

# KELOWNA BADMINTON CLUB

## Executive Meeting – June 21, 2021 in KBC Board Room

7:00 p.m.

**Present:** Lyndsay Thompson, Karen Quigley, Donna Campbell, Colin Comfort, Martin Weilmeier, & Andy Galloway

**Regrets:** Harpreet Sidhu, Stephen Atherton, Padraig (Paddy) MacRoibeaird, Mike Christian & Linda Estabrooks

Martin began at 7:15 p.m.

Minutes of May 31st meeting - approved

No formal agenda was presented as this was predominantly a meeting to finalize plans for the AGM.

### Membership Report: Director Colin Comfort

21 June 2021	Renewed	New Member	Total
Adult	154	156	310
Adult Student	15	32	47
Junior	47	53	100
Restricted	15	35	50
Total	231	276	507

### Financial Report - Paddy & Karen

Karen presented 2020-2021 Financial Statements Paddy had prepared. There was a Comparative Balance Sheet to April 30, 2021, a Comparative Income Statement for year ended April 30, 2021 and a proposed Budget for May 2, 2021 to April 30, 2022. Karen addressed questions that were raised and discussion ensued about various components of the report. The board made several recommendations to the proposed budget, and Karen will apprise Paddy of such.

Final reports will be presented at the AGM on Sunday, June 27.

### AGM plans

Those who agree to let their names stand for election again this coming were identified and those stepping down thanked for their service.

A list of the duties of board members was outlined with the various candidates willing to take these on. This left us in need of a Secretary, Treasurer and a membership director. It is hoped that an appeal can go out to the membership to see who might have the skill set to offer their names as possible new directors for these roles.

Items to be presented at AGM are:

- New Club fee structure proposal

- Scheduling options

- Directors' Reports

- Financial Reports & Budget Proposal

Plans for just how to set up for the AGM were discussed decided upon.

**Parking Issues:**

There was a fair amount of discussion around just how to deal with changes coming to parking for our facility. With the expansion of Red Bird Brewing and the new sidewalk on Richter Street, we have lost significant parking space. Martin will be attending the Kelowna Council meeting tomorrow (June 22) to make a presentation of our concerns (see letter attached). We don't have a lot of hope that this will make a difference in the plans but is worth the efforts to try. Thank you Martin for doing that.

**Electrical Issues (again)**

Andy has obtained another quote for the work needed and will proceed to get it done.

**Covid - Further easing of restrictions expected on July 1<sup>st</sup>.**

So far information is vague but we may once again be open to allowing spectators, likely allowing more than 50 in the building, having full change room facilities open once again, the doors put back, the water cooler re-connected and masks may be recommended when in close contact with others but not mandatory. This means upstairs would again be open with cleaning of all areas once again implemented. As far as contact tracing is concerned, we hope to get more information on that with the expected announcement.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Our next meeting will be the AGM on Sunday, June 27, 2:30 pm.

Djc

**Attachment:****Letter from Martin to City of Kelowna for June 22 council meeting:**

I am writing on behalf of the Kelowna Badminton Club to express our concerns about the proposed increase in licensed capacity for Red Bird Brewing. To be clear, we are not categorically opposed to the expansion of Red Bird's operation, but we are concerned about how the five-fold increase in capacity will affect parking in the area, which is already under significant strain at times.

The Kelowna Badminton Club was founded in 1910 and has occupied the current facility at the corner of Richter and Gaston since 1950. We currently have about 500 members ranging in age from 5 to almost 90 years old. We provide access to a great "sport for life" at both the recreational and competitive level in a way that serves our Kelowna community with programs and events for juniors, seniors and everyone in between.

Our facility has 5 courts, and during busy times, we might have 40 or 50 people in the building coming from across the central Okanagan, mostly in separate vehicles. We routinely host provincial or national tournaments, typically about 5 times per year, and at these times substantially more people would be accessing our facility. In general, evenings and weekends are the busiest times for us.

We can park about 12-13 cars on our property, along the Gaston side of our building. Until recently, we could park another ~10 vehicles along the Richter side.

Exacerbating the parking situation are the current sidewalk improvements along Richter. We understand that all of the parking along the Richter side of our building (which has also been used by Red Bird) is being removed to make room for the new sidewalk and bus stop improvements. This leaves KBC with about 13 dedicated spots for typical usage of 20-40 people and Red Bird with 7 dedicated spots for usage by up to 500 people. Any need beyond these limited spots must park on the street.

Parking has already been problematic at times, particularly when there are events at the numerous sports fields in the area, at our club, or at Red Bird. Our concern is that adding significantly more capacity to Red Bird, without dealing with the commensurate need for additional parking, will increase problems in the area for everyone and only be exacerbated as development in the area continues.

It could be argued that people coming to an athletic facility such as ours would be in a position to walk a little farther. The problem here is that the homeless population has been moved to the recreation fields and surrounding areas in the last couple of years. There is also now a homeless shelter on Richter. We have seen an increase in vehicle break-ins, garbage and drug paraphernalia left in the area, and intoxicated people acting unpredictably in our neighbourhood. In short, many of our members don't feel safe having to walk a significant distance to their vehicle.

We recognize that change is inevitable and realize that our section of Kelowna is rapidly growing up. But change must also be managed properly to be beneficial. Our concern is that the capacity increase by Red Bird Brewing will have significant consequences with respect to parking. We ask that these consequences be considered in deciding what the appropriate capacity should be. Some of the factors that make the situation worse, such as removing parking capacity in the Richter sidewalk improvements or the homeless situation, are entirely separate from Red Bird's application, but contribute to the problem.

Again, we are not opposed to Red Bird's operation or the concept of increasing their capacity. But in doing so, we ask that parking availability be factored into the decision to avoid making the situation much worse. Additionally, if there are other workable solutions for the increased demand on parking, we would welcome them.

Thank you,

Martin Weilmeier  
Vice President, KBC

