

Pima County Sports & Tourism Authority
Bank of America
33 N. Stone Ave., Tucson, Arizona
Thursday, December 18, 2008
12:00 PM
Minutes

1. Roll Call

Tom Tracy called the meeting to order at 12:12a.m with a quorum

Members Present

Tom Tracy
Rick Vaughan
Mike Feder
David Cohen
Justin Lanne
Jack Camper
Rick Grinnell
Edgar Soto
Dave Sitton

Members Absent

Linda McNulty
George Favela
Sheila Baize
Kendall Bert
Rocky LaRose
Jim Arnold

Other Present

Catherine Strickland
Tom Moulton
Fred Gray
Vince Trinidad
Chris Bartos
Ben Buehler Garcia
Ed Moore
Frank Segers
Jim Tiggas
MaryAnn Martinez
Jim Shields

2. Treasurer's report- David Cohen reported that the PCSTA received a grant from the Tohono O'Odham Nation for \$50,000 the money is now in the bank. \$25,000 went back to the MTCVB to pay back the loan they gave the PCSTA, and travel expenses were also paid back.

Tom Tracy reported that the Board of Supervisors approved \$300,000 for recruiting etc. They are now required to submit a budget for the monies. Also \$50, 000 in private funding needs to be raised for 2009. A motion was made to move on making recommendations to the Board for uses of the monies.

3. Legislative Update- The bill will have tiered revenue sources with the breakdown being hotels with 4/10ths, restaurants with 3/10ths, bars with 2/10ths, and retail with 1/10th of 1%. This was designed to roughly match

contributions that each industry benefits from tourism. It is estimated to bring in \$17 million a year and to be a 30 year program. The bill is structured so that a minimum of 10% goes to youth and amateur sports. Hopefully the bill will be dropped the first week of legislature (hopefully in January). The same team of lobbyists from Tucson as last year will be working on it.

4. International Play Development Center Update - Tom Tracy shared that Baseline is going to submit a proposal regarding the White Sox facility at TEP to convert to an International Player Development Center (8 year travel team, high school, college) while still reserving Major League parts of the facility for Major League or international playing. Tom felt they are close to making an announcement. MLB has approved moving forward with this announcement.

The Board of Supervisors will be putting together a ten person review panel to review this proposal and others that come in. It will be constructed as follows:

5 members from PCSTA/Youth and Amateur Sports community
2 executive officials
Rafael Payan
Tom Moulton
Hank Atha

This will serve as a permanent agency to govern TEP. Tom Tracy or Dave Sitton will provide Chuck Huckelberry with the names of all interested people in January.

5. Team retention and recruiting/Chicago White Sox Update

Dan Schneider met with teams during the Cactus League winter meetings in Las Vegas. There is fierce competition with Maricopa County. He expressed the need to mobilize and develop a plan that will use monies from all sources as soon as possible.

Mike Feder briefly addressed the Authority regarding the White Sox Minor League facility. He shared that there will be 26 weeks total for tournaments, 22 weeks for local tournaments, 4 weeks for over seeding, weekend tournament play, and a couple of weekdays off to rest the fields. Spring Training would blackout the tournament schedules but not the nights.

6. Historic Rillito Park

David Sitton introduced Ed Moore, who spoke a little bit about Rillito Park. He is concerned that there needs be money available to update it. He suggested looking at the state level to get funding in grants, etc. He

expressed that the racetrack and fields for play should be preserved as they are very important historically and to the community today. He would like to see Rillito keep both the horse racing and soccer fields since there should be support available from both private sources and the state or federal government.

Justin Lanne of the Authority distributed a proposal that was written by the Rillito Regional Park Advisory Committee to move Rillito to the Fairgrounds that was signed by the members of the committee including Ed Moore.

7. PR for the upcoming season

It was discussed that in general the teams don't get much appreciation from the community they are in. Chris Bartos at TEP has helped tremendously in addressing the Diamondback's needs and overseeing some improvements. Fred Gray at Hi Corbett has also facilitated some of the requests made by the Rockies. Since last year's exhibition game generated increased ticket sales and was a nice send off to the teams at the end of Spring Training, the Authority is hoping to do something similar like billboards to show the community's appreciation to both teams. Tom Tracy put together a small group to create a campaign (Mike Feder, Dave Sitton, Rick Vaughan and Ben Buehler-Garcia) who will be meeting in January to start planning.

8. Next agenda items

1. Committee structure
2. Discuss master plan to public
3. Legislative update
4. Committee of 10 review
5. Review Baseline proposal

9. Call to the Public

Jim Tiggas gave the Authority copies of a proposal for TEP and expressed his need of a response by sometime in January.

10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:35 PM