

Wynndel Community Center

Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2024

Opening

The regular monthly meeting of the Wynndel Community Center (WCC) was called to order at 7:05 pm on December 17, 2024 by Chair, Mitch Nelson.

Present

Mitch Nelson, Lauriane Mehrer, Vern Gorham, Carol Truman, Dana Dodge (phone), Noreen Schaefer, 1 community member.

Absent

Tashina Demman, April Parsons.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Adopt the November 19, 2024 regular meeting minutes (L. Mehrer)

Second: C. Truman

Carried

Business Arising from Previous Meeting

- a) Snow removal: Agreement reached with Jason Oakson, Wynndel Tree & Yard (Mitch). Salting is not included – Rob T will purchase salt.
- b) Security camera project: Solar charging on the school camera is not adequate; other batteries to be installed (Tashina). Noreen will submit the ReDi security camera grant report now that the security camera signage has been purchased.
- c) Wall oven replacement: Vance Brandsource estimate of \$1850 each, applicable until the end of January (Vern). Agreement to i) keep the built-in ovens to reduce renovations; ii) to market the hall from a commercial kitchen perspective to attract additional revenue; and iii) research applicable grant opportunities.
- d) Director recognition: Wynndel Food gift cards purchased for Jill F and Teresa W leaving the Board (Mitch).
- e) Insurance: Current Intact liability insurance and Northbridge policies compared prior to the December 16 renewal date. Northbridge liability (\$7316) and Intact directors & officers insurance (\$1547, a \$100 increase) policies signed and paid. Agreement that the \$1500 liability insurance saving be applied to the furnace upgrade project (Noreen).

Financial Report

V. Gorham presented the December 2024 financial report:

- Balances are as at Nov 30, 2024, therefore they do not reflect the insurance policy payments nor Christmas craft fair revenue.

Chequing Account	\$38,936
Segregated Funds	\$22,772

Motion: Adopt the financial account balances report (L. Mehrer)

Second: C. Truman

Carried

- A \$14,500 GIC purchased within the segregated funds. A line of credit using the GIC, is being put in place. Using the line of credit would require extenuating circumstances and Board approval.
- GST and charitable donation filings are outstanding. Noreen will assist Vern as necessary.
- CBBC will be invoiced for 2024 server room power consumption in early January (Noreen).

Building and Maintenance Report

Nothing to report. Mitch to follow up with April.

Bookings Report

Tashina provided the following report via email:

- a) Various pickleball groups rent the hall 5 days/week.
- b) The hall is rented for Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.
- c) A new rental group, disc golf, will start in January.

Communications Report

- a) Tashina provided WCC website statistics via email. See Appendix C for details.

Events Report

- a) Christmas Craft Fair: A slower vendor sign-up was noted, largely due to poorer sales last year resulting from poor weather and an accident closing the highway. This year the vendors reported good sales and some have requested the fair be open Friday night as well. This could easily be accommodated and will be considered next year. Pictures with Santa were not as brisk as prior years. The internet was down for part of the day. (Lauriane)
 - Raised approximately \$900 net from lunch and concession sales. The Board acknowledges all the kitchen volunteers and Root & Vine, Wlokas and Pealows for their generous food donations.
 - Raised \$1430 from vendor table rentals.
- b) Event proposal: Vern has extensive experience as the Best Singer series creator, held in numerous Kootenay venues. He is willing to volunteer his expertise to promote the hall and be a fundraiser for the very costly gym floor maintenance. Agreement to move forward with this initiative; refer to Appendix A for details.

New Business

- a) Membership proposal: Carol has researched the hall's history and there is a good story to tell! This story can form the basis to promote the hall and encourage community membership through dues. Between the 2015 and 2021 census there was a 17.5% population increase, providing a good basis for additional community involvement. Engagement through Facebook and other membership promotions, such as prizes or free rentals, can be considered. Board agreement to pursue this proposal via a community survey. Refer to Appendix B for proposal details.
- b) Vacuum: Used Dyson vacuum purchased for \$45 (Carol).
- c) Better at Home Senior program: provides funding for events targeting seniors. Mitch to follow up with Tashina.
- d) Bear proof garbage bin: required for hall parking lot area. Noreen to research appropriate grants.
- e) Grant report (Noreen): i) ReDi (RDCK Resident Directed) 2025 grant submissions open Jan 3 – Feb 19 and will be used to request funds for the furnace replacement project; ii) CBT energy grant submission: updated the Art Centre submission with Lemur Construction estimate and revised the hall submission reducing the original request to now only including the furnace upgrade and related ducting and electrical relocation. The Board's capacity to take on additional work as well as meet the 25% contribution agreement is challenging. Noreen contacted the CBT grant coordinator to discuss

the grant submission updates; iii) RDCK operating grant 5-year cash forecast was resubmitted as per Director Garry Jackman's advice to include the school hazardous materials abatement as if funds were available; and iv) Creston Valley Community Foundation grant submissions closes Feb 28.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm by Chair, Mitch Nelson. The next regular meeting will be at 7:00 pm, January 21, 2025.

