

Prince Rupert Community League Meeting

Date: Monday, February 22nd, 2016 @ 7:00pm

Location: Central Lion's Recreation Centre

Attendance:

Victor Dorian, Tony Spencer, Brandy Harris, Chris Goosen, Jody Nelson, Ralph Dyer, Demetrius Garanis, Pam Chaillard, Lindsay Johnson

Regrets: Tim Gourlay, Roxanne Foster, A.J. Chouinard,

1. Call to order: Meeting called to order at 7:05pm
2. Attendance: Taken/ Brandy taking minutes.
3. Agenda: * Move #13, CRC Report to #6a. **MOTION:** Pam motioned to approve the agenda as amended; Tony seconded; all in favour.
4. Minutes: **MOTION:** Tony motioned to approve the January 18th, 2016 minutes; Chris seconded; all in favour.
5. **President's Report:**
 - The Business Plan was submitted to the City on Friday, February 19th. The partnership is continuing to have meetings with regards to the project. A feedback document prepared by Jody Nelson was created after the January 21st meeting and will be circulated to the board. The City expects the playground to be in the scope of the project. As of now, the partnership is \$1.1 million short in terms of capital costs. Terra will be covering this additional cost. On February 4th the Partnership together with Manasc Isaac held a Community Open House at the Lion's Center. Councillor Bev Esslinger was there but not a great turnout of Prince Rupert community residents. We are still waiting on a report from the Architects regarding the comments and feedback from the open house.
 - ACTION:** Victor to make sure MIA will be completing and providing this feedback document.
 - Lindsay, Victor and Ralph put together an information package together for the new community building and will put it on Facebook and the webpage.
6. **Treasurer's Report:**
 - Ralph provided the regular monthly bank statement. Ralph and Beth, the new book keeper, are now working together to streamline the flow of information.
- 6a. **CRC Report & Discussions:**
 - *These items were generally discussed amongst the group and do not solely reflect the opinions of the CRC.****
 - Various items discussed include:
 1. Playground: It needs to be in the scope of the overall project. As of right now, we don't know the cost of it, so it isn't included in the budget – but it should be. (Up until late 2015, the playground was going to be left untouched and therefore wasn't part of the project. However, now that the building and parking lot are encroaching the playground area, it has to be removed and replaced.)
 2. Budget: The operational costs are high – how can Prince Rupert sustain \$32,000 / year in operational costs? There are no furnishings included in the budget – where will this money come from?
 3. Business Plan: It was stressed that each partner's respective board review and approve the Business plan and the rest of the documents included in the PIP application before submittal. This was not done. Things are being steamrolled ahead and why are we rushing so fast into something that still has so many issues? Would it not be better to delay the process a little and work out the issues?

4. Partnership: It is important that all partners have each other's best interests in mind. Prince Rupert needs to know that Terra and the ATA fully support the playground and skating rink and are willing to help do whatever it takes to make it happen. How do we make sure we all feel trust and security with our partners?
 5. Succession Plan: It is very important that we have board members take over the key roles such as President and Treasurer who can also be on the Tower Road Connections Society Board and have general knowledge of the Aurora Place project. Need to figure this out before our June 2016 AGM.
 6. Open House: It could have been organized and coordinated much better. Any expectations Prince Rupert had for how it was to be facilitated should have been made clear to Manasc Isaac and the other partners. (or to whomever was to facilitate it.) Future open houses or information sessions should be more organized and include a sign-in sheet and follow-up report and should probably be facilitated by PRCL.
 7. Skating Rink: Some concerns that where the skate pond has been positioned on the site will not pass with various organizations that will control the approval of it. This needs to be looked into further.
 8. Jody is moving to another sector within the City Organization and will be leaving us in 3 weeks time. There will be a replacement CRC until June when Heather O'Hearn will be returning from her maternity leave.
 9. Jody will circulate her January 21st meeting feedback document to the board.
7. **Vice President's Report:**
- Tony is still meeting with the Central Lion's Senior Centre about the 50th anniversary celebrations in June/July. Prince Rupert will be teaming up with Queen Mary Park to host beer gardens in our rink area. The insurance is covered, and the timeframe is set. Need to determine if the event is worth trying to host in the event of rain due to high costs of tent rentals and less attendance which could equal low to negative cash flow. Will discuss this matter further. Tony and the QMP group will work on the budget, schedule, lists of volunteers, security personnel, liquor licence, etc. PRCL should advise the community about the planned beer gardens at least a month in advance.
- Discussed keeping the May Day event separate from the anniversary party as it is one of our best events.
 - Tony confirmed that PRCL would not be purchasing the electronic sign with Lion's Center, but would be interested in renting time on it when needed.
8. **Playground Committee Update:**
- The playground committee, Tony, Brandy and Chris, met at the end of January to start discussions about how to proceed. Tony created a Terms of Reference Document and the each member took a list of playgrounds to review and research a little. Chris suggested a community survey to document what people would like to see at our new playground. Next meeting to be determined.
11. **Casino Update, Rink Update – Demetrius:** Still looking for a few volunteers – please let Demetrius know if you can help out with a shift. March 19th and 20th.
- What exactly is the city's position on our rink? Is there a deadline to remove it? Could we keep it there and make it operational again someday? **ACTION:** Lindsey and Ralph to find out what the City's expectations are for the space.
9. **Motions:**
- A. *Concept Design package: "that the Prince Rupert Community League approve the Aurora Place Concept Design package, consisting of the Business Plan, The Public Involvement Plan (PIP) and the Schematic Design, as completed on or about February 12, 2016"*
 - B. *Operations Budget: "that the Rupert Community League approve the Aurora Place Operations Cost estimate dated February 19, 2016, subject to partnership agreement on how to apply rental revenues towards each Partner's operations expenses"*
 - C. *Playground contribution: "that the Prince Rupert Community League commits to contributing \$100,000 towards the cost of the Playground to be built to replace its current playground, subject to a subsequent final Board approval" (keeping in mind the all party consensus to contribute to the playground, as shown in their January 27, 2016 Minutes)*

Tony opened up with motioning to approve Item A; Ralph seconded, both did so for the purpose of further discussion about the motions.

Discussion: Lots of unanswered questions and plenty of concerns including but not limited to the following:

1. The PIP Grant Application: Why wasn't it reviewed and approved by the board prior to submittal. How do we streamline this process and make all information easily accessible by all who need it.
2. The proposed budget: How can we afford the operational costs of this building? We had agreed that we didn't want to have to rent out the space for income and now we need \$19,000/ year in rental income to stay on track with the budget.
3. Facility Manager: The agreement still states that a PRCL member will be required to unlock and lock up for all events – this is not what we want. How do we get it changed?
4. The playground is in scope, but if it isn't in the project budget, then it really isn't truly in scope.
5. How accessible will the building be for PR residents during the day? There are some day to day operational issues to work out – and we need to do this prior to proceeding.
6. How do we address the concerns and issues we still have? How do we make the changes happen? How do we move forward? How do we become a more unified and functional board? We have committed to the partnership and this project as well with the Architects and Builder. We have the potential to lose a lot of money if we can't move forward and make this work. How do we fix it? We need more trust and respect for this project and our partners.

Out of time and too many issues to proceed with the motions at this time. Tony suggests to withdraw the motion; Ralph agrees. Motions tabled to another meeting – date and time to be determined via email.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm

Next regular monthly meeting to be March 21st, 2016