

HALIFAX

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Item No. 14.1.4
Halifax Regional Council
November 27, 2018

TO: Mayor Savage and Members of Halifax Regional Council

Original Signed by 

SUBMITTED BY: Jacques Dubé, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: October 9, 2018

SUBJECT: AN104: HRM Asset Names, October 17, 2017 – April 15, 2018

ORIGIN

HRM has received asset naming requests from the period October 17, 2017 to April 15, 2018.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Administrative Order Number 46, Respecting HRM Asset Naming Policies

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that Halifax Regional Council:

1. approve:
 - (a) The addition of the name Mel Boutilier to the existing Commemorative Names List as shown on Attachment A;
 - (b) The renaming of Arnold D Johnson Playfield to Arnold D Johnson Sport Field and Silver Hill Park to Silvers Hill Park to correct administrative errors as shown on Attachment B;
 - (c) The renaming of Inglis Street Park to Raymond Taavel Park, Halifax, Keltic Garden Playground to Keltic Gardens Park, Lawrencetown, and Two River Park to Partridge Nest Drive Park, Mineville, as shown on Attachment C, D, and E;
 - (d) The renaming of Flagstone Ballfield 1 to Dan C MacDonald Memorial Ballfield, Cole Harbour, as shown on Attachment F; and
 - (e) The administrative park names as shown on Attachment G.

BACKGROUND

HRM's Asset Naming Policy Administrative Order (A.O.46) allows any person or group to apply for a commemorative name for HRM assets, particularly streets, parks or buildings. The A.O. requires the Civic Addressing Coordinator to consult with at least one representative from each asset category, the municipal archivist, and a representative from HRM Cultural Affairs on each application. This group forms the HRM Asset Naming Committee (the Committee). The Committee also consults with the local Councillor(s) for each application. This report outlines the ninth list of recommended names since the adoption of the Asset Naming Policy in 2010.

Requests

The Committee recommends Regional Council approve 14 requests for the period of October 17, 2017 to April 15, 2018 as outlined below:

- a) 1 name to be added to the commemorative names list;
- b) 2 requests to rename parks to correct administrative errors;
- c) 3 requests to rename parks;
- d) 1 request to rename a park feature (ball field); and
- e) 7 administrative park names.

DISCUSSION

The Committee recommends that Regional Council approve all 14 requests as outlined below:

Commemorative Names List:

Commemorative names recognize individual persons, groups of people and geographic features. The Asset Naming criteria states that individuals who have demonstrated excellence, courage or exceptional service to the citizens of HRM, the Province of Nova Scotia and/or Canada may be recognized. The criteria also allows for names that recognize geographical or topographical features of the area. The Asset Naming Committee is recommending approval of one commemorative name application, Mel Boutilier.

This name meets the criteria of the HRM Asset Naming Policies. Therefore, the Asset Naming Committee recommends that this application, as outlined in Attachment A, be approved and added to the commemorative names list.

Park Renaming:

The Committee recommends renaming Arnold D Johnson Playfield to Arnold D Johnson Sport Field and Silver Hill Park to Silvers Hill Park to correct administrative errors as shown on Attachment B.

The Committee also recommends the renaming of Inglis Street Park to Raymond Taavel Park (Attachment C), Keltic Garden Playground to Keltic Gardens Park (Attachment D), and Two River Park to Partridge Nest Drive Park (Attachment E).

Park Feature Naming:

The Committee recommends renaming the ballfield Flagstone Ballfield #1, within the Caldwell Road Elementary School Park, Cole Harbour, to Dan C MacDonald Memorial Ballfield (Attachment F).

Administrative Park and Park Feature Names:

Administrative names reflect either the neighbourhood, subdivision, street or community name in which a park or park feature is located. Since the previous asset naming report, seven administrative names have been submitted. Staff have reviewed the names and recommends that the seven names, as outlined in Attachment G, be approved by Regional Council.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are minimal costs associated with the administration of the HRM's Asset Naming Policy. These costs can be accommodated within the existing 2018-2019 operating budget for C420-Planning & Development.

RISK CONSIDERATION

There are no significant risks associated with the recommendations in this Report.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The community engagement process is consistent with the intent of the HRM Community Engagement Strategy. The level of community engagement is ongoing and is achieved through promotion online and the creation of printed marketing material and engaging local interest groups. Any member of the community is welcome to submit applications for commemorative names within HRM.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Regional Council could choose to not approve some, or all, of the requested names. This alternative is not recommended as the names meet the Council approved criteria as outlined in HRM Asset Naming Policies.

ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment A: Mel Boutilier's Application
- Attachment B: Arnold D Johnson Sport Field and Silvers Hill Park
- Attachment C: Raymond Taavel's Application
- Attachment D: Keltic Gardens Park, Lawrencetown
- Attachment E: Partridge Nest Drive Park, Mineville
- Attachment F: Dan C MacDonald Memorial Ballfield
- Attachment G: Administrative Park Names

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.php> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210, or Fax 902.490.4208.

