



City of Loves Park, City of Rockford, City of South Beloit, County of Winnebago,
Village of Cherry Valley, Village of Machesney Park, Village of Rockton, Village of Roscoe;
Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau, Rockford Park District

Meeting Minutes Tuesday, May 17, 2016

UW Health Sports Factory | 305 S. Madison St. | Rockford, IL 61101

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Winnebago County Tourism Facility Board was called to order by WCRTFB Chairman Ian Linnabary at 1:31 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Dale Adams, Mayor Jerry Bolin, Chairman Scott Christiansen (arrived 1:34 pm,) John Groh (Rockford Area Convention & Visitors Bureau (RACVB) President Bobbie Holzworth proxy,) Mayor David Krienke, Mayor Darryl Lindberg, Rockford Park District (RPD) Commissioner Ian Linnabary, City Administrator Jim Ryan (Mayor Morrissey proxy).
Absent: Mayor Jim Claeysen, Mayor Ted Rehl.

Welcome

Mr. Linnabary greeted members and guests.

Public Comment

There were no guests who wished to address the Board.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Mr. Krienke, seconded by Mr. Lindberg, that the Board **approve** the following items on the Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of February 2, 2016, Meeting Minutes

Approved 5-0-1 (74.2%) by voice vote.

Reclaiming First Project Updates

Mr. Ryan reported the City of Rockford is preparing to transfer ownership of the UWHealth Sports Factory to Rockford Park District with the grand opening celebration planned for June 1.

Executive Director Dimke stated the Mercy Sportscore 2 turf fields, concession, and restroom zone will be dedicated June 24. The mega center will also break ground in June. The District was successful in its request to receive a letter that allows construction to be completed without disqualifying the expenditures from grant reimbursement once the state freeze is lifted. A significant saving is realized due to the loan structure wherein funding is only drawn as needed. Although the project is not being built to its full scope as the

feasibility study called for it will be substantially complete with the funds available. Member entities were encouraged to have their boards, councils, and staff attend the upcoming dedication programs so they may be recognized.

Financial Update: Hotel Tax Receipts and Projections

RPD Chief Financial Officer Penny Christians reported hotel tax receipts for 2016 totaled \$270,147 through May. Five percent (\$36,00) is being directed to the reserve account, and \$120,000 is due to City of Rockford for the UW Health Sports Factory renovation.

The Board requested information on the limitations pertaining to hotel tax receipts in excess of the liabilities.

Tournament Marketing Update

Vice Director Groh reiterated the shortage of hotel/motel rooms needed to accommodate the increased volume of sports tourism among other types of visitors. The lodging challenges are expected to be short term, as hoteliers tend to respond to rather than anticipate demand.

RACVB has been hosting facility tours, marketing for tournament deals through trade shows, and partnering with public and private agencies to develop visitor-friendly hospitality systems, services, and infrastructure.

Board Discussion

Mr. Jim Ryan stated that the City of Rockford is working with Commonwealth Edison to install a barrier system between the UW Health Sports Factory and the dam.

Executive Director's Report

No further report.

Motion by Mr. Christiansen, seconded by Mr. Lindberg, that the Board **adjourn** at 2:05 p.m.
Approved 7-0-1 (%) by voice vote.

BOARD APPROVED: 8/2/2016

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