

Rochester Sports Foundation Board Meeting Minutes (2-29-24)

The meeting was called to order by Chris Terry at 12:02 PM. Board members: Becca Tesch, , Carole Shulman, Pat Sexton, Kelly Nowicki and Joe Powers were present. Doug Holtan was present via phone. Chad Behnken was absent. Advisory members Steve Strickland, Andrew Davick, John McGuine, Sheila Kiscaden, Ben Boldt and Marshall Behrens were present from the RSF Advisory Board. Staff member Ed Hruska was also in attendance.

The first action of the meeting was to introduce new board member Kelly Morse Nowicki. She did so and everyone in attendance welcomed her. The January RSF minutes were reviewed by the board. Powers moved to approve, Sexton seconded and they passed. Hruska reviewed the Jan & Feb SOA reports. Powers moved, Shulman seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Ben Boldt gave an update to the group on the progress of the sales tax extension projects – mainly the Rochester Sports and Recreation Complex (RSRC) which he is leading. He noted that the two areas of focus right now are site selection and operations. He added there will be more communications and community involvement coming.

Operations - If approved by the City Council Monday they will be sending out an RFP for operations (he provided the group with a copy of this). The selected group will begin with data collection from all potential users and create a business plan and stay on board throughout the construction phase. If pleased with their work it could roll into an operating agreement of the facility. It will be due in April. Several questions were asked by the group and Ben addressed them all in detail.

Site selection - They have hired a group to assist with the site details to assist leadership in narrowing the options. He gave the group a summary of what specifics they are looking for in a site. He said approximately ten sites are meeting the general criteria. He hoped to get the site selected by the end of the year.

Hruska updated the group on the Sports Banquet and auction. He shared that the event was a success the lack of numbers and financial outcome were concerning to the banquet committee. Behrens added that there are several adjustments the group is looking at for next year to enhance the event. Hruska noted that even with low attendance the banquet auction was a huge success – netting RSF Grant Program \$10,871 which is the most ever raised in the eighteen years of the banquet. He thanked

all board members for their donations and support. He also reviewed the RSF Grant Program with all and asked they promote to their associates.

With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 1:14 PM

Next meeting date: March 28th, 2024 at Noon