

**Minutes of the Arena Committee Meeting
Held Wednesday, December 13, 2017**

Present:

Councillor King, Committee Chair
Councillor Shogren, Committee Member
Councillor Mayne, Committee Member
Keith Robicheau, Chief Administrative Officer
John Severino, Managing Director Community Services
Margaret Karpenko, Chief Financial Officer
David Jackowski, Facilities Manager
Paula McCloskey, Senior Manager Parks and Recreation
Melinda Fry, Manager of Sports and Events

Regrets:

Councillor Vaillancourt, Committee Member
Mayor McDonald, Committee Member

Special Arena Committee Chair, Councillor King, called the meeting to order at 7:50 a.m.

1. Introductory Remarks:
 - The Chair advised that on December 12th, 2017, Council had provided the Committee with an extension of time to March 31, 2018, to bring recommendations forward to Council.
2. Adoption of the Agenda:
 - The Agenda was adopted as presented.
3. Minutes:
 - The Minutes of the November 22, 2017 were approved and will be presented to Council on January 16, 2018.
4. Site Selection Analysis – Presentation Provided
 - (i) Memorial Gardens/Thomson Park – John Severino went through the presentation
 - If Memorial Gardens is the preferred location can the parking and traffic issues be overcome? How long would it take to do a detailed traffic study?
 - Parking will be issue with a new arena development
 - Traffic and Parking issues cannot be eliminated
 - Detailed traffic impact study would need to be completed to identify future impacts and potential mitigation measures to reduce the negative impacts. They will not be eliminated.
 - We would have to hire a consultant – would want to wait until the location is chosen.
 - Have any of the Expert Engineers ever considered blowing out a wall at the YMCA to connect the arena?
 - We did not look at the site carefully when the geotechnical work was completed since the addition has always been to the current facility
 - Does Class D mean that is not an acceptable location?
 - No, but it does trigger additional building costs.
 - There possibly could be another route which would not spill out on Fisher Street but in another direction.
 - It is assumed and would need to be confirmed through the Traffic Impact Study
 - There are site start-up costs vs. operations costs. Do we have those comparisons for the two sites? There should be significant savings in Hydro with the new system that will be in place?
 - There would be a reduction in heating costs.
 - Electricity agreement will likely be at market rate
 - Could you please elaborate on what you mean by potential control issues?

- That would be in relation to concessions – depending if they are going to be built in the new arena or left in the existing building.
 - Some other issues that we see with the build at this area are:
 - There would need to be a redesign of the Kinsmen Trail as this has linkages from both directions.
 - Loss of sports fields and park space
 - Would need to relocate the Football and Baseball fields.
 - Rollie Fisher Field has major soccer tournaments and ultimate Frisbee.
 - What is the utilization of the field?
 - Bulldogs three times per week. There are options to go to schools or Omischl Field.
 - When there are game days/special events there will be traffic impacts into the residential area.
- (ii) Omischl Sports Field – John Severino went through the presentation
- There is plenty of room for expansion at this location.
 - What are the current parking spaces at Omischl vs. Memorial Gardens?
 - We will get that information for you
 - Intent would be to optimize parking for year round use at Omischl
 - Are there ATV or snowmobile trails that go through this property?
 - The trails do not go through the property but they are close.
- (iii) Other Sites
- Where are we at with the RFP Procurement process?
 - It will be ready in the New Year.
 - Can't really make a decision until we see all of the private proposals.
 - This Committee would make a recommendation regarding the municipally owned property and once staff has had an opportunity to review all of the private proposals they would bring a report to Council with a recommendation.

5. Recommendations to Council:

That the Arena Committee bring forward a recommendation to Council recommending Omischl Field as the preferred municipally owned location for the new Arena.

6. Next Meeting Date: To be Determined

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Councillor Mark King
Chair Arena Committee

Karen McIsaac
City Clerk