ACTON AND Esquesing Recreation Advisory Committee met for the first time with its new members on November 25. Front row, Pam Sheldon, Ed Wood, Chairman, and Mary Ann Barrow (new member). Back row, Ron Mitchell (new member and secretary), John Cooper, the recreation co-ordinator; Peter Papillon, and Kerwin McPhail, (new member). Elmer Dunn another new member, was absent.

New owners take over The Country Gallery

The Country Gallery, a familiar name in arts and crafts in Terra Cotta, has been purchased by Mike and Ann Hurst of Mississauga. The Country Gallery will reopen early in December with interesting Christmas ideas featuring oil paintings and pastels by Ann; string art and stain glass lamps by Mike; pottery, weavings and other high quality crafts by local craftsmen.

In January and February the business will be open on a very limited basis only to allow Ann "pregnancy leave". A regular schedule for business will be established in March.

Biographies

Ann was born in Copenhagen, Denmark and is a graduate of York University in Toronto. Ann studied art for several years under a well-known West Coast artist Francis Landsberg, and was a feature member of the West Vancouver Sketch Club.

Ann has had several exhibits on the West Coast and has paintings in private homes and offices all across Canada. Her landscapes in pastels are particularly popular.

The move to Terra Cotta is almost like coming home for Mike. He was raised in Acton, the son of Halton Hills councillor Joe Hurst and Milton high school teacher Nan Hurst. Grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hale are well-known long time residents of Georgetown.

Through high school and college Mike worked for nine summers at Provincial Paper in Georgetown. He graduated from the University of Western Ontario in Engineering and from York University with an M.B.A.

For the past ten years Mike has been employed by Labatt Breweries and returned 18 months ago as Director of Marketing in Ontario from four years in Vancouver in a similar capacity.

In the craft area Mike works on string art and stain glass tiffany lamps.

On tour

Rotary members and their wives toured the American Motors plant in Brampton last night (Tuesday). All had a good and interesting time.

Sewers on Cameron

Installation of new sewers began on Cameron St. this week. The change is ordered by the region.

Acton band

Santa arrived in Milton Saturday afternoon, high atop a float made by some of the inmates of the new Maplehurst Correctional centre. Acton Citizens' Band took part in the parade, which took over an hour to pass.

Two fight

Two charges of causing a disturbance were laid by Acton detachment of the regional police Saturday following a disturbance in the United church parking lot. A Guelph man and an Acton man were charged.

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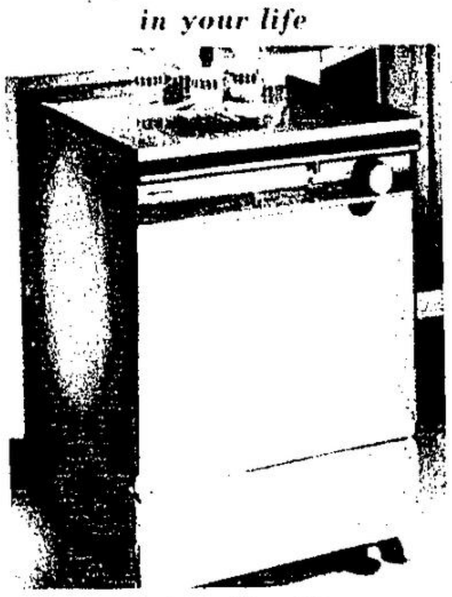

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Students now adults in eyes of committee

Definition of a student was slightly altered by Acton and Esquesing Recreation Advisory Committee members November 25 when the raising of rates for the town's swimming pools and arenas was discussed.

John Cooper, area recreation co-ordinator, explained to the group that the facilities were losing money. "Once you build something like a pool or arena, it is a loss from the beginning," he said. Ron Mitchell debated this, saying that anything to do with the public is not a loss, but a direct return.

Mr. Cooper went on to explain that the recreation department had to decide whether or not they are willing to maintain the facilities at everyone's expense through taxes, or charge higher rates for the people who take advantage of the pools and arenas.

Raise fees

The advisory members, except Kerwin McPhail, thought it best to raise some of the entrace fees. Pam Sheldon was in favor of the hikes for adults, but not the children. She explained that she felt low income families might not be able to afford to send their children if the prices were raised.

Mr. McPhail said that even if the fees were raised, parents would still only give out 50 cents. If the admission price were raised from 25 cents to 35 cents, the "kids" would only have 15 cents to spend at the booth, which would mean the facility would be getting the same amount of money.

It was suggested to raise the price for adults because, Peter Papillon pointed out, "Adults would rather pay extra for themselves than give it to the kids."

Want more

Mr. Cooper said that everyone wants more and more facilities, requiring more and more money, so the town has to raise the prices.

Mrs. Sheldon and Ron Mitchell suggested raising just the adult prices. Mary Ann Barrow suggested the adults and the sauna while Mr. McPhail was against raising any prices.

Mrs. Barrow pointed out that 35 cents wasn't very much to pay to get into facilities in these times of inflation. Mrs. Sheldon said it was fine to say that this year, but next year, the same problem is going to crop up with the price raised to 45 cents.

Definition

Mr. Papillon suggested changing the definition of high school students to the adult level. The committee agreed that most students had their own spending money and would be able to afford the hike.

The Committee put in a recommendation to council that the age limit definitions be changed to read that a child be specified as up to 13 years old. An adult would be 14 years old and up. They recommended that the adult fee be kept at 50 cents, and the price of the sauna raised from 50 to 75 cents.

Mr. Cooper's department had suggested raising each amount 10 cents or more.

Members form sub-committees

Sub-committees were formed within the Acton and Esquesing recreation advisory committee at their November 25 meeting.

Newly-elected chairman Ed Wood suggested the sub-committees so that each member of the group would have a responsibility. They would keep "an eye and ear out" for their particular area and provide better coverage of the town. Each sub-committee would take any public requests or observations to the advisory committee as a whole and they would all discuss the matter.

Pam Sheldon explained to the group that the sub-committees "would be a very loose thing. The responsibility does not begin and end in one certain place. Everyone is responsible for the overall recreation of the town."

On committees

After a lengthy discussion it was decided there would be four sub-committees. Pam Sheldon and Ed Wood, two veteran committee members, would be in charge of programming, scouting for new ones and making sure that present ones are operating properly.

A new member Kerwin McPhail and veteran Pete Papillon would be on the property sub-committee, dealing with arenas, hall and other facilities. Both of these men would also be on the parks end.

In charge of publicity are Mrs. Sheldon and another new member Mary Ann Barrow.

Elmer Dunn, also new to the committee, was unable to attend the meeting, but will be given his choice as to which sub-committee he wishes to serve on.

Each member selected the sub-committee he or she is most interested in.

Set parks fee — committee

A set fee of $25 for commercial or organized groups using Halton Hills parks met with opposition from the Acton and Esquesing Recreation Advisory Committee on November 25.

This fee had been looked into by the General Administration Committee and excluded family reunions or large picnics. These groups would still have to obtain a permit, however.

Recreation co-ordinator John Cooper explained that Hornby park was the only one in town charging fees for the use of their facility at present. He had sent a report to recreation director Glen Gray who in turn sent it on to GAC.

Kerwin McPhail felt the $25 was not enough and told the group he thought the fee should be paid per capita. The members all agreed that larger groups should have to pay more than smaller ones as there is generally more to clean up and more picnic tables used.

It was also suggested that special consideration be given to people or groups who are doing something for the community, i.e. fall fair.

The advisory committee made a recommendation to GAC that park rentals for commercial and organized groups be set at $25 for the first 100 people, and 10 cents per capita after the 100.

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