



**Sports Commission Board Meeting minutes**  
**May 17, 2017 ▪ 11:30am**  
**Central Illinois Regional Airport**

**ATTENDEES:** Matt Hawkins, Jon Althoff, Mike Wagner, Denise Balagna, Beth Sauser, Kathleen Lorenz, Leanna Bordner Cary Frey, Jon Voegele, Steve Newman, Julia Turner, Doug Damery, Katie Kim, and Brie Lohr.

**1. Action Items**

- 2017-2018 Operating Budget
  - John Althoff asked the Sports Commission to take a look at the budget. Steve Newman asked if there was a big change in the CVB budget. Matt Hawkins stated that the cost of the IHSA banquets went up. Steve Newman motioned to approve the budget. Leanna Bordner seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**2. Presentation**

- Sports Complex: Katie Kim – The Kim Group
  - Katie Kim began by saying she has been holding a lot of meetings about the Sports Complex. She presented to the Economic Development Council, who endorsed their support. She also presented to the BN Advantage, who supports it as well. She has been meeting in small groups of 2-3 people from Bloomington and Normal council members. She stated that she will be presenting at the Chamber Breakfast Brief on Friday morning. Katie Kim stated that she is presenting to the Bloomington-Normal Hotel Lodging Association on Thursday to ask for their support. She is also working on a date for a sports clubs meeting, where they will be asked to sign a letter of interest to use the facility.
  - Leanna Bordner asked Katie Kim if she has the total cost for phase 1. Katie replied that she does, but the cost will depend on the scope of the facility. She added that things can always get taken out. Leanna Bordner stated that Katie should talk to the West Side Revitalization project because their endorsement, support and knowledge could be useful.
  - Steve Newman asked Katie Kim if she could talk about the additional sports that are interested in the complex. Katie Kim stated that some softball organizations have asked for batting tunnels, marching bands could have competitions, indoor swimming and diving, and lacrosse. She added that softball and basketball aren't in phase one.
  - Steve Newman asked if Normal was still going to operate it. Doug Damery stated that he would be more than willing and interested in doing it. Kathleen Lorenz stated that she thought it was still on the table, but that there are other options, including joint operation and

hiring a third-party. Katie Kim stated that everyone involved is trying to make it a fair and true partnership.

### **3. Committee Reports**

#### ➤ Sports Identity

- Illinois High School Football Coaches Association Clinic: John Althoff stated that Matt Hawkins met with Leanna Bordner and Coach Spack about moving the clinic from Champaign to Bloomington-Normal. Matt Hawkins put a call into one of their board members to see what it would take to get them here. The group would consist of 1,000 coaches over three days.
- John Althoff stated that there is a local individual now interested in coordinating a recruiting showcase. Matt Hawkins stated that there is a large one in Florida, Houston and Atlanta. His idea is to have this fair that would bring college coaches come and speak with juniors and seniors in high school, their coaches and parents. Several colleges have already voiced interest, including Greenville, Concordia, Augustana, Marion and Washington University. Leanna Bordner stated that he needs more knowledge since there are so many rules and regulations regarding recruiting.

#### ➤ Fundraising

- John Althoff stated that invitations to the State Farm Student-Athlete Recognition Banquet will be going out soon. He added that anyone can nominate an athlete, so if anyone has someone in mind to fill out an application. It will be held on June 19 at 7pm at the Chateau.

### **4. Open Discussion**

- Leanna Bordner thanked Cary Frey for his hard work with MVC softball.
- Cary Frey stated that 120 teams will be in town in July for USA Softball Nationals.
- Denise Balagna stated that Maggie Rutenbeck was nominated for Special Olympics Illinois Coach of the Year.
- John Althoff stated that the NASC director is stepping down but he wrote an article regarding sports complexes and read a portion of it aloud to the Sports Commission.

### **5. Director's Report**

#### ➤ Advertising

- Matt Hawkins passed around a copy of Sports Destination Management that featured Bloomington-Normal.

#### ➤ Industry Tradeshows

- Matt Hawkins stated that he recently attended two tradeshows, including the NASC Symposium and Sports Illinois Huddle, where he met with 45 tournament planners.

**Next Meetings:** All at Central Illinois Regional Airport

Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Wednesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017