

# **Rochester Sports Foundation Board Meeting Minutes (4-25-24)**

The meeting was called to order by Chris Terry at 12:08 PM. Board members Carole Shulman, Becca Tesch, Pat Sexton, Chad Behnken and Joe Powers were present. Doug Holtan and Kelly Nowicki were absent. RSF staff Ed Hruska and Park Department Rec Director Ben Boldt were also in attendance.

The March RSF minutes were reviewed by the board. Sexton moved to approve, Shulman seconded and they passed. Powers commented that he always makes the motion to approve the minutes – Sexton told him he needed to be quicker next time. Hruska reviewed the March SOA reports. Powers moved, Behnken seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Hruska went over the Directors Report. He noted that several of the items were on the agenda for further discussion. He informed the group the Rochester Area Chamber was planning a trip to Sioux Falls in June and had reached out to him for recommendations on what sport venues he would recommend they visit while there. He suggested the Pentagon and Field House – Hruska was invited to join them but is not sure he will be able to attend. He updated them on web site traffic to date.

Hruska stated the planned Midwest facility site visit with Rochester RSRC leaders Boldt and Ramsey is now set for May 20-22<sup>nd</sup> which conflicts with the May RSF BoD meeting. The group wanted to hear an update from this visit so elected to merge the May and June meeting together and hold it June 18<sup>th</sup>.

The group received an update from Boldt on the recent activities and outcomes of the RSRC actions. He stated the operator interviews went well and have concluded. Since then he has been doing follow up calls with leadership of the facilities these groups are operating for some in depth feedback on their performance. He is doing small format calls with follow up questions for the final three in the next few days. He shared he planned to have a wrap up with Admin and us the week of April 29<sup>th</sup> and have a decision hopefully by the end of the week. Powers added that the contract is critically important in this process – Boldt agreed.

Hruska shared a proposal on social media proposal from Malugani Communications. The group discussed it and agreed to move forward. Powers moved, Sexton seconded to authorize Hruska to move forward with the proposal. Tesch asked about content with imagery and creative – that it puts lot on Ed and Carole. She volunteered to assist in this area. The three will meet with Megan to move it forward.

Tesch updated the group on the RS funding request. The Board reviewed the proposed agreement from RS and agreed to support it. It was supported by the Board to move forward and to share our appreciation.

Terry updated the group discussed the recent actions of the arena effort. Sexton, Terry and Hruska recently met with a group interested in building a new ball park and arena. It was agreed we want to continue in a support role and help align the right people but not assist people in getting an advantage over another who may be interested. There is another group interested in the arena also. Powers suggested we proceed carefully and focus on the RSRC at this time.

With no other business the meeting was adjourned at 1:15 PM

**Next meeting date: Tuesday May 18th, 2024 at Noon**