Minutes submitted by Noreen Schaefer.

Appendix A – Best Singer Event Proposal

Vern's email:

Re the upcoming "best singer" event discussed at our last meeting, here are some particulars.

- 1) I have booked the KRSS auditorium for Mar 13, which is a Thursday. It was one of the only days available in March, so we chose wisely. We can cancel it without penalty if needed.
- 2) I spoke with Bob Golum today and he is going to go through with me all of the sound equipment that we have sometime after Christma, but he cannot be a sound person because he has Parkinsons, and cannot count on his health day to day.
- 3) Carol texted me and said that the group that is using the Thursday evenings, the pickleball group, is willing to work with us.

To summarize the ideas discussed for those who were not there, and to ensure that what I was saying was what I was thinking, what I suggested was to put on a singing contest. For those who may remember, in 2010, I started a singing contest called "Creston's Best Singer" that was supposed to be a one night thing, that I ended up running for 5 years. It was pretty successful, and we always sold out our finals night. After the first contest, the subsequent years involved an "audition" night at the auditorium at the high school, in which the top 16 singers, as voted on by the audience members, qualified for the finals event. It was an event I used solely to make money to support my family.

This event I am proposing is similar in principle, with some differences. First of all, I am proposing that we hold four different nights for auditions, and hold them at the WCC Hall, upstairs. We would use four consecutive Thursdays for these "auditions", and use it as a karaoke night for anyone to come sing, or just come by and enjoy the entertainment. We would charge a cover charge of \$5 for everyone who attends. We would have a concession each night. The top 4 singers from each night would advance to the finals. Judging would be done electronically using devices that the high school has used in the past, although I have not confirmed that we can use them. People can try out all four nights if they want to, or just come out and sing. A portion of each night would be just singing, and the final hour would be for competing. I used to DJ for 6 years, and also was a karaoke DJ, and am very comfortable leading something like this. We can use these nights to drive people to our website by announcing the four qualifiers from each audition only at our website!!

We would get sponsors for the event, as we can issue charity receipts for all who sponsor. Each singer has a sponsor, and there would be bigger sponsors as well.

Sponsors would get 2 tickets, (or more) to the finals, so in essence, we are selling tickets for a much higher amount than their face value. Tickets to the finals would be \$10 per ticket. We would advertise on the radio, and the newspaper, as I am hoping we could get them to be sponsors in kind for us.

My very best contest I made almost \$9000. I believe that we can make \$10K off of the 5 nights, if not more, but at minimum, we won't lose money, just a bunch of my time more than anything, and have some fun. There is really no risk that I can see.

Each event we hold at the WCC Hall would give us the opportunity to promote the hall, and let people know that our hall is open for business. That is the primary purpose here, to raise awareness of how great our hall is!! Also, we want to raise funds to refinish the floor upstairs.

I am willing to donate all of my time, but I request that you allow me to promote my business through this as a major sponsor.

There is much more to discuss, and more details to work out, but it is all stuff I have done before, and built from scratch in 8 different communities at its peak when the winners from each community advanced to the Kootenays Best Singer finals that were held in Cranbrook.

Anyway, before I put too much time into this, I am letting you know that I will need some volunteer help. We will need to advertise on facebook, and our website, and we need to have someone who is good at making programs and such to build an 8 page program on paper that will be given out to each person at the Finals event. I can show you some of my old programs. I can do this, but I wish to delegate some duties so that this isn't all on me.

On each Thursday, there will need to be concession staff, and a door person. It is open to all ages. My youngest singer was 6, and my oldest was 91. Most of them were 16-30. If successful, this could be an annual event to raise funds for the WCC.

I want revenue from this to go to the floor refinishing fund. But, I am not the only voice. I am open to other opinions, but that would be my choice, and it is an easy sell to businesses I would approach for sponsorship.

Your thoughts, and opinions are welcome. If this seems too big for us, let me know now before I put any more time into it. The event is a lot of fun, and some work, but not much. The audition nights would require setting up the sound equipment and having a concession, as well as MCing the event (I would do this). Nothing too major, and I literally could do it all myself with one additional person helping.

But, if I am doing it all myself, why would I donate all my efforts? I could just rent the hall, and keep the proceeds for myself. I did it for five years. So, I will require help.

Questions? Comments?

Vern

Appendix B – Membership Proposal

Per Carol:



**Membership Concept
2025.pdf**

Appendix C – Christmas Craft Fair Concession, Security Camera, Bookings & Communications Report

Tashina's report via email:



**Dec 2024 Notes from
Tashina.pdf**