



## Victoria Curling Club

Board of Directors Meeting  
January 15th, 2019 5:30-7PM  
Minutes

**Attendees:** Neil Campbell, Paul Dixon, Harold Trenchard, Marlene Jeffries, Andrew Komlodi, Mariah Coulombe, Colin Coughlin, Kristine Dobell, and Mark Stefanson

**Regrets:** Stu Fraser

### 1) Call to order

With quorum present, President Neil Campbell called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

### 2) Approval of the agenda

*Motion:* Move to approve the agenda for the January 15th, 2019 VCC Board Meeting.

*Moved by:* Mariah Coulombe

*Seconded by:* Colin Coughlin

**APPROVED**

### 3) Approval of minutes from December 6th, 2018 meeting

*Motion:* Move to approve the minutes from the December 6th, 2018 VCC Board Meeting.

*Moved by:* Mariah Coulombe

*Seconded by:* Colin Coughlin

**APPROVED**

### 4) Business arising from previous minutes

#### a) Existing priorities

a) Hockey tickets (done)

b) Budget

c) Capital Gaming grant - the mayor's letter has been approved by the Gaming Commission so we have a green light for this years capital application

d) NSTF - we still need to pick a project for this year

### 5) Correspondence

a) Scott Braily (CEO of curlBC) - Thinking of incorporating VCC value statements into CurlBC plan to be presented at their 2019 AGM.

**6) President's Report: N. Campbell**

- a) Junior hockey follow up
- b) Doubles - about a dozen of teams are wanting to play mixed doubles but there is no available ice time. There might be a way to fit them in on various nights amidst league schedules. Neil is working this.
- c) Juan de Fuca Curling Centre - JDF is possibly closing this year. Neil is communication with their President to offer support and assistance if required.

**7) Treasurer's Update: S. Fraser**

- a) No report

**8) General Manager's Report: P. Dixon**

- a) HOCKEY CANADA
  - a) "The Cabin" was a qualified success for the Club – we received a nice amount of rental income from the building occupation, and a further \$4000 from an online auction that we conducted at the Club to sell ticket packages we received from HC as part of our compensation package. There were some issues – a couple of brine line leaks, some alcohol and heat (fan) damage to the ice at the home ends of sheets 1 and 8, and some further minor problems. It appears, after cleaning of our carpet around the ice, that it is in the last of its useful life, and we will need to look at replacement soon (carpet fibres are starting to litter the ice causing picks...we will continue to monitor this the balance of this year).
  - b) Overall, however, we received not only the monetary consideration for the rental of the building, but also a huge PR boost by having our "Cool Shots" table available over in the arena during games there, and by the constant exposure on radio, tv, and print that "The Cabin" was located inside the Victoria Curling Club. Our facility was front and centre, as much as the SOFMC in many ways.
- b) BRINE LEAKS
  - a) In the wake of Hockey Canada's departure from the Club, we experienced not one, but two brine line leaks – in the same pipes coming off of the header trench as previous leaks from the past couple of seasons. We had managed to dodge this problem this year, up until now, but we suspect that the lines were jarred as a result of a forklift running into the divider boards between sheets 1 and 2 as "The Cabin" was being taken apart.
  - b) We are negotiating with Hockey Canada to cover the costs associated with the expense of repairing these leaks.
  - c) We can take cold comfort, at least, from the fact that these brine leaks have focused our attention on the need to replace these pipe sections as soon as possible. This is a #1 priority for the summer, or we will most certainly be facing further leaks in the same area. We can likely do much of this work "ourselves", with some assistance required from Accent Refrigeration to actually pump out and store

the brine from the lines while it is completed.

