

**Pima County Sports & Tourism Authority
Board Retreat
Saturday, January 8, 2011
McMahon's Steakhouse
Swan and Fort Lowell
9:00AM**

MINUTES

1. Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 9:10 a.m. by Tom Tracy with a quorum.

Members Present

Tom Tracy
Jim Arnold
David Cohen
John Grabo
Rick Grinnell
Regan Jasper
Suzy Mason
David Sitton
Edgar Soto
Rick Vaughan

Members Absent/Excused

Keith Alexander
Jack Camper
Eddie Leon
Justin Lanne
Linda McNulty

Others Present

Mike Feder
Dan Schneider
Hank Atha - Pima County
Vince Trinidad - MTCVB
Tom Moulton - Pima County

2. Welcome and Introductions

Tom Tracy welcomed the board members and guests and thanked all for attending on a Saturday morning.

3. Approval of the Minutes

Jim Arnold moved and Dave Sitton seconded to approve the minutes from the last meeting - approval passed.

4. Treasurer's Report

No Treasurer's report was given.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 am to go into Executive Session. It reconvened at 10:15am.

5. Interim Executive Director

It was moved to recommend that Jim Arnold be appointed as Interim Executive Director of the PCSTA based for a six month period based on normal hiring procedures. Tom Tracy will negotiate effective date and details including job expectations and description. John Grabo moved and Rick Vaughan seconded. The motion passed.

6. Japanese Initiative Committee

Dan Schneider and Tom Tracy reported. There is a need to restructure our approach with the Japanese to demonstrate our plan as a business arrangement, not a sports arrangement, and deal directly with team's top ownership. We should focus on profitability as opposed to baseball. Work has continued with MLB on a collaborative basis, especially with MLB-I as a way to expand on their international mission. Dan is to meet with MLB in two weeks and he will also schedule a meeting with Jack Donovan and Leon Lee about future procedures. The PCSTA will take the lead. We have established solid relationships with NPB and the State Department in Japan.

7. Amateur Sports Corridor

Rick Vaughan and John Grabo reported. Within the corridor of the UA Science and Tech Park to the Bio Center there could be developed a premier amateur sports complex in the Southwest. This would change the focus into a sports hub. It was asked if anything could be retro-fitted for amateur sports. The answer was said to be unknown at this time. Hank Atha said a Velodrome project could be in the complex area if that bond is passed. It was also mentioned that collaboration between the UA and Pima County might occur to work on a master plan.

8. Referendum

Tom Tracy reported that the referendum needs to run in the November election cycle, but we still might look into moving it out of that cycle if a March or May 2012 date would occur. The November Presidential election in 2012 should be avoided so then we would be looking at November 2013, the very latest we could run it.

9. Agreement with Triple A Baseball

Tom Tracy announced the Agreement has been signed by himself and Mike Feder and will be presented at the January 18th meeting of the County Board of Supervisors. PCSTA is involved to leverage economic influence and assist Pima County for the economic benefit of the community. The negotiations were very extensive. They started in November. The hope is that this document will be a template for future Use Agreements. The legal fees will be much greater than expected. It is important that the PCSTA get behind the operation to generate additional revenue. Dave Sitton would like to work with Jim Arnold and Mike Feder to give Tucson "a win" with a positive PR approach.

10. Future Meetings

Dave Sitton proposed that a retreat be done twice a year, in January and June. And then meet Wednesdays every other month unless an extra meeting is needed. There would probably be no meetings in July and August. Jim Arnold and Tom Tracy will send out a proposed meeting schedule to the board with next meeting in either February or early March.

11. Upcoming Agenda

We may have 2-3 openings on the board in the near future. It was asked that any suggested names be submitted to Tom Tracy. Another agenda topic for the next meeting might be the role of the PCSTA and spring training exhibition games.

12. New Business

It was suggested that PCSTA send out letters to NCAA teams prior to the games on March 17 and 19. Nothing was determined further and teams won't be known until March 13.

13. Adjournment

Dave Cohen made a motion to adjourn at 12:13 p.m. and Dave Sitton voiced a second. Motion passed unanimously.

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Respectfully submitted by Jim Arnold