



Spruce View & District Agricultural Society Meeting Minutes

Date: November 18, 2021 @ 7 pm

Attendees: Brent Ramsay, Lindsay Stoyburg, Beth Huising, Logan Ebbeson, Tom Vanderlinde, Whitney Quartly, Kinsey Brown, Carmen Aragon, Jennalynn Bajema, Maddy Thomas, Lane Hetu

1. Motion to adopt agenda by Brent
2. Motion to approve October 2021 Meeting Minutes by Logan, 2nd by Beth.
3. Grads - Maddy Thomas and Lane Hetu
 - Grad Class would like to rent the arena for their grad ceremony on June 24, 2022. The date is not flexible.
 - Grads would be utilizing the rink area, bathrooms, and the mezzanine. They do not require use of the kitchen. They would bring tables and chairs from the school.
 - They are having trouble finding a venue large enough with shorter notice. They have Oklahoma Hall spoken for, however it is smaller than what they want.
 - There are 19 graduates, they would be willing to donate volunteer hours to offset the cost of renting.
 - Brent - current restrictions cap capacity at 200 in the arena. The arena would not be able to be used for safe grad as it is an insurance issue. This is a conflicting date with when Gymkhana usually runs.
 - Brent will call Lane or Shelley (at the school) with the board's decision.
 - Lane and Maddy leave the meeting.
4. President's Report - Brent
 - Brent would like to focus on meeting efficiency going forward. Efforts to better efficiency include adding the president's report to the meeting agenda and circulating the agenda prior to the meeting. Board members to review minutes prior to meeting in preparation.
 - Great News, the Spruce View Lions Club heard about the arena's unexpected expenses incurred with the installation of the new compressor and maintenance to the brine system. They presented the Ag Society with a \$5,000 cheque to put towards these expenses.
 - The Vickers did a poutine fundraiser for the Ag Society and donated \$158. Funds were received at the board meeting, Lindsay will do up a receipt.
 - Grant writing webinar coming up, Kinsey volunteered to register and take on grant writing.
5. Facility Report - Carmen
 - Water passed AHS test.
 - Carmen would like to put new plexi glass up on the time box prior to Calgary tournament. There is plexi at the arena, no additional costs incurred. Approved by Brent.
 - Lights - could be a moisture issue, could just need new bulbs. Carmen to check on cost of maintenance. Arena has access to a Genie lift at no cost.

- Nets - hockey nets are in rough shape, need new coating. Carmen to mention th nets to minor hockey as they have been responsible for them in the past. Board will also look into options for replacing/ re coating.
 - AED - new AED machine was to be donated, Carmen has had trouble following up. Will continue to follow up.
 - First Aid Kits - have not been audited since 2018. Lindsay will print off sheets for Carmen for the audit.
 - Pump Truck - has been working on and off. West Central looked at it and were unable to determine the issue. They found a small leak which they fixed at no cost. Tom to bring water to the arena, Tom and Carmen will coordinate.
 - Heater - rusted off
6. Financial Report - Lindsay
- General Account \$133,346.83
 - Casino Account \$5,269.80
 - Received \$4,300 in Ag Fees
 - \$3,615 in accountant fees paid.
 - Invoices for the compressor replacement haven't come out of the general account yet
 - Motion to accept report by Beth, 2nd by Janine
7. Director Reports
- Facility Rentals - Beth
 - October
 - Figure Skating 10 hours
 - Minor hockey 54.75 hours
 - Private Rentals/ Community Skates 10.75 hours
 - Midget Tournament has been booked for 10 teams Dec 10-12, usual tournament capacity is 8 teams. Each team will play 2 games with half the teams playing 3 games.
 - There are concerns about how the arena and Carmen will be able to facilitate the increase in teams as well as the potential breach of capacity requirements enforced by AHS for Covid protocols. Beth has had to adjust ice times in response already. The extra teams increase ice time requirements by 4 hours. There are also extra costs to the arena for cleaning and flooding. The Tournament Organizer wants to keep the tournament as is.
 - Beth will request tournament plans and reach out to Lee and the board, maybe a few games could be booked for Caroline.
 - Communication - Whitney
 - Actively posting on Facebook, Website, and in the arena. No changes.
 - AAAS Fall Regional Meeting - Logan
 - There may be grants available in the next few years to assist with building upgrades for facilities build between 1970-1980.
 - Lots of resources shared.
 - Reminder that Annual Returns are Due February 15, 2022

8. User Groups

- Minor Hockey
 - Beth to invoice
 - Covid restrictions complaints
 - Came in around first couple games of the season, we have done our due diligence as a facility to advertise restrictions we are following.
 - Teams are to monitor themselves.
 - Concession - people working in the concession booth do not need to wear a mask. People eating in the lobby are being asked to leave and eat outside as per AHS guidelines.
 - Complaints about coaches not wearing masks on benches - minor hockey needs to abide by Hockey Alberta restrictions and guidelines.
- Gymkhana
 - Brent is working with the organizers to get a plan for the 2022 season.
 - Generally runs June 1 - August 31. Last time it ran in 2018 it brought in \$1,800 in revenue.
 - 54 participants were involved in 2018.
 - Gymkhana needs new members for their board, if anyone knows anyone who would be a good fit, let Brent know and he will pass on information.
 - Ag Society did not receive UFA grant that was to be used for outdoor arena, so the dirt will have to be brought in again for this season

