



ACTION

Kenora Event Centre Committee Minutes

**Wednesday November 6, 2013
5:30 p.m.**

Kenora Recreation Centre Meeting Room

PRESENT: Chris Van Walleghem, Co-Chair
Mike Dietsch, Co-Chair
Rory McMillan, Councillor (arrived at 5:33 p.m.)
Judy Bain (arrived at 5:39 p.m.)
Laci Dingwall
Ruth Illman
David Nelson
Colleen Neil, Recreation Manager
Kerri Holder, Administrative Assistant

REGRETS: Megan Derouard, Recreation Programmer

GUESTS: Jennifer Findlay, Economic Development Officer

Chris Van Walleghem called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

A. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest & the General Nature Thereof:

1) On Today's Agenda

2) From a Meeting at which a Member was not in Attendance

There were none declared.

B. Confirmation of Minutes:

Moved by L. Dingwall, Seconded by R. Illman & Carried:-

That the Minutes of the last meeting of the Kenora Event Centre Committee meeting held October 7, 2013 be confirmed as written and filed

And Moved by R. Illman, Seconded by M. Dietsch & Carried:-

That the Minutes of the special meeting of the Kenora Event Centre Committee held October 21, 2013 be confirmed as written and filed.

C. Items:

1. Deputations

EDO Update on Casino Project

Jennifer shared background on the casino project and the stage of the application process. Interested developers have been to Kenora for site visits

and it is still unknown if Kenora will be chosen as the gaming facility location for this region. It was confirmed that the casino project was approved by Council in concept only and that Council is looking for a destination type casino facility that includes a hotel.

There was an inquiry about the Committee taking on a partnership with the casino developers. It was stated that the mandate of this project stipulates that the project be an addition or expansion to the Kenora Recreation Centre. All agreed that a partnership would be favourable if the mandate could be changed and if the partnership would result in a successful project for the community. It was mentioned that a partnership may provide more support and alternate funding options. There was concern about locating a casino in close proximity to a school. Jennifer to ask OLG about the limits associated with this site.

J. Findlay

All agreed that both projects are complementary and can move forward together. This is a positive message for Committee members to promote when asked about the two projects. All agreed that communication between Jennifer and Colleen is important to know what is happening and if there are other similar projects emerging. All agreed the Committee should continue on with their mandate and continue to keep all options open without limits on future developments.

Jennifer was thanked for attending and left at 6:05 p.m.

Frank Bastone was to attend the meeting with details about a proposed recreation development he had presented to Mayor Canfield as an interested Kenora resident. Chris informed the Committee that he had received e-mail communication from Frank indicating that he was unable to attend.

It was recommended that Colleen and Jennifer together present an update on this project and the Committee's mandate to Northern Development and Mines department.

3. Fundraising

Megan and Laci have been researching change drop box suppliers. The features of the boxes and the materials that they are made of were touched on however Megan was not present to expand on the details. It was suggested to have Megan talk about the suppliers and options at the next meeting.

4. LOWAC Discussion

Rory spoke on behalf of the LOWAC reviewing their deputation to Council. It was stressed that LOWAC is committed to help and provide support for this project. Colleen confirmed that LOWAC will be included in the user group consultations.

5. Next Council Update

Chris will attend the next Committee of the Whole Council meeting on Tuesday November 12 to provide a quarterly update. All Committee members were invited to attend as Mike is not available to accompany Chris this time. The deputation will be to officially announce the partnership with Stantec Sports Studio and Nelson Architecture Inc., as well as talk about the Committee's plan to begin community fundraising.

In addition to the deputation, a special meeting with Council was put forward as a recommendation to ensure Council is aware of the Committee's work plan. It was suggested that City management and the recreation staff be involved also.

C. Neil

Colleen will follow up with the Clerk's department.

6. Next Steps

It was explained that the Stantec/Nelson team has begun Phase One of the plan which is Strategic Review. They are working with Colleen to collect background information. There are many reports available for review and this will help with both strategic and financial planning. It was noted that the work plan is set up on a 12 week schedule and so far it is on time. At the next meeting, the strategy and time lines will be reviewed.

It was asked how involved Stantec and Nelson will be in fundraising. It was confirmed that the Committee will be responsible for the community fundraising. Ruth offered to share with the Committee some information on fundraising processes and strategies she had collected. Ruth to send by e-mail to the Committee.

7. New Business

The Seniors Centre has invited the Committee to make a presentation at their meeting on December 2nd. Chris will attend on the Committee's behalf.

It was suggested that at the next meeting, the Committee should work on the meeting schedule for 2014 to ensure schedules are coordinated with David Nelson and Stantech representatives.

Ruth and Laci have prepared draft updated Q & A's. Laci to forward to Committee members for their approval. Kerri to post on the City Portal upon approval.

8. Communications and/or Announcements

Councillor Smith sent an article to the Committee members about the community of North Bay and their sport tourism developments. All agreed this was an encouraging article to read.

There was discussion about when to do a press release and other marketing of the project. It was indicated that the press will be present at the Committee of the Whole meeting and it was recommended that a sheet with bullet points be available for the press at that time. It was also suggested that David Nelson be present for the Committee of the Whole meeting as the local connection to the project.

9. Next Meeting Dates

- Tuesday December 10, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 6:44 p.m.

R. Illman

**L. Dingwall
K. Holder**