

Minutes of a Board Meeting of the  
**LUNENBURG COUNTY MULTI-PURPOSE CENTRE CORPORATION**  
Held in the Meeting Room, LCLC, 135 North Park Street, Bridgewater  
**Thursday, January 17, 2019 – 6:00 p.m.**

Attendance: Municipality of the District of Lunenburg  
Mayor Carolyn Bolivar-Getson, Chair  
Councillor Eric Hustvedt  
Councillor Michael Ernst  
Trudy Payne, Director of Recreation Services  
Sherry Conrad, Municipal Clerk

Town of Bridgewater  
Mayor David Mitchell, Vice Chair  
Deputy Mayor Andrew Tanner  
Tammy Wilson, CAO

Regrets: Councillor Bill McInnis, Town of Bridgewater  
Kevin Malloy, CAO, District of Lunenburg

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Bolivar-Getson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**2019-01 Moved by Deputy Mayor Tanner, seconded by Mayor Mitchell that the agenda be approved as circulated. Motion carried.**

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**2019-02 Moved by Councillor Hustvedt, seconded by Deputy Mayor Tanner that the Minutes of the November 15, 2018 LCMPPC Board meeting be approved as circulated. Motion carried.**

**4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES & UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**4.1 Status of Ad Hoc Committee Report (Councillor Ernst)**

Councillor Ernst noted that he had added this item to the agenda as the report has not been discussed with the current format of the Board. It was confirmed that the report had been circulated to the Councils of the District of Lunenburg and the Town of Bridgewater. Councillor Ernst noted that he had circulated a copy of the report to approximately 40 people and he will prepare a report on the feedback he received.

It was noted that the report would be discussed at the strategic planning sessions.

#### 4.2 Agreement Update (Deputy Mayor Tanner)

It was reported that the agreements relating to the LCLC will be reviewed during the strategic planning sessions and actions will come from these sessions to set the Board's direction and to establish a timeframe to accomplish that direction. Current agreements not relevant to the operation of the LCLC will be put forward to the Councils of the District of Lunenburg and the Town of Bridgewater to address.

#### 5. CORRESPONDENCE - Nil

#### 6. NEW BUSINESS

##### 6.1 LCLC and Lumberjacks (Councillor McInnis)

A discussion was held with regard to the financial impact that could be realized should the Lumberjack franchise not find it economically feasible to use the LCLC rink for its home ice. The following comments were made:

- A Friday night hockey game brings approximately 900 – 1,000 people to the LCLC
- Restaurants are booked up on those nights
- Busiest night for concessions is during Lumberjack Games
- The LCLC should be seen as a focal point in the community for recreation and entertainment
- Major Midget hockey will not fill the gap left by the Lumberjacks if they leave
- Any incentives or arrangements must comply with the *Municipal Government Act*

Staff was directed to meet with the owner of the Lumberjacks to discuss what the franchise needs to remain at the LCLC and to discuss options that would be economical to both parties. Staff was directed to contact the Rath Centre to see what type of arrangement they have with their hockey teams.

##### 6.2 Year-round Ice Surface (Mayor Mitchell)

Mayor Mitchell advised that he was approached by an individual, on behalf of the local skating club, with regard to keeping the ice in the facility year-round.

Ms. Payne reported that a cost analysis on how many hours would need to be sold to make the proposal feasible would need to be completed. Once the hours were determined, stakeholders would need to be contacted for their usage. She noted that the power is approximately \$40,000/month with the ice in and \$20,000 with the ice out. Staff was asked to check as to whether keeping ice in all year-round would address the moisture/humidity issue that is realized when the ice is out.

Ms. Payne advised that she would check with the staff at the Queens Emera Centre to see how much it costs to keep their ice year-round and what usage they have for the ice in the off season.

### 6.3 LCLC Membership Distribution by Community – Dec. 2018 (Councillor Ernst)

Councillor Ernst circulated an updated copy of his report. He reviewed his report which listed the membership usage of the facility by community (all communities in and outside of Lunenburg County); by membership categories, and comparison to previous reports completed in October 2017, June 2018 and December 2018.

A discussion was held with regard to options for increasing membership. It was noted that a membership strategy would be discussed during the strategic planning session. The following suggestions were put forth:

- Do a survey or interview that would ask people who pay each time for a swim, why they don't have a membership.
- Contact other facilities re their membership strategy
- Tag onto gym memberships.
- Information needs to be gathered with regard to how offering cheaper memberships would affect the revenue and the tolerance level for usage

### 6.4 List of Proposed Activities and Programs for LCLC

Ms. Payne advised that the list of proposed activities and programs and marketing ideas circulated with the agenda was a compilation of the suggestions put forward by Board members. Another suggestion was put forward for an activity – a whitbit obstacle course for the pool. The Committee discussed the suggested programs / activities and marketing initiatives put forward.

The Committee agreed that Ms. Payne would refer the program / activity related items to the Program staff for further investigation and report back to the Board and that the items relating to marketing would be put on hold until a decision was made with regard to marketing.

