

To: Bryan Healy
CC Mark Duncan and John Bouchard
From: Maria Slippen, RAC Chair
Date: November 16, 2023
RE: Referrals related to Gouveia

At our meeting on 11/14, the RAC had a follow-up discussion after a site visit and further communication with the Rec Department regarding the future of Gouveia Park and submit the following recommendations:

- Regarding moving the Recreation Department offices to Gouveia House - We agree that moving the offices, either as its main or as a satellite location, will benefit the village. This recommendation hinges on the addition of staff to the recreation department so as to not cause a disruption to the current offerings to residents.
- Regarding the benefit in having the house become a community/cultural center - We believe that it would be a tremendous benefit to the village and its residents for this location to be utilized in this way, both the house and grounds.
- Regarding in-house capacity to develop a plan for the moving and creating a community/cultural center or is a consultant necessary - Among the Recreation, Public Works, Engineering, and Finance Departments, along with some consultants already engaged by the budget such as the grant writer, we believe that the village definitely has the resources and expertise in-house to determine what next steps should be. Once the preliminary report is written, we support the possibility of outsourcing some of the recommendations to expedite implementation. Additionally, we request that the RAC be involved in the decision making process as it moves forward.