

MINNESOTA AMATEUR SPORTS COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2017 @ 11:30 am

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Joel Carlson, Judy Frisch, Michael Hahm, Lori Higgins, Rep. Leon Lillie, Rick Nelson, Al Nuness, Alex Rowell, Harry Weilage.

Absent: Sen. Paul Anderson, Alberder Gillespie, Jlie Lunning, Bob Milbert, Sen. Jerry Newton, Sen. David Senjem, David Stead, Rep. Mark Uglem, John Wendt.

Staff: Todd Johnson, Barclay Kruse, Kris Bjerkness, Neil Ladd, Steve Olson, James Nelson, Lynda Lynch, Peter Barsness, Darin Thompson, Sara Soli, George Ellis.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion Made (Frisch), Seconded (Nelson) to approve the proposed May 17, 2017 meeting agenda as written and distributed to members. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion Made (Frisch), Seconded (Higgins) to approve the February 15, 2017 MASC meeting minutes as written and distributed to members. Motion carried unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Alex acknowledged staff for their ongoing excellent work performances recognizing some important events coming up within the next few weeks/month. Alex also recognized the outgoing commission members and thanked them for their efforts, particularly Senator Tomassoni and Joan Hallock. Alex noted that Lori Higgins and Alberder Gillespie were both reappointed by the Governor and welcomed new appointee Harry Weilage. In addition Representative Linda Runbeck and Senator Dave Senjem were both reappointed along with new legislative appointments that include: Representatives Leon Lillie and Mark Uglem and Senators Paul Anderson and Jerry Newton. Alex also commented on a recent meeting with the Minnesota Twins who have approached the MASC/NSC about developing a baseball academy onsite; the NSC is one of several sites that are being considered.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Todd welcomed new members and requested those in attendance to provide a brief background introduction. Todd provided a legislative update noting: 1) MASC budget will remain at \$300,000 which supports the three full-time employee salaries (with additional supplemental funding from Hennepin County); 2) MASC will submit its initial 2018 capital budget plan by June 16; 3) the 2017 legislative session was not an extremely positive one for the agency, other than maintaining its budget allocation, no funds were approved for the NSC field expansion or asset preservation; the remaining \$7 million plus balance for the James Metzen Mighty Ducks Grant program were lost as well as the proposed language change to increase the dollar amount for Indirect grants was not approved. Staff is unsure if there will be any future opportunities to reintroduce the funding and language change.

ACTION ITEMS

A. NSCF Board Appointment – Todd provided brief background on MASC’s governance of the NSCF and its role in appointing NSCF board members. Todd noted that the NSCF was fortunate to have Joan Hallock agree to be appointed to the board. Following discussion, **Motion Made (Higgins), Seconded (Frisch) to approve the NSCF Board Appointment Amended Resolution (copy attached). Motion carried unanimously.**

B. Preliminary 2018 Capital Budget Request and Committee Appointment – Kris reviewed the timeline for the 2018 capital budget submittal noting that the preliminary budget is due June 16 and the final agency budget plan is due October 20. In the past the Chair appoints a subcommittee to discuss, review and recommend to full commission a capital budget request for the agency. It was noted that the NSC tournament fields bonding request for \$5.0 million will carry forward for 2018. Following discussion, Alex recommended the following individuals for the committee: Judy Frisch, Rick Nelson and Harry Weilage noting that if there are any additional members interested to contact Alex.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

A. MASC 3.0/Campus Master Planning Update – Todd provided background on the evolution of the campus planning process noting the 30 year benchmark of the MASC becoming an agency and the need to plan and prepare for the next 30 years. Todd noted that the process was initiated three months ago and has included the hiring of LHB (an architect firm) that has been directly involved in conducting focus group meetings, town hall and assessing results from various surveys that has included staff, user groups, businesses/sponsors, community representatives, etc. with the intent to develop a comprehensive plan that incorporates updated signage, renovated/new facilities and related components, etc. Staff will continue to provide updates as the planning process moves along.

NATIONAL SPORTS CENTER REPORT

A. Minnesota United FC Sponsorship & Use Agreement- No report.

B. Annual Independent Auditor Report on NSCF Financial Statements – Kris reviewed the NSCF’s annual financial statements audited by Redpath and Company. Kris noted that the statements of financial position reflect the strong financial performance for 2016 and 2015 with year-end Change in Net Assets of 744k and 833k respectively. The financial position has finally provided positive net operating cash flow for the NSCF’s debt service obligations, the need to direct some attention to deferred facility maintenance, aging equipment replacements and most importantly future program development. Over 27 years, the average Change in Net Assets is 140k. After years of less than adequate Change to Net Assets (Net Income), Staff is encouraged by the overall financial health of the NSCF and the ability to rebalance its debt obligations.

C. State Pension Review – Kris reported that staff has been directed to assess potential retirement plans for NSCF employees noting the three options: 1) remain with the current 403(b) plan; b) consider enrolling in the State of Minnesota’s 457(b) retirement plan; c) enrolling in the State of Minnesota’s Pension Plan. The NSCF Board has decided to pursue the 457(b) plan based employee/employer cost ratio and savings as well as the potential long term benefits.

D. City of Blaine – Todd provided a brief update on adjacent properties that are for sale and potential options for future development. The property on the corner of 105th & Radisson remains has not been sold with the offer price continuing to increase. Staff continues to work with City officials on various NSCF issues/projects (105th Avenue, borrow pit, etc) with the intent of improving the long term relationship with its staff and council members.

E. Metropolitan Airport Commission Lease – Todd remains optimistic about the ongoing relationship with MAC and the City of Blaine noting it has helped having Dr. McGuire in the mix of the dialogue as well as having new blood on the City Council. A new lease has been signed for the 49 acre parcel leased from MAC.

ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm. The next MASC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 16 at 11:30 am with the potential for members to golf at Victory Links immediately following the meeting.

Recorded by,

Lynda Lynch