

MINNESOTA AMATEUR SPORTS COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2016 @ 11:30 am

CALL TO ORDER

Alex Rowell, Chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 11:40 am.

ROLL CALL

Present: Rep. Joe Atkins, Joel Carlson, Judy Frisch, Alberder Gillespie, Michael Hahm, Joan Hallock, Lori Higgins, Rick Nelson, Al Nuness, Alex Rowell, Chair; Sen. David Tomassoni.

Absent: Sen. Alice Johnson, Julie Lunning, Bob Milbert, Rep. Linda Runbeck, Rep. Tim Sanders, Sen. David Senjem, David Stead, John Wendt.

Staff: Todd Johnson, Neil Ladd, Steve Olson, Kris Bjerkness, Jill Griffiths, Pete Carlson, Darin Thompson, Peter Barsness, George Ellis, Mark Erickson, Lynda Lynch.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Alex thanked staff for their extraordinary efforts with the number of recent projects that have required a significant amount of time commitment. Alex also noted that the goal of the newsletter is to be timely as such that it serves as a viable communication tool for members between board meetings and provides members with ongoing updates/progress reports on commission related activities and initiatives. Members are encouraged to read the newsletter and follow up with any questions or comments.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

No report.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Agreements (Spring Lake Park School District K-4 School) – Neil Ladd provided background and summary of the recent MASC Special Meeting that was held to consider the agreements. The summary report addressed issues the MASC Board wanted incorporated in the various documents/agreements. Neil expressed confidence that the identified items have been discussed with Spring Lake Park staff; staff feels comfortable with the agreement(s). Neil reviewed the concept site plan map for the proposed school which will allow for NSC use of the cafeteria, kitchen, classrooms, outdoor restrooms, outdoor playground, etc. for certain events. Neil reviewed the tentative construction schedule noting that the goal remains for minimal impact for NSC customers during construction. Neil also noted that proceeds from the sale will go directly to the State unless the statutory language is changed as recommended during the next legislative session. Neil reviewed the three page resolution that will approve the six different agreements required to move the project forward pending the final approval from MMB and the Attorney General's Office. The approval of the documents will allow SLP to move forward with designing the school; SLP Board has yet to determine the school site, based on current three options, on November 30. Neil also noted that a copy of the appraisal is available for members to review.

Alex requested that members review the resolution in its entirety prior to approval request. **Motion Made (Carlson), Seconded (Gillespie) to approve the resolution as written and distributed to members (copy attached). Motion carried unanimously.**

Alex acknowledged and thanked Neil Ladd for his presentation today as well as his hard work with moving the project forward.

B. Mighty Ducks Task Force Report – Mike Hahm, Task Force Chair, updated members on the committee’s review of grant applications and proposed awards noting that one applicant, City of New Hope, was ineligible due to not meeting statutory requirements referenced in the RFP/application. Joel Carlson reported on the process and provided a summary of the received applications as well as the grant awards based on congressional district. It was noted that staff will look at the possibility of implementing an electronic grant application for future grant rounds. In addition, it was proposed to pursue efforts to amend the current statute to increase the dollar cap for applications. Following discussion, **Motion Made (Hahm), Seconded (Carlson) to approve the Mighty Ducks Grant Award Resolution as written and distributed to members. Motion carried unanimously,**

C. Metropolitan Airports Commission Lease of Airport Park & Golf Course – Neil reviewed the MAC Agreement noting that the City of Blaine approached staff in April expressing their desire to discontinue paying the lease for the 49 acres owned by MAC which resulted in the execution of a new nine month lease with the intent, upon conclusion of the nine months, of pursuing a new 15 or 30 year lease with MAC which provides for control of the 400 acres of golf course and 49 acres of fields/lands for the foreseeable future. Staff also updated on the potential collaboration of a hotel with Jack Nicklaus in the future. Following discussion, **Motion Made (Frisch), Seconded (Nuness) to approve the proposed Master Lease Agreement with MAC Resolution (copy attached). Motion carried unanimously.**

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

A. MASC Legislative Update – Todd updated on the recent submittal of the agency’s 2018/19 biennial budget that includes two change item requests: 1) adding an additional 1.0 FTE/position at a cost of \$85,000/year and 1% Mighty Duck appropriation funds utilized for staff allocation; 2) extend the current James Metzen Mighty Ducks Grant appropriation date (currently expires 6/30/17) and language to increase the dollar caps for grant requests. Todd noted that there is not a request for a bonding bill at this time.

B. City of Blaine Update – Todd noted that the working relationship with City of Blaine officials continues to be a priority and feels it has improved; staff has met with the two new recently elected council members and will continue to meet with current members to ensure a consistent message and understanding of MASC/NSCF is attained. Staff is still negotiating the outstanding property tax issue.

C. Federal Emergency Management Agency – Steve Olson provided an update on potential opportunities to provide additional safety shelters onsite that would be available for NSC events and programs use. Staff has met with Senator Franken, FEMA and the City of Blaine and will reconnect with Senator Franken’s legislative staff to determine the potential access to FEMA funding as well as providing administrative support/assistance if needed.

NATIONAL SPORTS CENTER FOUNDATION REPORT

Kris Bjerckness reviewed the financial reports for the period ending October 31, 2016 noting that the interim financials show us approximately \$200,000 ahead of budget. Year-end expectations are to meet budget. Kris noted that NSC programs and events remain stable with revenue growth of 2.4% over previous year; we are catching up on deferred maintenance/repair issues and some related capital items. Kris also noted that the Balance Sheet reflects continued progress and strong financial performance coupled with efforts to pay down debt when prudent. Kris shared that the Net Unrestricted Net Assets, if averaged over 28 year life of the NSCF, is equal to approximately 148k per year of net income.

Minnesota United - Todd Johnson provided a brief update on the Minnesota United noting that staff is working on a long term agreement (15 years or more) with Minnesota United intended to be a win/win for both parties but not necessarily a major renter. It is hoped the agreement will be suitable for the team to train at the NSC for 15+ years with improvements to the facilities that will not only serve the team but also for the campus as a whole. Joel Carlson recommended; and the board instructed staff to pursue necessary agreements with the team to lease and sponsorship to benefit amateur sports.

Kris provided a brief summary on the office remodel/relocation noting that Accounting has moved into its new location with new furniture that will be the same utilized through the phased remodel. Staff has received positive response to the new changes.

ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:12 pm. The proposed 2017 MASC meeting schedule is as follows: February 15, May 17, August 16 and November 15 (at 11:30 am/NSC Welcome Center).

Recorded by,

Lynda Lynch
Administrative Assistant