

Rochester Sports Foundation Meeting Minutes (8-26-21)

The meeting was called to order by Chris Terry at 12:06 PM on August 26th. Board members: Chris Terry, Joe Powers, Doug Holtan, Carole Shulman and Kreg Kauffman were present. Staff member Ed Hruska was also present.

The group reviewed the minutes, Powers moved, Kauffman seconded and they passed unanimously. Hruska reviewed the current Statement of Operations and noted that we have moved away from RS payroll and were now on our own – as was agreed on between both groups earlier. He will monitor the cash flow to assure we complete this process properly. Shulman moved, Holtan seconded and it passed.

There was discussion on the timeline but tasks deferred to later in the meeting. Hruska reviewed the Director's report with the group. The group discussed the proposed Pickleball complex brought forward by a local developer. Powers suggested Hruska reach out to the City Administrator to see if she would be supportive. Powers stated we have no public-private partnerships in this town and that we need to do better at educating leadership on the advantages of these type of agreements. There was discussion about the Advisory board and the possibility of adding someone from the city. Hruska and Terry updated the group on the recent entertainment arena progress.

Social media was discussed and Terry suggested we utilize the info we gathered on our site visits as a focus until our local projects can be shared – maybe one per week. He liked the idea of the smaller projects such as turfing the fields. Holtan asked for clarity – if that was turfing existing fields which Kauffman confirmed.

Next the group discussed the Grant Program and its funding. Kauffman questioned the funds from previous auctions. There are a little over \$7K from the 2019 auction in the investment account that can be designated to this fund. The group approved the information sheet and application. Terry stated he wants us to start it in the 2022 cycle.

The banquet auction coming up in January 2022 where the RSF is to assist the RS committee on this – which Kauffman provided the minutes from their recent meeting. Hruska offered to attend future meetings. Kauffman stated it was a Foundation (RSF) committee and it belongs to the Foundation. He stated they had decided to make the auction more exciting – to spice it up more. He shared the Banquet Committee had a strong ownership to the Banquet but the auction was ours. He shared the banquet committee members had come to him with interest so they formed this committee. They want to get digital online bidding going and are working through the details of that. They have talked to an auctioneer and plan to talk to another as they have been given five minutes for 3-4 live auction items and also plan to use the PA to interact with those bidding on the silent auction items. Kauffman stated they are not looking for the RSF Board to be involved with the actual auction but more to help in the collection of auction items and what they need from the foundation is just involvement with the mission and gather more big-ticket items. He said the goal was \$10-15K minus expenses and added they want to bring the auction to the banquet rather than have it on the perimeter. He asked for approval since this is a Foundation's committee. He said any final decisions will be brought to RSF for approval. Kauffman stated we (RSF) own them (committee) but they felt it needed some jazzing up so they are making these changes. Hruska commented it was always the goal of the event to focus on the celebration of the athletes and keep the auction as a secondary item of entertainment so he cautioned the committee to keep this in mind as they proceed but thanked them for their work to date.

Terry talked about priorities for RSF by focusing on the 3-4 current projects and assist them as they move forward. He suggested we also help the local groups in meeting their needs. The RS needs list will be the focal point. Meeting was adjourned at 1:32 PM.

Next meeting date: September 30th, 2021