

# Brockville Museum Board of Management Meeting Minutes

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November 9, 2015

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PRESENT: Dr. John Arnott, Chuck Quick, Barb Healy, Neil O'Brien, Paul Naylor

STAFF: Natalie Wood

GUESTS:

CHAIR: Brian Porter

CITY COUNCILLOR: Phil Deery

## **1.0 Call to Order: 7:04 pm**

## **2.0 Additions to/Approval of Agenda**

Moved by: Phil Deery and Seconded by: Paul Naylor that we approve the proposed agenda.

Carried.

## **3.0 Additions to/Approval of Minutes of the Last Meeting**

Moved by: John Arnott and Seconded by: Neil O'Brien that we approve the minutes of the last meeting.

Carried.

## **4.0 Correspondence and Communication**

None

## 5.0 Amendments to/Discussion and Approval of the Staff Report

Moved by: Phil Deery and Seconded by: Paul Naylor that we approve the staff report as sent out by email.

Carried.

## 6.0 Business Arising from Minutes

Capital projects

The flooring quotes are being reviewed. No work before new year.

The footings for entrance way railing are poured, the railings are being fabricated.

## 7.0 Executive Reports

### 7.1 City Councillor

*He reported that he is favoring a downtown location for the proposed area facilities as it would serve as another attraction.*

### 7.2 Chairman of the Board

### 7.3 Curator/Director

*The Curator/Director reported that she is favoring a downtown location for the proposed area facilities and provided a copy of a letter to \_\_\_\_\_ showing the Museum's support of downtown consideration. A copy of the letter is included in these minutes. The Board was supportive of this letter.*

*Admissions revenue is presently approximately \$400 over budget, an unexpected surprize as bus admissions were down this year. It the first time in a number of years that we are over budget.*

*Traffic from Ottawa and Montreal is up this year, due in part to the Tourism department targeting their advertising to these areas.*

*The Friends have a new treasurer.*

## **8.0 New Business**

None

## **9.0 Date, Time, Location of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Board will be on Monday December 14 at 7:00 pm in the classroom.

## **10.0 Adjournment: 7:33pm**

Letter

November 5, 2015

RE: Downtown Twin Pad Arena

The Brockville Museum was delighted to hear that there is still a possibility that a downtown location may be considered for a future Twin Pad Arena. As a tourist- and resident- focused facility ourselves, we support the potential long-term impact that an arena in the downtown offers.

We believe that the viability of a downtown arena lay in the potential to make it a true multi-purpose facility that will attract tourists and meet the needs of residents. One such example might include the museum: the museum will need to expand or relocate as our collection grows beyond the capacity of our exciting facilities, and as condo developments proceed around us; one consideration might be that the museum could be added to the site of a new downtown arena, putting more city amenities under one roof (and reducing the costs of two distinct builds). There would, of course, need to be much discussion on the feasibility and logistics of such a proposal, but we believe it is this kind of creative and innovative approach that might make a downtown arena more viable financially. This is also the kind of innovative thinking that granting bodies like to see.

The economic impact of a downtown arena must also be considered. The museum has noticed, for example, that when the Arts Centre hosts a Dance Competition, the museum's attendance increases (we are located only a block away). Dance Competitions, like Hockey Tournaments, involve waiting around between performances (games) and often leave parents looking for something to do while they wait. A downtown arena provides an awesome opportunity to showcase a pedestrian-friendly environment where visitors can shop, dine and enjoy some of the recreational opportunities offered along our waterfront.

I urge council and the arena committee to consider creative and innovative solutions that use a multi-purpose facility model as they investigate and make decisions on the viability of any location for a new

arena. This project provides us with an opportunity to not only replace aging infrastructure, but to invest in imaginative solutions that will inspire Brockville's future.

Thank you,

Natalie Wood

Curator/Director

Brockville Museum