- d) Cody, myself, and our contacts at Accent are working on the scope of work right now – it will involve cutting into the concrete and the removing 2 – 3 foot sections of pipe, then replacing same with PVC and clamps. We will need to rent the machines required to make these cuts, and work in a number of teams in order to complete the work as quickly as possible – as the longer the pipes are exposed to air, the more likely we will have issues with further corrosion down the line.
  - e) If we can secure volunteer teams to help with the labour, the costs we will need to be able to cover are:
    - a) Rental of equipment to cut the concrete, and pipes
    - b) Replacement PVC piping and clamps
    - c) Disposal of waste (concrete and piping)
    - d) Pouring of concrete to reseal (major expense)
    - e) Pumping out, storage, and pumping back in of our brine by Accent
  - f) We will need to engage with the membership to ensure awareness and support of this project. We should immediately create an NSTF project to allow charitable contributions towards it, but we will need to identify and enlist the help of skilled volunteers to help with the actual work as well. In addition, any help we can get from corporate sponsors would be more than appreciated. Unfortunately, we cannot wait until approval from the Capital Gaming Grants to start this project, so we will need to find funding from other sources.
- c) ADULT LEARN TO CURL
- a) The Adult Learn to Curl Program, which I have largely handed over to Paul Addison and his team of volunteers for handling the “nitty gritty” of the teaching, has exploded this year. Our “post-Christmas” 8-week program has another 33 registered participants, to go with the 37 of the “pre-Christmas”. We have also managed to cobble together a “Getting Started” league that is playing at the same time as the ALTC on Sunday evenings, the majority of curlers having come from the pre-Christmas ALTC.
  - b) As a result, our Sunday 6pm – 8pm time slot is full of curlers – and we are now opening the bar on Sunday evenings to accommodate as well.
  - c) Unfortunately, this has resulted in a need to “bump” the UVic League from 6pm (they had been sharing ice with the ALTC) to either a 4pm or 8pm time slot. I have reached out to the organisers of that league to explain the situation to them, and am awaiting a response as to what time will work best for them going forward.
  - d) The success of the ALTC this season is going to create a happy problem moving forward – where to place these new, eager, curlers next season? Working on a couple of possibilities currently – and will poll the participants over the next several weeks to determine what will work best. But, we are facing an ice-time crunch in the evenings and recreational, social, curling increases in popularity. Again, a good problem to have!
- d) KUDOS

- a) To Cody and the entire ice crew, for working tirelessly (and sleeplessly) for the 72 hours in the aftermath of “The Cabin” tear down and ensuing brine leaks, to ensure that our ice surface was playable for our members starting on January 7. We had to cancel only one league date (Britannia Sunday morning) as a result of their efforts.
- b) To all of the volunteers who staffed our table at the SOFMC during the Hockey Tournament – without them, Christmas break would not have been a break. And thanks to their time and energy, we were able to introduce and expose curling to people who would not have been otherwise.
- c) To Geoff Davis and the staff at Digital Direct Printing, for turning around our new brochure in short order and following up with accommodating off-hour pick up of same on Christmas Eve.
- d) To Accent Refrigeration for their prompt response to our emergency brine leaks – necessitating their workers to come out to the Club at midnight and working through the night on consecutive evenings. While they are well compensated for doing so, they are a valuable partner and their ability to get to us quickly made a big difference in being able to contain the leaks.
- e) PCMCA
  - a) Has verbally committed to providing us a cheque for \$1000 earmarked for Junior Curling – we are going to use this money to fund “extra small” grippers for juniors and school programs. It is much needed and appreciated.
- f) REST OF THE YEAR
  - a) Every single weekend the balance of the season, has a booking of some description – corporate rentals, bonspiels, events, etc. Fantastic! We’re going to be exceeding busy over the next months in addition to league play wrapping up.
- g) TIMES COLONIST
  - a) Confirmed for their rental in April/May of this year, starting April 23.
- h) LOUNGE (from Andrew)
  - a) Committee forming to improve the lounge space upstairs. Created a list of priorities for improvements.
    - a) First priority would be the smoke ventilation in the lounge.
      - a) There is tentative agreement with the builders to assist in removal.
    - b) Other identified items are carpets, painting, upgrading tables/chairs, bar seats
    - c) Andrew will send the list to the board for the next meeting. Must be submitted to the finance committee, then to the board.

## 9) Committee/Team Reports

- a) Communication and Marketing Team - M. Jeffries
- b) Finance Committee - Stu Fraser
- c) Ice Management and Safety Committee - A. Komlodi
- d) Management Team - N. Campbell
- e) Membership Recruitment and Retention Team - N. Coleman

- a) Advertisement Flyer looks great - thanks to Ryan Landa and Digital Direct for their help
- b) Meeting next Thursday.
- c) Possible volunteer event
- d) Missing banners for teams that won provincials (Reese-Hanson)
- f) Revenue Generation Team - Colin Coughlin
  - a) Meeting Thursday
- g) Strategic Planning Team - A. Komlodi
  - a) Need to fill out the back of the form.
- h) Lease renewal - Colin Coughlin
  - a) Nothing to report. Time to follow up.

#### **10) Other Reports**

#### **11) New Business**

- a) Goodfellows contract is pending.
- b) World hockey championship follow-up -see GM's remarks.
- c) 2019 fund-raising plan is a priority for the Revenue Generation Team.

#### **12) Next Board Meeting: Feb 5th, 2019 @ 5:30pm**

#### **13) Adjournment**

- a) Meeting adjourned at 6:32pm