

Pima County Sports & Tourism Authority
Bank of America
33 N. Stone Ave., Tucson, Arizona
Wednesday, April 29, 2009
11:30 AM
Minutes

1. Roll Call

Tom Tracy called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m with a quorum

Members Present

Tom Tracy
Rick Vaughan
Mike Feder
Dave Sitton
Kendall Bert
Justin Lanne
Rocky LaRose
Edgar Soto
Rick Grinnell

Other Present

Catherine Strickland
Ben Buehler-Garcia
Tom Moulton
Jzar Pfalzer
Dave Silver
John Sefton
Tom Tengler
Jim Tiggas
Matt Tiggas
Kandice Tiggas
Kimberly Levin
Jared Gray
Guy Stickney
Hank Atha

Members Absent/Excused

George Favela
Jack Camper
Sheila Baize
Jim Arnold
David Cohen
Linda McNulty

2. Approval of the Minutes

Tom Tracy made a motion to approve the minutes from the previous meeting on March 30th and Rocky LaRose gave a second. The motion passed without opposition.

3. Kino Sports Complex utilization proposal presentation and discussion and Youth and Amateur Sports Committee discussion

Tom Tracy turned it over to Hank Atha, Pima County Deputy County Administrator to present the documents he had distributed to the members. The first document was a memo from Hank Atha to Tom Tracy that outlines the evaluation criteria for the scheduling requests or proposals and the second was a matrix summarizing the requests for facility usage. Mr. Atha explained that Chuck Huckelberry would like feedback from the PCSTA as to how the scheduling will relate to attracting Japanese teams and if the criteria in the matrix is appropriate to evaluate the proposals by. In the meantime the staff at the stadium district are moving forward to improve Kino Sports Complex with the lighting of two more fields.

There are only three problems that the county feels this plan will have. The first is that youth and amateur sports will not bring in the revenue that Major League baseball would so Mr. Huckelberry is very interested in knowing how the recruiting efforts are going; especially since the county budget is 5% down across the board now and is expected to be even lower in following years. The money is needed to offset the county's costs. The second problem is that it is hard to pin down various requests since requestors are not always 100% sure of dates and the third problem is that everyone is requesting the same time period. The most requested time is from mid-February to mid-April. Right now there are 6 fields and the stadium that are available for scheduling. Mr. Atha admitted that if the PCSTA is successful in recruiting an MLB team, the county would like to walk away from the youth and amateur sports.

Mike Feder asked what the role of the Youth and Amateur Sports Committee is in all this and Mr. Atha explained that the committee should be the PCSTA's arm that will review the proposals and refer back to the PCSTA to make recommendations to Mr. Huckelberry.

Tom Tracy made a quick announcement that the PCSTA is in active negotiation with an MLB team to be occupying Tucson Electric Park, the South Complex (formerly occupied by the White Sox) beginning next spring. He is not at liberty to disclose which team.

Mr. Atha was pleased to hear this and said that he welcomes advice from the PCSTA as to how to use the facility year round.

Rick Vaughan shared that he felt that the committee should look at the actual proposals in depth to make sure that all of the numbers are realistic and feasible. There was also some discussion to review the 2009 schedule and overlap it with the requests for 2010 by the committee. The

committee is currently Mike Feder, Dave Sitton, Justin Lanne, Edgar Soto and Rocky LaRose from the PCSTA along with five other community members.

Rick Vaughan suggested adding a column to the matrix showing the economic impact of each proposal and Kendall Bert suggested a column showing the actual impact to the facilities of the proposals. This led to some discussion brought up by Dave Sitton as to whether or not the committee should consider accepting proposals that require major facility changes.

PCSTA members were instructed per Tom Tracy to send all recommendations for modifications to the matrix to Catherine Strickland by Friday, May 8th. She will then send the revised matrix out with the full proposals to the committee for review before their next meeting which is scheduled for May 13th.

The matter was briefly opened to the public and Jim Tiggas shared that time is of the essence for marketing the spring season and encouraged the PCSTA to review the proposals as quickly as possible.

4. Japanese Initiative update

Tom Tracy shared that he recently met with someone who is interested in replacing Baseline to work with the PCSTA on the Japanese initiative. He is going to meet with them to review their proposal as they approached him with an experienced and credible person. They believe it is possible to get a Japanese team secured for the 2010 season. Mike Feder said that the real challenge is in getting them to come here, even though there is interest. It might lead to some scheduling conflicts with the PCSTA's other plans for the complex, but admittedly that would be a nice problem to have. There is a specific team that is interested but they may want to do something longer that involves rotating team with the league.

5. Legislative Report

Tom Tracy shared that the bill, HSB-2397 has finished its rounds with the committees and is now simply hostage to the budget. The Corporate Benefactor has conversed with the leader of the House of Representatives and has assured the Corp. Benefactor that the bill will be heard. The lobbyist feels that if it is heard and makes it through, the Governor will sign it. The Senate is still not open yet. The preferred election date of the republicans is November 2010 as it's an even year. Since the PCSTA is anxious to get this bill passed, it will probably go to vote during the first available election cycle.

6. Treasurer's Report

In David Cohen's absence, Tom Tracy distributed the Treasurer's report and explained that the budget for the PCSTA was submitted to the county and that Mike Feder, Rick Grinnell, and David Cohen would attend the next Board of Supervisors meeting to defend the budget. Catherine will send out the IGA and budget when it is finalized.

7. Next agenda

It was discussed that meetings would be held the last Wednesday of each month at 11:30am in the Bank of America 7th Floor Conference Room, therefore the next meeting will be May 27th. Here are the items for the agenda as discussed at this meeting:

- Legislative report
- Japanese initiative
- Treasurer's report
- MLB negotiation update
- Youth and Amateur Sports Committee report

8. Call to the Public

Jim Tiggas distributed an updated proposal for the board.

Justin Lanne gave an update from the advisory committee for Rillito. They are discussing moving to Marana or elsewhere since the site is being considered for historic designation. There are a lot of politics behind it, but his feeling is that it would be a wonderful soccer facility since there is a need for more youth and amateur sporting facilities.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:40 PM

Attachments enclosed.