

**GVMHA Executive Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 11, 2015
Best Western Vernon Lodge**

Attendees: Kara Blazek, Glen Kuhnlein, Liisa Seltzer, Arnie Head, Rande Evans, Cathy Isles, Jamie Saxton, Kevin Walters, Michelle McCrea, Sandy Moger

Regrets: Mike Frick, Gareth Jones

Guest Speaker: Doug Ross – City of Vernon

- Doug Ross spoke about the upcoming referendum for twinning Kal Tire Place and what we can do to maximize voter turnout. City staff cannot promote or influence votes, it will be up to us as much as possible to encourage our members and users who are in favor to get out and vote.
- Raise the Rink initiative – Doug proposes that we find someone who will take this on, he has approached a couple of people to see if they are interested. He has also approached the North Ok sports society to suggest that this would be a good starting project for them. The city of Vernon will start an information campaign sometime in September. They will be in the rinks, in the mall etc with booths. Encourage letters to the editor, letters of support, carpooling to get people out etc.
- The report showed that the state of the Civic Arena would take 5.6 million to renovate the facility. For 10 years it would increase to 10 million, and it is a smaller ice surface. The total to renovate the civic would be 13.7 million. The feasibility for a brand new NHL ice sheet with 400 seats in twinning KTP for 13.9 million. Because the track is still in litigation it isn't possible to twin to the west, there are also soil and clay issues which would also add to the cost. They met with user groups to come up with a list of value added facilities, dryland area which would be used strictly for team training, meeting and administration rooms, parking at south end. 33 months from successful referendum to opening the doors, so we are looking at September 2018 before usage.

Q & A

Kevin – what is the plan for the civic when it closes?

Doug – first we need a successful referendum. The Greater Vernon area partners' only interest in Civic Arena is as an ice facility. Once it is no longer an ice facility the partners are no longer interested and it will be left strictly to the city of Vernon to decide. Part of the land is officially for road use and will likely be used for the 29th street expansion. The remainder is deemed to be used for park use. There are lots of ideas

and suggestions. Conversation shouldn't and won't happen until there is a successful referendum.

Lisa – why do we not design it more like the South Okanagan Event Center with box seats?

Doug – when they looked at building to the west that was discussed but twinning to the north makes it more difficult. Tax base does not support the cost.

Rande – what's the cost of just having a sheet of ice and maybe 200 seats? Could we get by with something more like the PV style?

Discussion was had. Doug – in order to have the base facility with the dressing rooms you have to have the width, all they've done is put bleacher style seats above which is the lowest cost. It can't be built to the east because the ice plant is on the North West corner. The further away from the ice plant the harder it becomes to keep your ice cold. Relocating and/or moving an ice plant is a huge cost.

Glen – Are they going to sell the naming rights to that building too?

Doug – they will be having that conversation with Kal Tire very soon. It will be right around when their contract is coming to an end.

Lisa – in the new one will there be a concession area?

Doug – yes, there is a small concession at the north entrance but it will be a dry concession (no deep fryer, no range hood, etc.). Michelle mentioned that GVMHA would like to have similar benefits as we currently have in the Civic (i.e.: sponsorship and concession revenue).

Jamie – what is the alternative if this doesn't pass?

Doug – People need to realize that even if this fails we will have to ask for 10 million to renovate the civic and they will really be trying to get the word out so people understand this. Could this building be dumbed down? Sure but is that what we want for our community? The opportunity for usage and attracting users is much greater with a twinned facility.

It is projected that by 2036 the population of Vernon will double, and the youth demographic will double. We need to have these type of facilities to try to attract young families to move here. The average age in Vernon is going up every year, we really need to try to attract young families.

At what point does council make a decision of referendum doesn't pass? Does everything in this town go to referendum? Legally anything over 2.5 million must go to referendum. Life safety maintenance issues are being addressed at the Civic right now, 75k has been approved to be put into it.

Doug Ross left the meeting at 6:45pm

Meeting called to order at 6:50pm

- (1) Change to July minutes – last page – “Kara thought maybe we could use 50/50 from RBC cup”, instead it should read 50/50 monies from the Vipers.