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Original Signed

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Attachment A – Mel Boutilier’s Application

Mel Boutilier

Request

-Street (Mel Boutilier Way)

Geographic Location

-Peninsula Halifax (preference for new street in the Cogswell Interchange)

Request to be considered under the following criteria

- individual(s) who have an extraordinary community service record

Biography (as provided by the applicant)

Melvin (Mel) Boutilier was born in a rural community in Nova Scotia. He was one of ten children and felt early in life the pain and embarrassment of poverty. Retirement in 1973 from the position of Chief Contracts Inspector, Dept of National Defense, provided the opportunity to volunteer all his time working to fulfill his dream of relieving want and hardship.

Always interested in the development of children and youth, he has been active in the promotion of young peoples’ activities for over 50 years. This included being an inspiration to others and taking leadership as Project Coordinator and Chairman of the Building Committee in the construction of the SDA Christian Academy and Dormitory in Halifax. He has been the Chairman of the Academy Board for more than 25 years.

With no funds and a limited food source Mr. Boutilier started the Parker Street Food Bank in a single car garage behind the 7th Day Adventist Church on Parker Street in Halifax in 1983. This venture grew more rapidly than expected and also exposed the need for another step -a furniture bank, which was added in a donated warehouse in 1996. After intense fundraising, a warehouse in the inner city was purchased and renovated in 1999/2000, allowing increased efficiency by having both food and furniture banks in the same location.

The necessity for another step was obvious – self sufficiency. The Skills Development Centre was born in 2003 with the purchase of an adjacent building. This centre has allowed more than 100 students to be trained in a variety of trades and be assisted in obtaining employment.

Currently Mr. Boutilier is no longer working with the Parker Street Food Bank and is now operating another registered charity, Metro Care & Share Inc, which focuses on at risk youth. There are students graduating from high school that have no support to continue their education at university or trades training. The Halifax Scholar Program selects graduates with the academic ability and desire for an independent future.

Awards:

April 1996	Community Services Award from the Coalition for Compassion
1998	Provincial Volunteer Award – Volunteer of the Year for HRM Chebucto
Oct 2001	Maritimer of The Week
Sept 2003	Province of NS Award (service to the people of NS in the wake of Hurricane Juan)
Sept 2003	Metro Regional Housing Authority – letter of appreciation
2004	Nova Scotia League Equal Opportunity Lifestyles Award (26 years of volunteer work on behalf of people with disabilities in NS)
2004	Nova Scotia Human Rights Committee Award
2004	HRM Appreciation Certification (20 years of service with the Parker St Food/Furniture Bank)
2004	Youth Employment Strategy (YES) Certificate of Recognition

2006	Partnership Appreciation Award – Workplace Education NS
2006	Citation – Canadian Red Cross
2006	Certification of Recognition – Government of Canada
2006	Therese Casgrain Award
2006	Honorary Diploma NS Community College
Oct 2009	Order of Nova Scotia
June 2010	Order of Canada - Queen Elizabeth Jubilee Medallion – Mr Boutilier was selected as one of the 60 Order of Canada recipients to go to Ottawa and receive the medallion presented by the Governor General

Attachment B – Arnold D Johnson Sport Field and Silvers Hill Park

1. Arnold D Johnson Sport Field

Request

-Rename Arnold D Johnson Playfield

Geographic Location

-857 Upper Governor Street, North Preston

Background

The renaming is to change the park feature type to be more reflective of the park feature use.

2. Silvers Hill Park

Request

-Rename Silver Hill Park

Geographic Location

-195 Prince Albert Road, Dartmouth

Background

The renaming is to correct a typographical error to add an “s” in the spelling of Silver Hill Park.

Attachment C – Raymond Taavel’s Application

Raymond Taavel

Request

-rename Inglis St Park to Raymond Taavel Park

Geographic Location

-1004 Barrington St, Halifax

Request to be considered under the following criteria

- individual(s) who have demonstrated excellence, courage or exceptional service to the citizens of HRM, NS and/or Canada
- individual(s) who have an extraordinary community service record
- individual(s) who have risked his/her life to save or protect others
- requested name reflects the history and or culture of HRM’s culturally diverse communities

Biography (as provided by the applicant)

On April 17, 2012, LGBT activist Raymond Taavel, age 49, died tragically on Gottingen Street. While not the initial target, he and another patron were verbally and physically attacked by a mentally ill man. Raymond protected his friend, who ran for safety. Raymond suffered a lethal head injury and died on the scene. The Premier read a lengthy statement of praise in the House of Assembly, followed by a moment of silence, noting that Taavel had been described as “an activist without anger”.

