

Rochester Sports Foundation Annual Meeting Minutes (12-1-22)

The meeting was called to order by President Chris Terry at 5:14 PM on Dec 1st, 2022. Board members: Becca Tesch, Gary Neumann Carole Shulman and Joe Powers were present. Doug Holtan and Chad Behnken were absent. Advisory members Ben Boldt, Marcus Sherels, John McGuine and Marshall Behrens along with staff member Ed Hruska were also present.

The group reviewed the October minutes. There were no corrections or comments. Tesch moved, Neumann seconded and they were approved. Hruska reviewed the SOA for the group. Powers moved, Shulman seconded and all voted approval.

As a part of the annual meeting the group reviewed the 2023 annual budget and the 2023 slate of officers. Hruska noted the budget for 2023 is very similar to 2022. The group discussed it and were supportive. Powers moved, Shulman seconded the budget and it was unanimously supported. Terry reviewed the election of officers for 2023. Neumann moved to approve, Powers seconded and it also passed unanimously.

Hruska updated the group on the Sports Banquet auction – which is scheduled for January 16th, 2023. He reviewed the auction items to date and confirmed the CC payment terminals are working. There were several suggestions on additional donations. Hruska noted we are grateful for Titan as a title sponsor. He also added we will need several volunteers to assist during and after the auction. The group agreed to buy a table (maybe two) depending on how many from our group want to attend. Sherels added he has items for the auction. Powers also had some suggestions. Hruska added he felt the items were stacking up to make a great auction. Behrens added he felt a few items in a live auction added to the fun of the event – the group agreed. The group also felt we needed to do a better job of introducing the auction and share information on our mission.

The future strategic planning outline was discussed. There was a lot of discuss on the items listed and the challenges ahead. Hruska noted we do a deep dive into these items at the Feb 23rd meeting. Terry noted the new web designer will be critical in helping us clearly educate the community on our mission and purpose. He also brought up a future succession plan as Hruska nears his final years Hruska noted sustainable funding will be key to securing his replacement in the future. Powers noted the lack of stakeholders is critical in our efforts moving forward. He noted the City Council needs to fully understand how critical sports tourism is to the community. Tesch noted the Mayor was at the Hospitality 1st meeting and seemed to understand the impact. The group agreed another group site visit would be beneficial in the upcoming year – perhaps to Sioux Falls. McGuine agreed a site visit with a few Council members would really have an impact. Hruska noted the feedback from the members of the Advisory Committee is valuable. Behrens noted our geographic location is very conducive to tournament hosting.

Shulman moved – Powers seconded to adjourn. The meeting concluded at 6:02 PM

Next meeting date: January 13th, 2023

Strategic Planning meeting: February 23rd, 2023