



Kenora Event Centre Committee Minutes

Tuesday March 18, 2014
5:30 p.m.

Kenora Recreation Centre Upstairs Meeting Room

ACTION

PRESENT: Mike Dietsch, Co-Chair
Rory McMillan, Councillor
Laci Dingwall
Ruth Illman
Colleen Neil, Recreation Manager
Kerri Holder, Administrative Assistant

REGRETS: Chris Van Walleghem, Co-Chair
Ron Lunny, Councillor
Judy Bain
Megan Derouard, Recreation Programmer

Mike Dietsch called the meeting to order at 5:38 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 R. McMillan, Seconded by L. Dingwall & Carried:-

That the Minutes of the last meeting of the Kenora Event Centre Committee meeting held February 4, 2014.

C. Items:

4. Council Meeting Update

Ruth Illman had attended the Committee of the Whole meeting on March 11th on behalf of the Committee. There was discussion about the types of questions asked by Council and how those concerns were addressed. Ruth explained that she wanted to focus on the next steps and general information in addition to the community need. The supporting information was provided in the final report and in earlier presentations however it appeared by the questions asked by Council, key points must have been missing and more information proving the need was required. Colleen Neil was asked to resend the supporting data and

C. Neil

confirmed that she has been doing so and will continue. It was also recommended that the Committee meet with Council and managers to identify the elements that are required to build the business case. There was general support by Council for moving on to the next stage of preparing a business case.

There was discussion about Tourism Committee's involvement in the process. It was confirmed that representatives did take part in the public session and the focus group discussions and that the Economic Development Officer has been kept up to speed on developments. A meeting will be confirmed with the Tourism Committee.

It was agreed that the Committee should focus on setting up a meeting with Council and senior managers to develop the components of the business case. Once the business case is approved, the next step would be to look for capital funding options.

Mike Dietsch thanked Ruth for attending the Committee of the Whole meeting and for a job well done.

5. Public Feedback Update

Councillor McMillan received a letter from a citizen expressing support for a second ice surface but he had concerns about costs of the entire project. Councillor McMillan acknowledged receipt of the letter and shared with the Committee for their information. It is anticipated that there will be more public input received.

R. McMillan

6. Business Case Development

a) Meeting format with Council & Senior Managers

The discussion began with who should be at the table for the business case discussion. Colleen will work on the logistics of setting up a meeting Council and senior managers as well will bring forward suggestions from the Committee about possible participants. There was an inquiry about whether the City has a business case template they use for these type of projects to have a place to start and then bring to the meeting. It was stated that there was not one; each project has been unique.

C. Neil

It was agreed that the Committee would like to meet specifically with the economic development committees also. The purpose of the meeting will be to answer questions and confirm support for this project.

Ruth left at 6:07 p.m.

There was discussion about the role of the Committee. It was noted that this group is a Committee of Council, working with Council and providing information to aid Council in making a decision about this project.

There was a suggestion made that the Committee prepare a straw dog business case from the reports and information already gathered. This will be a starting point which will open discussions to find out what is missing in the Stantec report at the meeting with Council and senior managers. The straw dog and any additions will form the basis for the business case and address the next steps in the project. Mike Dietsch will prepare the straw dog and indicated the information should be provided to Council and senior managers well in advance of the meeting date to ensure the meeting is as productive as possible. It was mentioned that this is a City project not a single department project and

M. Dietsch

working directly with Council and management will aid in the decision making process regarding this project.

It was mentioned that Thunder Bay was in the news about receiving funding for their event centre project. There was a suggestion made that the Committee participate in a conference call with the Mayor of Thunder Bay to learn about their process and successes with the event centre. Councillor McMillan to arrange this.

Colleen suggested at the next regular Committee meeting, the work plan that was created last year be reviewed, along with timelines set for the tasks involved.

7. Next Steps

- 1) To arrange a meeting with Tourism Committee in early May;
- 2) To prepare for the meeting with Council and senior managers and set a date for the meeting; and
- 3) To review the Committee's work plan and timelines.

8. New Business

None

9. Communications and/or Announcements

None

10. Next Meeting Dates

- Tuesday, April 8, 2014

Meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

R. McMillan