be doubled if the application has not been approved prior to construction commencing.

New Deal Funding for Planning

Council has been fortunate to recently be awarded funds for an Official Plan & Bylaw Review, as well as development of an Integrated Community Sustainability Plan and a Strategic Plan which will address our current water and sewage issues. This project has received funding through the Canada –Prince Edward Island New Deal for Cities and Communities –Community Capacity Building Fund which is managed by the Prince Edward Island Department of Community and Cultural Affairs and the Federation of Prince Edward Island Municipalities.

This funding will provide up to 90% of the costs to a specified maximum amount. As a result of requirements of the application procedure, Council's work on the plan review was suspended in the Fall. We look forward to a well developed integrated set of plans being produced this year, and hope there will be wide community consultation in its preparation. Council urges you to consider what type of community you desire, share your ideas with Council, and to get involved in this planning process.

Water and Sewer

I chair the Water and Sewer Committee. Council met several times with the City of Charlottetown over the past year to attempt to reach an acceptable agreement regarding the water and sewer systems, as we work to provide safe drinking water and a sewer system for the residents in the Sleepy Hollow area. Currently the City of Charlottetown has agreed to provide water for extension of the water service into

Miltonvale Park to provide water service to existing and/or new residential properties fronting along the Royalty Road and Lower Malpeque Road, with the Community and/or the province paying 100% of the cost and user rates to be set at that 25% above the rates paid by City residents.

An application for MRIF (Infrastructure) funding was submitted in May, but rescinded in the summer, when a more acceptable agreement was not reached. There is almost \$220,000 invested, in trust, from the Island Waste Management Corporation to be used for water in the Sleepy Hollow area.

We hope the New Deal funding will help lead us to a successful resolution to this important issue.

Miltonvale Community Park – (Further report from Sheila MacKinnon –Parks & Recreation)

The Community will also enjoy the benefits from the new park shelter which will be completely finished this Spring. This project was funded equally among the municipal, provincial and federal governments through the MRIF (Municipal Rural Infrastructure Fund) Infrastructure program. Residents will be able to use the shelter, and it will also be available for rental to non-residents. The Park and Recreation Committee, led by Councillor Sheila MacKinnon will oversee the use of the Shelter.

The summer recreation program at the park will greatly benefit from the shelter. Council was very pleased with the performance of Jessica MacKinnon who was our Summer Recreation Student responsible for the Park Program in 2006. The children who visited the park were entertained and supervised by Jessica from late June until the end of August 2006. Jessica survived a difficult working environment amidst last summer's construction, and is to be commended for her flexibility and maturity.

Many of you attended the official opening of the shelter and the Canada Day Festivities on July 1st, where the sunny weather, food, entertainment, tree planting and games and the work of dedicated residents contributed to the day's success. We must also recognize the Department of Canadian Heritage for their financial contribution to the event.

Community Pasture

Council investigated the Community Pasture over this past year. The pasture is approximately 100 acres (PIDs 283226, 283754, 283762) was to be the responsibility of the Community, in an agreement signed in September 1984. In recent years a local farmer has been renting the pasture in 5-year contracts. The contract expires in 2007. The community will be looking for expressions of interest by community members for 2008.

Council did make a request to the Department of Transportation and Public Works to have ownership transferred to the Community, however this was not granted. A special committee will be established to look at the future recreational needs, including land, for the community and will continue to deal with this issue in 2007. The community has \$29,436.38 in the community pasture account.

Communication

Council realizes the importance of regular communication between residents and the municipal government. In 2006 two newsletters were circulated through the community before the annual Canada Day celebrations and prior to the election in the Fall. Council's office hours have also been increased from 1.5 to 4 set hours weekly (Tuesdays 4:30-6:30 p.m. and Wednesdays 9:00-11:00 a.m.). Appointments can also be made outside of those hours. Residents are also encouraged to check the website, which will be re-vamped this year, for news and documents. Electronic news is also distributed occasionally to subscribers. If you would like to be put on this distribution list, please email admin@miltonvalepark.com. If you are not connected to the internet, please do not hesitate to call the office to have information sent to you, or to drop in for information.

People

The Council and staff working for the betterment of the Community of Miltonvale Park have undergone changes over the past year. In May we received the resignations of former Chair Gordon Aten, Councillor Dean Dollar and Administrator Judy MacDonald. On behalf of the Community of Miltonvale Park, I would like to extend our appreciation to Dean, Gordon and Judy for their many years (over 50!) of service. The remaining Councillors – Brian Andrew, Gail Ling, Sheila MacKinnon, and Betty Pryor contributed many extra hours over the rest of the year as we worked to hire a new administrator, and re-organize the office. Councillor Pryor acted as administrator throughout the summer, until Shari MacDonald was hired in late September. Shari has been a welcomed addition to the Office.

Elections were held in November 2006 and new Councillors, Joe Murphy and George Piercey joined the five re-offering councillors who successfully began a three year term on January 1st, 2007.

One Councillor and the administrator were able to attend a workshop on Liability and, four Councillors and staff attended a recent Municipal Orientation session. I am confident that we will move forward in a productive, effective manner over the next few years, and encourage you to share your concerns and suggestions with us. Residents are invited to attend our meetings, which are regularly held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 4:30 p.m. We all live in the Community of Miltonvale Park and wish to improve it in any way we can.

Thank You

I would like to thank all of you who have shown your support for the community by attending Canada Day celebrations, our election meeting, by visiting the community park, or by beautifying the community, as Kari MacInnis Coles did for the flowers at the intersection of Rte 2 and 7. Thank you to those who work within community organizations, such as the Springvale, North Milton and South Milton WIs, who were recognized with a tree planting ceremony at Canada Day, and to the Milton Community Hall Committee. Special thanks are extended to Joannie and Jeff MacKinnon for their assistance with the Community Park over this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Aitken