### 6.5 Partnerships – Local Gyms, Health Authority, Schools (Deputy Mayor Tanner)

The importance of partnerships with other organizations was stressed. It was noted that partnerships with local organizations is an item that will be discussed at the strategic planning workshops. It was noted that the LCLC presently has an agreement with the YMCA regarding membership. Staff was directed to see what arrangement has been made with the YMCA.

Interaction with schools was discussed. It was suggested that ice time be offered to schools at a discounted rate of \$75.00 per hour for the hours that are available during school hours. A discussion was held with regard to offering a discounted ice rental rate to the public for the hours that are not currently booked to help utilize non-prime ice time.

**2019-03      Moved by Councillor Hustvedt, seconded by Mayor Mitchell that the LCLC offer the ice rental at a discounted rate of \$75.00 per hour to all schools exclusively up to January 31, 2019; and then, open the**

**discounted rate up to the public to utilize all non-prime ice time until the ice is removed for the season. Motion carried unanimously.**

6.6 New Arena Clients – attract Major Bantam Team, Broomball, etc. (Deputy Mayor Tanner)

A discussion was held with regard to attracting other hockey and sport teams to the LCLC. It was noted that owner of the Lumberjacks also sponsors a major Midget hockey team. Staff was directed to look at putting a package together for the meeting to be held with the owner of the Lumberjacks if both teams used the LCLC as their home ice.

6.7 Details of Any Concerts or Events (Deputy Mayor Tanner)

Ms. Payne reported that there are no concerts planned for the immediate future. The following upcoming events were identified:

- Lobster Crawl Craft Beer Festival – February 9, 2019
- Provincial Figure Skating Championship – February 23 – 24, 2019

It was asked if a committee should be created to look at bringing concerts and events to the LCLC. It was noted that LCLC may be missing out on opportunities on concerts / events for all different youth age groups.

A discussion was held with regard to the resources required to focus on bringing concerts and events to the LCLC. Ms. Payne was directed to contact the Rath Centre to see if there was an opportunity to partner with them or buy their services to bring concerts and events to the LCLC when they are looking for their facility.

## **7. INFORMATION / UPDATES**

### **7.1 Director of Recreation Services Update**

Ms. Payne reviewed her monthly Director of Recreation Services Report dated January 17, 2019 that was circulated with the agenda. The report updated the Board on the following items: the Tim Hicks Concert, Events, Skate Patrol, Current Focus, World Sledge 2020, Accessibility Legislation, Maintenance, Adult Skate Aids and Staff.

During the review of the events, the Farmers Market was noted as being a success in bringing people to the facility. Staff was asked to explore the possibility of the Farmers Market being held in the LCLC on a regular basis when it is too cold to hold it outside. It was noted that the costs would need to be renegotiated so that the LCLC could recover its costs.

During the discussion of the skate patrol program, it was noted that most arena post signage requiring people to wear helmets on the ice.

**2019-04 Moved by Councillor Ernst, seconded by Mayor Mitchell that a policy be implemented, starting for the 2019-2020 skating season, that helmets are mandatory to be worn on the ice for anyone under 19 years of age and recommended for anyone over 19 years of age". Motion carried unanimously.**

Staff was requested to start notifying the public of this change in policy as soon as possible. It was suggested that it be put on a "sandwich board" for people to read as soon as they come into the LCLC and on the website.

Ms. Payne reported that there was power surge which caused the ice to be down for one morning and the pool to be out of commission for 2.5 days. The power surge had caused the sensors to blow out which caused the problems for the equipment. She noted that the last time there was a power surge, it caused the compressor to go and a claim was made to Nova Scotia Power for compensation. The compressor did not go this time.

A discussion was held and staff was directed to put a claim into Nova Scotia Power for the damage and loss of revenue caused by the power surge.

## 7.2 Financial Update

Ms. Payne reviewed the LCMPPCC financial report for period ending December 31, 2018 that was circulated and answered questions posed by Board members.

## 7.3 Events Calendars

Circulated with the agenda, for information, were copies of events booked in for the arena, aquatic centre, and meeting spaces for the period from January 1 – 31, 2019.

Mayor Mitchell left the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

It was asked if the event calendars could be sent to all councillors. It was agreed that the agenda, which includes the reports, would be circulated to all members of the District of Lunenburg and the Town of Bridgewater Councils.

## 7.4 United Way Partnership Information

Circulated, for information, was a report from the United Way outlining the usage of the LCLC Swimming Passes (31) and Skating Passes (10) for the month of December 2018.

Ms. Payne advised that Mr. Graves, Coordinator of the United Way, asked the Board to consider waiving the \$1.00 fee that the organization pays for the passes.

It was noted that if there is no cost associated with the passes, other organizations may ask for free passes. Staff was asked to get more information with regard to what organizations receive their passes and how many they give out. With regard to other

organizations, it was noted that the United Way provides the skates and helmets that are at the LCLC for the public to use. Staff was also asked to find out how much the United Way does for the LCLC.

8. **IN CAMERA** - Nil

9. **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Board will be held on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

**2019-05**      **There being no further business at 8:38 p.m., it was moved by Councillor Hustvedt, seconded by Councillor Ernst that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried.**