A vigil attended by over 1,000 people closed down Gottingen Street, and similar vigils were held across the nation. Several days later, ministers of government and hundreds of others marched from Grand Parade to St Matthew’s church. MP Megan Leslie, deputy leader of the federal NDP, delivered a eulogy recalling Taavel as a friend and inspiration- and a gadfly: as someone who worked since his teenage years tirelessly and with vigour for the rights of anyone facing discrimination and marginalization. Shortly thereafter, LT Gov Hon JJ Grant posthumously awarded Taavel the QEII Diamond Jubilee medal for his contributions to Canada. The Pride flag flew at half-mast over City Hall and Province House on the anniversary of his death; he was recognized for courage in service of the public good with a plaque on Gottingen Street by the Gottingen Street 250 Anniversary committee; and an encased Pride flag bearing tribute to his activism hangs in the grand staircase at City Hall.

In 2017, a committee empaneled by the Department of Culture and Heritage chose Taavel to be one of the 30 Nova Scotians from the past 150 years to be celebrated at the Nova Scotia Museum in “Vanguard”, an exhibit that highlights two citizens for each decade who were responsible for “innovation and change in the face of diversity”. Taavel is remembered for being a key participant in the successful effort to have equal marriage and transgender rights added to the NS Human Rights Act.

In the early 2000’s- a time when the LGBT community across Canada was raising its profile with city halls in a very significant way – Taavel began a decade of work as one of the foremost leaders of Halifax Pride, while also contributing his voice to InterPride, the international pride organization. He was the driving force behind HRM’s first public proclamation of Pride Week and the flying of the flag at City Hall. He helped found Canada’s national Pride group – Fierté Canada Pride – and served as its first national president, hosting a national conference in Halifax for the first time. He was also Nova Scotia’s most well known journalist covering LGBT issues as managing editor and contributing write to Wayves magazine from 2002-2010. He was a influential leader in the early days of the Nova Scotia Rainbow Action Project and a fierce advocate within Fair Vote Canada and both the federal and provincial arms of the NDP.

Awards:

2012 - QEII Diamond Jubilee Medal - posthumously

Attachment D –Keltic Gardens Park, Lawrencetown

Request

-rename Keltic Garden Playground to Keltic Gardens Park

Geographic Location

- 16 Keltic Drive, Lawrencetown

Request to be considered under the following:

- The playground has been removed
- Naming parks after the park feature is not in accordance with the naming policy
- Naming parks after the subdivision name is permitted as an administrative name

Background

Keltic Gardens is the name of the subdivision where the park is located. The playground has been removed from the site.

There are no duplication issues with this proposed name.

Attachment E –Partridge Nest Drive Park, Mineville

Request

-rename Two River Park to Partridge Nest Drive Park

Geographic Location

- 24 Partridge Nest Drive, Mineville

Request to be considered under the following

- administrative park names can either be after the name of the community, neighbourhood, subdivision or street name.

Background

There is a street named Two Rivers Drive located south of the Mineville Road after which the park is named. The Mineville Community Association believe that it was an error at the time of subdivision that the park was named Two River Park. They are proposing a more geographically appropriate park name, after the street, Partridge Nest Drive.

Attachment F –Dan C MacDonald Memorial Ballfield

Request

-rename Flagstone Ballfield #1 to Dan C MacDonald Memorial Ballfield

Geographic Location

- 280 Caldwell Road, Cole Harbour (within the Caldwell Road Elementary School Park)

Request to be considered under the following criteria

- this name was in place prior to the adoption of the policy and is posted on the field.

Background (as provided by a family member)

Mr MacDonald was born in 1957 in Bayside, Nova Scotia, and passed away on December 2, 2003 at the age of 46 from a stroke. He was a coach with the Cole Harbour Comets girl softball league for 10+ years and served a term as the league president as well as various other executive positions over the years. He spent most of his career as a Supervisor with Harris & Roome in Burnside. During his career, Harris & Roome supplied the majority of Nova Scotia Power's electrical wire, street lights, etc. After hurricane Juan hit in the fall of 2003 he worked sunup to sundown to make sure NS Power had everything they needed to get the power restored. Unfortunately, he passed away two months after that. He was listed in the Daily Mail Newspaper's list of notable people who passed away in 2003.

There are no duplication issues with this proposed name.

Attachment G –Administrative Park Names

1. Azure Court Park
-Azure Court, Middle Sackville (District 14)
2. Bosun Run Park
-Bosun Run, Halifax (District 16)
3. Broad Street Park
-Broad Street, Bedford (District 16)
4. Cherry Brook Lake Loon Park
-371 Cherry Brook Road, Lake Loon (District 4)
5. Cutler Avenue Park
-Cutler Avenue, Dartmouth (District 6)
6. Gaspereau Run Park
-Gaspereau Run, Middle Sackville (District 14)
7. Midnight Run Park
-Midnight Run, Middle Sackville (District 14)