

MINNESOTA AMATEUR SPORTS COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

August 16, 2017 @ 11:30 am

(DRAFT)

CALL TO ORDER

Alex Rowell, Chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 11:45 am.

ROLL CALL

Present: Sen. Paul Anderson, Joel Carlson, Judy Frisch, Alberder Gillespie, Lori Higgins, Julie Lunning, Sen. Jerry Newton, Alex Rowell, Harry Weilage.

Absent: Michael Hahm, Rep. Leon Lillie, Bob Milbert, Rick Nelson, Al Nuness, Rep. Linda Runbeck, Sen. David Senjem, David Stead, Rep. Mark Uglem, John Wendt.

Staff: Todd Johnson, Neil Ladd, Kris Bjerkness, Steve Olson, Lynda Lynch.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion Made (Frisch), Seconded (Weilage) to approve the May 17, 2017 MASC meeting minutes as written and distributed to members; Motion carried unanimously.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion Made (Higgins), Seconded (Gillespie) to approve the proposed MASC meeting agenda as written and distributed to members; Motion carried unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Alex provided a brief update on Schwan's USA CUP noting that Opening Ceremonies continues to be a highlight of the event. Alex noted that he, along with staff, met with Jack Nicklaus during the 3M Championship. Alex also welcomed newly appointed Senators Newton and Anderson as well as guest Trent Tucker, representing the Minneapolis Public Schools.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Todd Johnson introduced the newest board members and requested they provide a brief background summary. Todd introduced Jen Een, Director of Schwan's USA CUP, and recognized her for her contributions and success with this year's tournament. Jen reviewed the video featuring Opening Ceremonies as well as the USA CUP summary sheet noting that this was probably one of, if not the best, tournament she has been involved with since she assumed the director position. She noted that it was helped by good weather, with only one black flag day, and had more referees than previous years with representation from 18 different countries. The tournament utilizes all the hotels (and dormitories) in the metro area. Jen noted that field quality was an issue this year and being able to rest fields is a big factor for maintaining the integrity of the fields.

Todd reported on a recent visit that he and Neil made to Grand Park in Westfield, IN, noting that this was a 400 acre park featuring 26 baseball/softball diamonds and 31 multi-purpose fields for soccer, football and lacrosse. Todd stressed that the trip served as a reminder that

there are many quality facilities that offer equal or more than the NSC and how we need to continue to explore ways to improve the quality of the campus as well as the events.

Todd asked Steve Olson to introduce Trent Tucker and provide a brief summary on the ongoing relationship with the Minneapolis Public Schools noting that securing adequate space/fields for athletic competition is a real challenge and the NSC has been a catalyst in providing the fields with students using buses for transportation to the NSC. Trent noted that staff will continue to look at ways to continue this initiative and exploring other funding options. Trent noted that after school activities involvement has a huge impact on kid's overall development and there has been a noted increase in participation opportunities since this initiative began.

ACTION ITEMS

A. 2018 Capital Budget Recommendations – Alex noted that the MASC Capital Bonding Committee met prior to today's meeting and reviewed the proposed staff recommendations. Alex reviewed the four priority projects noting that it would be a resubmittal of the 2016 request that was not funded. The projects include: 1) National Sports Center (\$5.03 million), 2) Northwest Regional Sports Center (\$4.45 million), 3) National Sports Center Asset Preservation (\$.850 million) and 4) St. Paul Regional Sports Center (\$.321 million) for a total request of \$10.651 million. Judy Frisch provided a brief update on the Northwest Regional Sports Center in Moorhead noting that it has been nine years of trying to secure funding and the project is still in need of the funds to complete the project and maximize its tourism. They will continue to explore new approaches with hopes of receiving funding. Following discussion, **Motion Made (Weilage), Seconded (Gillespie) to approve the proposed 2018 Capital Bonding Committee Recommendations as reviewed with members; Motion carried unanimously.**

B. NSCF Board Appointments – Todd provided background on the role of the MASC appointing members to the NSCF board for the benefit of the new members noting that the NSCF is a subsidiary of the MASC. Following discussion, **Motion Made (Carlson), Seconded (Higgins) to approve the NSCF Board Appointment Amended Resolution (copy attached); Motion carried unanimously.**

C. Land Sale Resolution – Neil reviewed the process involved with the sale of the NSC land to Spring Lake Park School District for the purpose of constructing an elementary school with the proceeds from the sale of which now need to be allocated for quality purpose at the NSC. Following discussion, **Motion Made (Carlson), Seconded (Weilage) to approve the amended resolution with the inclusion of MASC Board Chair approving expenditures; Motion carried unanimously.**

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

A. MASC Legislative Update – Todd provided an update on the MASC legislative initiatives from the 2017 session noting that no funding was secured for any of the requested projects. The proposed Mighty Ducks language change would've impacted the number of quality applicants as well as increased benefits for Minnesota communities. There needs to be more of the local municipalities pushing the legislation for future consideration. Currently the fund balance of \$7.0 million was cancelled.

B. MASC 3.0/Campus Master Plan – Neil reported on the status of the ongoing NSC Campus Master Plan project being coordinated by LHB with the intent to have a proposed plan

completed by the end of October that includes the input and information gathered from the various focus group meetings and surveys as well as assessing the current condition of the campus facilities as well as potential expansion/improvements needed to provide a quality experience for its customers. The plan will also include proposed infrastructure improvements, such as walkways/paths and continuity of services.

NATIONAL SPORTS CENTER REPORT

Kris Bjerkness reviewed the NSCF financials for the period ending June 30, 2017 noting that revenues continue to be strong and are within budget margins. Cash is down from the previous year, however, that is due largely to use for repairs and capital equipment and paying off long term debt. Kris also noted that staff will continue to request asset preservation funds every budget cycle.

Neil provided a brief update on the City of Blaine's 105th Avenue road improvement project which has begun and expected to be completed prior to the 2018 USA CUP. The project will include the addition of two roundabouts, new utilities and walking paths.

ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:25 pm. The next MASC meeting is scheduled for November 16 @ 11:30 am.

Recorded by,

Lynda Lynch