9. Unfinished Business

- Compressor Invoices - Brent was finally able to get ahold of the contractor to discuss. We were given a \$3,000 credit. Total invoiced amount was \$11,220.
 - The maintenance to the brine system should prevent any further issues.
 - Core charge for the old compressor was built into the original quote. Quote did not include a breakdown of labour, materials, etc. Going forward detailed quotes will be requested.
- Signage in Spruce View - basic directional sign is still a work in progress. Brent continues to follow up
- UFA Grant - Ag Society was not awarded.
- Green and Inclusive Community Buildings Grant - Brent had issues connecting with the county regarding this grant and as a result the application deadline was missed.
 - Communication regarding this grant has been re-established.
 - The grant would go towards solar panels and accessibility improvements (wheelchair ramps, automatic door buttons)
 - Motion to move forward with application by Tom, unanimous vote of support from board members.
- Outdoor Arena in Spruce View - FCSS is submitting the application to council. If approved the Ag Society would receive \$20k for the construction of the rink. FCSS would manage hiring of builders etc., for the rink.

- There is no need to for the Ag Society to enter into a 3 year contract as proposed at the last board meeting as the Ag Society can get out of the contract at any time.
- Ag Society could see revenues from rentals of the ODR potentially. Ag Society also looking into getting signage for the Dickson Arena at the community gardens when they do their new signage.
- COVID
 - AHS has advised that adult teams are able to play games under the REP program. The arena does not have to adopt the REP program, the adult teams would be responsible for policing themselves and ensuring all REP program requirements are being followed.
 - Trial period with just two teams before more teams are invited to use the rink
 - Spectators must also follow REP program rules.
 - Beth will draft up Covid rules for adult hockey teams participating in REP.
 - Concession is also now able to operate under REP. Vickers are considering it.
- Trees
 - Logan to remove before snow
- Casino 2022
 - Ag Society's slot has moved to the 2nd quarter of 2022.
 - would be at the Jackpot Casino

10. New Business

- Grad 2022
 - Board is in support of renting the arena to the Grad class.
 - This pushes Gymkhana to end on June/ early July - only 1 or 2 days as they meet every 2 weeks.
 - Community Hall charges the Grads \$500 for rental, Ag Society will rent for the same price. Brent will ask Allison if the Community Hall requires a damage deposit.
 - Motion to allow Grad Class of 2022 to rent the arena for \$500, \$200 to be paid to the Grad Class of 2023 to remove the dirt in September 2022. Grad Class of 2022 is responsible for cleaning the arena the day after their grad ceremony. by Beth, 2nd by Whitney.
- Shared Files for Invoicing
 - Would be used by Brent, Lindsay, and Beth. Beth will set up.
- Sponsored Wifi
 - Lindsay called CCI/Explorenet to see if they would sponsor wifi at the arena in exchange for signage. Waiting to hear back.
- Ag and Forestry Grant
 - Janine and Kinsey to complete.
 - If the Ag Society expands programming, we are able to receive more funds.
- 4-H
 - Have moved meetings to private residences.

- Brent will reach out to Katie.
- Recreation and Culture and Capital Grants
 - Capital Grants - Can be applied for to cover costs of capital expenditures. (i.e. renos and upgrades to the building)
 - Brent will follow up with Allison to get more info about the capital grant application process/ eligibility and concerns about having to put up half the funds upfront for the proposed capital expenditure.
 - Rec and Culture - Whitney to look into applying to get funds to cover the costs of community public skate. in the past the Ag Society has received this grant to assist with removal of dirt ~\$2k
- AAAS Conference February 3-5 2022
 - 2 day conference in Edmonton. Participants would need to stay 3 nights in hotel (Thurs, Fri, Sat).
 - Admission is \$517/participant, Hotel is \$147/ night.
 - Cost for 2 board members would be about \$2,000.
 - Motion to send 2 board members by Beth, all in favour.
 - Kinsey, Logan, and Tom are interested.
- Fundraising
 - Brent proposed we plan something short term and something long term, it is too late to get something organized by Christmas.
 - Whitney is looking into organizing a heifer raffle. Tom will reach out to Feeder Associations in Rocky Mountain House and Lacombe as well as the Smokey Lake Ag Society as they recently ran a very successful heifer raffle.
 - We could also do a Spring Event - smoker fest in Spruce View was successful, floor hockey event.
 - Defer planning fundraising events at this time, everyone to get ideas with plans on how to execute.
- Strategic Planning
 - Brent would like the board to review Ag Society Activities and Programs throughout the year so that changes can be presented at AGM next year.
 - Ag Fees - restructure
 - Scholarship - Beth will look into redoing the application form. Board will review application requirements.
 - Website - goal to have the website be a main hub for all programs and program info.

11. Meeting Adjourned 9:54 pm