

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – O'CONNOR DAY PLANNING MEETING
NOTES – MAY 24, 2012

Notes of the O'Connor Day Planning meeting held on Thursday, May 24, 2012 at 7 p.m. in the municipal building.

Present: Mayor Nelson
Councillor: Garbutt, Racicot
Clerk-Treasurer Buob, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot
Visitors: Lorna Jacobson, Gayle Poohachoff, Patricia Poohachoff, Lorna Krieg, Ron Biloski, Tammy Cook, Amanda Cook, Fire Chief Henry Mattas

Mayor Nelson called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

The notes from the April 16, 2012 O'Connor Day Planning meeting and the notes and information from the previous meeting were reviewed.

An update from everyone present with regard to donations and plans was discussed. Clerk-Treasurer Buob gave an update on what the staff have completed. BBQ equipment has been ordered. A special events application to the Thunder Bay District Health Unit has been submitted. A request for donation letter has been sent to Hydro One. Mackinley Steinhoff has been approached to do a magic/delusion show. He has offered to do his show at no charge. He will do a stage show and/or mingle amongst the crowd. Times and detail will be discussed tonight. Councillor Loan has contacted Cal Gas and they will be donating 4 – 40lb propane bottles for the BBQ. It was suggested that one person be assigned all day to assist Clerk-Treasurer Buob with her duties.

The door prized donations were discussed. There is a concern that the donators of these prizes are sometimes the same sponsors as those providing for the Fire Department two-bit auction. These free draw prizes could be taking away from possible donations for the Fire Department fundraising events. It was suggested that we not have as many prizes and possibly push to receive cash donations rather than merchandise and stay away from the same companies providing prizes for the Fire Department.

Lorna Krieg reported that she has booked Juliann Robbins for music for O'Connor Day. She can still be cancelled if it is decided not to go ahead with her as the music entertainment. She sings with the music and has played in Nolalu several times. It was agreed that she will be booked for \$200.00. We will need some sort of stage setup with coverage for protection from the weather.

Ron Biloski discussed what has been done with regard to the children's carnival in the past. Tickets were \$3/10 for children up to the age of 14. The number of prizes purchased in previous years for the children's games was also discussed. He usually purchased 60 dozen for 9 different games, however as there will not be as many games, as many prizes would not be required. Gayle and Patricia Poohachoff will get together with Mr. Biloski to get more ideas for games and prizes.

The Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) will have the water interactive kids event setup in the same areas as the children's games.

Patricia Poohachoff reported that she has sent out several written proposals requesting donations. A lot are limited to the amount of donation they will give and do not want to specifically sponsor a certain area of the event. She will continue to follow up with other donations.

Tammy Cook reported that the Community Club will donate \$500.00 towards the fireworks for O'Connor Day. They will again have a concession, selling water, pop, candy, chocolate bars, chips, glow products etc. If there are leftovers from the strawberry festival, ice cream and strawberries will be sold. They will also have the inflatable jumper running. It was suggested that freezies also be sold. The Township now has cotton candy machines and it was suggested that the community club sell the cotton candy from their booth. It will prebagged and sold for \$1.00/bag. They club will also have the guess the number of candies in the jar contest.

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The Community club will also have a banner made with their name on it to hang above their booth this year. It was agreed that the glow products will be purchased through the Township and will be reimbursed by the Community Club.

Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot reported that the Gillies Fire Department do not actually have a miniature fire suit as was previously discussed. She will approach the O'Connor Fire Department Auxiliary to see if they might be interested in purchasing one. It was suggested that possibly a fireman's obstacle course could be setup. As the fire department will be short several members this year during O'Connor Day it was agreed not to do this for this year.

Fire Chief Mattas reported that he has booked from the Ontario Fire Marshal's office a sprinkler trailer for display. It can be towed behind a ½ ton and will need someone to man it and explain what it does. The Fire Department will again have their BBQ raffle. Sparky the fire dog will again be available as well as the children's water area. Fire Chief Mattas will look into getting a trailer to move the tables and chairs from the Township of Conmee and he will also order the PA system.

The food items were briefly discussed. Corn will again be ordered from Scott Holomego. We will need some new timers for cooking. It was agreed to again cook mushroom caps and bring pogos back to the menu. They will be prethawed to allow for more even cooking. Councillor Garbutt will again approach Bennett's Bakery for a donation discount for the buns. The Clerk-Treasurer will figure out the food order as per last years sales.

The movie to be played inside the hall and the setup was discussed. Mayor Nelson has an old amp and the Community Club has old speakers. These will be checked out with a DVD player to see if they will work together. No title for a movie has been chosen yet.

It was agreed not to have the "guess the weight" or "guess what is in the can" contest this year.

Other items for this years event were discussed as follows:

The Oliver Paipoonge public library asked if they would again be allowed to have a used book sale table this year. Last year they were setup under the fire department tent. It was agreed to have them back however the fire department may not setup their large tent this year, so they will be asked to bring in their own.

Dennis Roy has been asked if he would like to have his paintball setup again this year. As he was not in attendance the Clerk-Treasurer will contact him to confirm he is still interested. As the main paintball area will not be used this year he will be notified that he can move into this area.

An email from Lee Ann Nygard was read with regard to a new event she would like to try. She would like to setup an area to hold a "Minute to Win it" contest. She will donate the prizes and would like some space inside the hall. She will have different age categories and only run for a specified time, similar to the nail driving and bucksaw contest. It was agreed to have Ms. Nygard put on this event.

The possible show times for Mackinley were discussed. It was suggested that if he would, we could have two 15 to 20 minute shows, one at 5:30 or 6:00 and one at 7:30. He could do the show on the same stage area as the music. Between shows he will be asked to work with the crowd for as long as he would like.

The 2011 donation list was reviewed. The list was divided amongst the volunteers present to pursue donations for this year. Some of the sponsors will be left for the Fire Department to ask for their two-bit auction prizes.

Other suggestions for different events were discussed. Panning for gold was suggested. Councillor Racicot will look into this further.

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Promotional giveaways were discussed. It was suggested that we get tattoos with the Township logo on them, which could be used in the face painting booth. Mr. Biloski noted that his supplier for the prizes also carries tattoos. He was not sure if they did custom ones or if they only had standard ones. They could also be purchased from a dollar store if there would only be a small quantity.

Invitations from Council for the event will be sent out to the Mayor and Council's of the City of Thunder Bay and surrounding municipalities, our local MP and MPP's, the Ministry's of Natural Resources, Northern Development and Mines and Municipal Affairs and Housing, the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA), Thunder BAY District Health Unit (TBDHU), Salvation Army, Red Cross and HAGI transit.

The schedule of events for 2011 was reviewed and the new schedule for 2012 was discussed. As the new start time will now be 4 p.m. some of the event starting times will change. The Clerk-Treasurer will work out the new schedule as suggested and bring it back to the next meeting.

The Sunday morning volunteer breakfast was discussed. As the community centre's propane stove and fire suppression system will not be available it was agreed to offer a brunch instead using the BBQ's.

No date was set at this time for the next O'Connor Day Planning meeting. Council will make the decision and pass on the information.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer