

TOWNSHIP OF O'CONNOR – O'CONNOR DAY PLANNING MEETING
NOTES – May 19, 2009

Notes of the O'Connor Day Planning meeting held on May 19, 2009 at 7 p.m. in the municipal building.

Present: Councillors: Racicot, Vezina
Clerk-Treasurer Buob, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Racicot
Visitors: Fire Chief Henry Mattas, Department members Dave Wassenaar, John Heckley, Greg Biloski
Ron Biloski, Ronda Martin - O'Connor Community Club

Acting Mayor Vezina called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.

This meeting was called to start the planning for the 9th Official O'Connor Day, which will be held on Saturday, August 22nd with a rain date of August 23rd this year.

The pros and cons of O'Connor Day 2008 were discussed.

The paintball area was discussed. It was decided that an obstacle course with targets could be done this year. It would be a timed event with 20 balls to see who can hit the most targets. If a tie breaker was needed another round could be done or just shoot balls at the targets if needed. Councillor Racicot will work on this.

The Children's carnival was again a success last year. The help was good and there were no upset parents that we are aware of. The price may have to increase slightly this year. The cost of the prizes has gone up a bit, considering going to \$3.00 for 10. Mr. Biloski will check the final prices. Whatever profit is made goes into purchasing the prizes for the next year's event. Mr. Biloski donates his time and materials.

The Fire Department's booth all fell into place.

The summer student's help with the pre-setup is good.

It was suggested that hands free radios be purchased for the organizers.

The schedule of events and the map was reviewed. The timing of the horseshoe tournament worked well last year. This year the two temporary pits will be turned to run North and South to prevent the sun in the eyes issue from last year.

It was suggested that a breakfast be provided for the volunteers Sunday morning. This will be discussed further at the next meeting. It will be set to start at a specific time and will not be open all morning.

The area set up from last year was good and will be used again this year.

There was a problem with the deep fryer going out. A bigger hose for the deep fryer is needed. Councillor Racicot will contact Mr. Hock about this.

The scaffolding will be booked again for this year events. Councillor Racicot has some tarps 20 x 30 which we can use this year, however they need to be connected together.

It was noted that the initial corn water should be started sooner as it takes a long time to get boiling. Tin foil wrappers were suggested to serve the corn in.

The BBQ was discussed. The BBQ from Party Pro will have to be booked as soon as possible. 16 more cases of onion rings will be ordered as they sold out last year. A couple less french fries will be ordered, down to 18 bags. Seven cases of mild sausages will be ordered from European Meats and 200 garlic sausages from Simpson Deli. 8 cases of pre-cooked hamburgers, 2 cases of pogos and 2 cases of wieners will be ordered from Loudon Bros. and 12 dozen corn from Belluz farms. Mr. Biloski will check with Belluz on the order. Councillor Garbutt is checking on the bun prices from Bennett's Bakery. The cost of the food was discussed. The price did go up slightly last year and will remain the same this year. New pumps will need to be purchased for the condiments. It was noted that the oil for the deep fryers should be picked up soon.

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The attendance prizes were discussed. With the economic times it was decided that we will continue to request prizes as we have in the past and if there are less donations we will just give away fewer prizes each hour or just use what we get for our contests and not have attendance prizes. It was suggested that in the donation letter that we add our 9th Annual O'Connor Day.

The donation of coffee from Tim Hortons was discussed. We will again be requesting a donation of coffee. The coffee supply will have to be watched closely this year as we ran out last year and we could not keep up with the demand. If the temperature is cooler we will have to put on our own coffee sooner.

The games/contests will remain the same as last year. It was suggested that we add one more game – Guess what is in the can. The label would be removed off of one can and participants would put their guess into a bucket. A case of the item would be purchased with the winner receiving that as the prize.

It was decided that a movie would be played inside the hall, the same as last year. Mayor Nelson will be asked if he can get the infocus machine and the movie to be played will be discussed at the next meeting.

Organizations will again be asked to put up displays. The Tired Iron Club, the Ontario Provincial Police, Hydro One, Ministry of Natural Resources and the Lakehead Region Conservation Authority will again be invited. Councillor Vezina would also like to invite the Thunder Bay Museum to set up a sports static display. The Fire Department will also look into having an interactive display.

It was agreed that only background music will be played outside through the PA System using CD's.

The dollar value of the fireworks was discussed and it was agreed to have a total show cost of \$3,500.00. Donations will again be requested.

The possibility of personalized water bottles was discussed. This was suggested by Kakabeka Crystal after last year's event. It was agreed that this would not be done.

Volunteers were discussed. It was suggested that the College be contacted to see if they would recommend any students from there Business program who might be interested in helping out with the organization of O'Connor Day for experience only and a letter of recommendation in the future, possibly a third year co-op student.

Special presentations will be made during the day. Fire Department members will be recognized for their years of service as well as the O'Connor Women's Institute for their 100th Anniversary.

A gift certificate donation from a resident for tent rental was discussed. It was agreed that we would use these certificates as prizes for O'Connor Day as they did not fit our current needs.

The responsibilities of each group were discussed.

Fire Chief Mattas may have something that might work to connect the tarps. He will look into this further.

The Administration will book the tables and chairs from the Township of Conmee. Fire Chief Mattas will find a trailer to pick them up with. It was suggested that the Sparky costume may need a cleaning prior to O'Connor Day and a battery will be needed for the fan. The Fire Department auxiliary will again have a raffle and a fire department recruiting display will be set up, also fire prevention matters will be handed out.

The O'Connor Community Club will again have the concession selling soft drinks, water, snacks and candy and glow products. The inflatable jumper will also again be used. They will sell their township merchandise and will include the O'Connor History

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books at their table.

Mr. Ralph Kiessig will again be asked if he would be able to provide ice again this year.

Councillor Vezina will again run the Horseshoe tournament, Ron Biloski will organize the children's carnival, Joe McDonald will be contacted to see if he will again run the cribbage tournament. Volunteers will be contacted for the paintball and the bucksaw and nail driving contests. Andy Buob will again provide tractor/wagon rides. Clyde Watson will be contacted to see if we can again borrow his garbage cans.

The Thunder Bay District Health Unit permits will be submitted. Councillor Nygard will be asked if her name can be put on for maintenance person. The permit applications will be submitted as soon as possible by administration. Port-a-potties will be booked. It was suggested that we go with A-1 Sewage this year as they donated their trailer to us last year to pick up the tables and chairs from Conmee.

Councillor Vezina has offered to put his name on the liquor permit this year. That will also be submitted as soon possible.

It was decided that another meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 23, 2009 at 7 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Mayor

Clerk-Treasurer