Motion to approve – Liisa

- (2) Review and approve agenda – add 2 minute updates after budget review, Liisa approved revised agenda

1. Review and approve June and July minutes
2. Review and approve agenda
3. Budget review
4. 2 Minute updates
5. Ice Availability - Rande
6. Referee pay rates - for James
7. Registration report - Michelle
8. Swap & Sale - Michelle/Cathy
9. President's update - Kara
10. Motion to adjourn

- (3) **Budget Review**

- Registration income is down in large part due to the midget AAA female team. Last year we collected their regular fees and then paid the ice. This year BC hockey is collecting regular fees and also covering the ice cost however Michelle is booking all of their ice and rebilling. We had discussion about charging an admin fee for Michelle since she is doing the work for them. Kara will contact BC hockey to have a discussion regarding this.
- Can we review registration compared to last year. Last year we were bringing in players from other associations, this year we aren't doing that. Need to review the budget with these considerations. OMAHA/BC Hockey fees should go down as well as ice fees etc. if registration is down. Kara will get in touch with Jody to get numbers updated.

- (4) **Two minute updates**

- Kevin – website change, promotional emails
- Liisa – have to talk to Michelle about a good person to approach for bantam coordinator. Natasha is coming back from Peewee. She has contacted Suman

to see if he will come back for Midget but is waiting to hear back from him.
Updated job descriptions for division coordinators.

- Sandy – hockey school is going well, best registration in the past 6 or so years. New junior instructors this year are doing a great job. Went through rep signup sheets and all are good except for bantam, they are just shy of 30. Sounds like 4 kids that are signed up for bantam have never played rep before and are just doing it to give it a try. Michelle says that we've just had a couple more for bantam and are at 30.
- Glen - got an email today from Cheryl from the Vipers, we are confirmed for 8 games for 50/50, 5 of them are Fridays. Also had a meeting last month with Todd and Cheryl regarding our agreement as far as ticket discounts, vipers at practices, 50/50 etc. Amended the previous contract for partnership. Having a liaison that wasn't on our board did not work well either. They are very keen and eager to have a close partnership with us also.
- Arnie – meeting last night with SA midget A, rumor was if we weren't going to have a team in Vernon they were going to go to Kelowna. Salmon Arm hired a new coach and he wanted to meet all of our players to encourage them to play there. There is likely 10 girls from Vernon who will try out for that team this year. Lumby came out as well to talk about rec team just to introduce to the coach as they may ap players. Need to get some coaches in place for the girl's atom/pw team. Hoping to have 2 separate teams but not enough players so will likely be a mixed team.
- Rande – equipment room is good, Rande asked Mark Van Wyk to come in and help him, he thinks he would be a good person to learn the ropes. New jerseys are coming in for house, 4 sets of retro type jerseys coming in. LA, Edmonton, Chicago, Rangers. Rande has a lady who will sew on all the patches. Will go through all the goalie gear next week and ensure the novice goalie bags are organized and good to go.
- Jamie – has 2 coordinators in place. Still looking for an initiation coordinator.

(5) **Ice Availability**

- Rande - are we having problems with finding ice in Vernon? We still have Armstrong ice for novice on Sunday mornings, otherwise all good for Vernon ice. All of our teams are out of the OTR, novice and initiation are moving to big ice.

(6) **Referee Rates**

- Michelle – James wants an increase in pay for refs. We are still in about the mid-range of pay rates for the Okanagan. Kara asked that a copy be sent out so everyone can look at it and we will get back to him before tryouts. We will vote via email before the 21st of August.

(7) **Registration Report**

- Michelle – thinking 3 initiation teams and 6 novice teams. 4 teams for Atom house, and 2 dev. 3 PW house teams and 2 rep. Hoping female numbers will increase. 3 bantam house, 2 rep teams, right now only enough for 1 rep team so hoping for more reg. 3 possibly 4 midget house and 2 rep.

(8) **Swap & Sale**

- Cathy – Need someone to pick up the Kal Tire BBQ for the swap and shop. Glen will talk to Mike Weir as well as Sanjay. Get a kitty with change from Jodi. Rande will ask the coopers store manager for water and/or juice. Glen got us \$100 from Super Store so will go to Superstore for hotdogs.

(9) Presidents Update

Kara – Attach Gareth's email. Gareth is to provide Michelle with information to send to parents. Keep in mind, that if something is going on or you want to talk about something between meetings don't hesitate to email each other rather than saving it all for meeting night.

OMAHA is going to send an email out to their distribution lists for our swap and shop. Signed us up for a referee clinic – August 29, 2015 (waiting for it to appear on the BC hockey website). Omaha is aware and has sent it out to their members, hoping it will be a super clinic since we will have Kal Tire Place.

Next meeting is on September 8th, we will have it at the civic for now.

Motion to adjourn – Cathy Isles

Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm