

**City of St. Catharines
ARENA PARTNERS COMMITTEE
Wednesday, October 10th, 2012, 6:00 PM
Meridian Room, Seymour-Hannah Sports and Entertainment Centre
240 St. Paul Street West, St. Catharines, ON**

MINUTES

Welcome from the Chair; Kim Bauer at 6:02 PM

Present: Kim Bauer; Phil Baranoski; Jim Benson; Bill Burke; Trish Cardwell; Paul Coates; Glen Cyr; Jim Denman; Lincoln Fannell; Scott Greenfield; Ken Houtby; Rick Lane; Joe MacNeil; Councillor Phillips; Jim Richardson; Doug Herod – St. Catharines Standard

Regrets: Wayne Briggs-Jude; Jon Lowe; Murray Nystrom; Tony Penna; Kathi Plug; Ken Russell; Councillor Siscoe; Councillor Williamson;

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES SEPTEMBER 12TH, 2012

A motion was made by Jim Richardson and seconded by Paul Coates that the minutes be accepted as circulated. **Carried**

ACTION LIST – no changes

REPORTS AND UPDATES

CHAIR

Kim thanked the Committee for accepting the change in time for the meeting tonight.

COUNCILLORS

nothing

STAFF

nothing

MOCK ICE ALLOCATION

A power point presentation by Rick took place regarding the mock ice allocation for all ice pads. (This presentation will be emailed to all committee members.)

Council directed staff, through the Arena Partners Committee, to consult with ice user groups and to report on a long term strategy to manage, maintain, replace and consolidate the city's ice pad inventory.

Rick announced that the intent is to bring to the Arena Partners Committee, the conclusion of our analysis. The data has been framed to the Ice Allocation Policy. Statistical analysis of ice usage has been compiled by staff to determine the current usage data and a completed detailed analysis of current data. This defines ice users and the priority of their ice pad usage.

The outcome of this analysis is to determine the total ice hours booked, showing prime versus non-prime hours and youth versus adult hours. This mock project, from all ice users, took place for a traditional 28 week time frame from September 1st to March 31st.

It was requested that Rick show the total hours of ice available on one screen and also take out the non-prime time by putting it in a separate column.

Rick mentioned that there is a large demand for "for profit" tournaments due to the fact that they have a great impact on the community because of the restaurant and hotel usage.

Rick concluded that some of the adult groups may have to move to a later timeslot if we lose an ice pad. Some of our users may have to book ice at Ridley or Merritton arenas. Right now, Merritton arena is not part of the Ice Allocation Policy and their lease would not be negotiated until the fall of 2014 for a 2015 new lease. This would give the city time to clarify the information.

A large conversation took place after the presentation where a few issues were discussed. Rick mentioned that the mock ice allocation was done with the assistance of Wayne Briggs-Jude.

Kim said that when the committee discussed this mock ice allocation originally, it was to be done for a whole year with the intent of taking it down to 7 ice pads and then 6 ice pads.

Rick confirmed that no decision has been made to take down Jack Gatecliff arena. If the economics show us that we can close an arena, hours may need to be entrenched from Ridley College or Merritton arenas.

Rick reminded the committee that these discussions are absolutely necessary in moving forward with trust and friendship. We will be ethical and may disagree but a good solution for the city is potentially everyone's goal.

SPECTATOR FACILITY

Rick told the committee that the plans for the new spectator facility are going well. The staff report comes out on October 19th when we will be endorsing one proposal.

A small discussion took place regarding the parking allotment and its convenience for the participants of the facility.

Kim said that at the last committee meeting it was voted upon unanimously that he go to council representing the Arena Partners Committee to voice the committee's concerns, especially regarding the ice surface size. A brief discussion took place and Bill Burke indicated that the Ice Dogs are not in favour of international ice size.

Rick said that there was a request for proposals from council and that they will go back and have additional meetings regarding these conclusions. There was an addendum for an international ice pad and the implications of the additional ice size. When they reconvened the group, they could not vary that much from the dollar amount. Council confirmed that some of the ideas can't be put in because of the additional costs to the city.

NEW BUSINESS

At the last meeting it was agreed that Kim would contact the minor hockey organizations to invite a representative to the Arena Partners Committee meetings. Rick felt these letters should be sent out from him, being the Director of the Department of Recreation and Community Services. There was confirmation that these letters were sent out and Kim will follow up by contacting the ones who responded.

Since the St. Catharines Female Hockey League has obtained an office at the front of Seymour-Hannah, Jim Richardson is looking at putting a drop off box at the front door and Rick wanted it brought up to the committee first. Councillor Phillips thought that as a renter, they should be entitled to mailboxes. The committee had no objection to a mailbox being used.

Scott started a discussion on creating profiles for all ice users and explained how beneficial it would be in trying to accommodate the ice users' needs.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, November 14th, 2012 at 5:15 PM

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting to adjourn at 7:35 PM by Councillor Phillips and seconded by Ken Houtby.