

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR ATHLETIC COMMISSION MEETING
HELD IN ROOM 8, OF THE BEBAN PARK RECREATION CENTRE
ON WEDNESDAY, 2008-JUL-23 COMMENCING AT 12:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Commissioner M. Unger, Chair

Members:

Commissioner E. Garner
Commissioner L. McNabb
Commissioner J. Martin
Commissioner B. Meunier
Commissioner B. Bestwick

Staff: D. Osborne H. Richardson (recording)

1. CALL THE OPEN MEETING TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

It was moved and seconded that the Agenda be adopted. The motion carried unanimously.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

- (a) Minutes of the Regular Athletic Commission Meeting held Tuesday, 2008-MAR-13 at 12:00 p.m. in Room 21 of the Beban Park Recreation Centre.

Paragraph 5(a) should be changed from "The American Boxing Federation Annual General Meeting" to "The Cauliflower Alley Club Reunion Annual General Meeting".

It was moved and seconded that the Minutes be adopted as amended. The motion carried unanimously.

4. DELEGATIONS:

It was moved and seconded that the Delegation be permitted to address the Athletic Commission. The motion carried unanimously.

- (a) Mr. John Cooper, 601 Milton Street, Nanaimo BC, V9R 2L4, South Western BC Affiliate, King of the Cage Canada, requested sanctioning of the mixed martial arts event on 2008-OCT-18, at Frank Crane Arena.

The event would have 12 professional fights, with 24 athletes involved. Mr. Cooper and staff have been working together since November of 2007 to reach an amicable date for the King of the Cage Event and agreed on 2008-OCT-18 as the date for the event. Mr. Cooper spoke with Mr. Don Arnott, Promoter of the So You Wanna Fight event, who stated that his next event would be in March of 2009. Mr. Cooper also contacted other promoters from the Island to ensure that no other events were taking place that night. Mr. Arnott subsequently approached Mr. Cooper to say that he had also booked 2008-OCT-18 at the Vancouver Island Conference Centre (VICC) for his So You Wanna Fight Event and could not cancel as he had signed a contract. Mr. Cooper stated that there was a possibility that he could change the date of his event to one month later if arrangements could be made at Frank Crane Arena with staff, but if no other dates were available, he would hold his event on 2008-OCT-18.

- (b) Mr. Don Arnott, 5304 Sherbourne Drive, Nanaimo BC V9T 2J8, Promoter, So You Wanna Fight, requested sanctioning for a So You Wanna Fight Event on 2008-OCT-18, at the Port of Nanaimo Centre.

Mr. Arnott toured the VICC and booked the So You Wanna Fight event for 2008-OCT-18. Mr. Arnott contacted Mr. Cooper when he realized their events had both been booked for the same night. Mr. Arnott said there were absolutely no other available dates for his event in the Fall and that he couldn't get out of his contract with the VICC. He stated that if Mr. Cooper changed the date of his event, Mr. Arnott would promote the King of the Cage Event at his 2008-OCT-18 event. Mr. Arnott is also under an obligation to hold one event a month for television viewing. A mixed martial arts component has also been added to his card.

Having an event at the VICC allows for alcohol to be served in the lounge outside of the auditorium, but not inside the main area.

Mr. Arnott has also booked 2009-APR-25 for a spring card.

It was moved and seconded that the presentation be received. The motion carried unanimously.

The Athletic Commission's role is not to approve dates, however, generally 30 to 60 days between events has been adhered to in the past. Although these are two different events, they draw the same sort of crowd. Having them both on the same night is taxing on resources: officials, staff, physicians.

When booking Mr. Cooper's event at Frank Crane Arena, 27 arena programs were cancelled and seven users groups were refunded. Staff is responsible for user groups and has to be careful when cancelling bookings for major events.

It was moved and seconded that Mr. Cooper and Mr. Arnott be given one week to resolve the issue of both of their events being held on 2008-OCT-18. If they cannot come to an amiable decision, the Athletic Commission will intervene. The motion carried unanimously.

Staff will look at alternative dates for Mr. Cooper in the event that he and Mr. Arnott do not come to an agreeable decision.

5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- (a) Chair Unger attended the Cauliflower Alley Club Reunion, which is a mixed martial arts and professional wrestling conference held in Las Vegas. The major change is that MMA is making a place for itself between boxing and professional wrestling. MMA is making very good use of television.

It was moved and seconded that the Report be received. The motion carried unanimously.

6. OTHER BUSINESS:

- (a) Staff Liaison to Athletic Commission – Darcie Osborne has been appointed as the staff liaison to the Athletic Commission. Ms. Osborne would like to see a fight co-ordinator/manager appointed for each event.

It was moved and seconded that Other Business be received. The motion carried unanimously.

- (b) Athletic Commission Meeting Dates – deferred to next meeting.

- (c) Budget – Lunch Meetings – deferred to next meeting.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- (a) Ed Garner, Travel to Montreal for Canadian Boxing Federation AGM – Mr. Garner did not attend the AGM in Montreal.

It was moved and seconded that Unfinished Business be received. The motion carried unanimously.

- (b) Training for Officials – Ed Garner – deferred to next meeting.

- (c) Reserve Account – Darcie Osborne – deferred to next meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

It was moved and seconded at 1:30 p.m. that the meeting terminate, with the next Meeting of Athletic Commission to be held Wednesday, 2008-JUL-30 at 12:00 at Beban Park. The motion carried unanimously.

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M. Unger, Chair

Nanaimo Athletic Commission

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

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R. Harding, Director
Parks, Recreation and Culture