

Arena Task Force Meeting Minutes

Meeting: May 14, 2015 11am– 1pm

Location: Oscar Johnson Ice Arena

Attendance: Jon Oyanagi, Steve(Moose) Younghans, Jason Sprague, Steve Reeves, Mike Searles, Don Mullin, Dan Galles, Debbie Montgomery, Candy Peterson

Note Taker: Sara Ackmann (Parks and Recreation Director of Operations, Ice Arenas and Golf)

Guests: Matt Just, RCPR Recreation Supervisor, Todd Johnson, Executive Director, MN Amateur Sports Commission

Meeting began at: 11:08am

1. Introductions

TAC member and Guest Todd Johnson Executive Director of Minnesota Amateur Sports Commission. Todd shared that Steve Olson, with MN ASC, will be our resource contact for the TAC moving forward.

2. History of Arenas

a. Jon Oyanagi shared a brief overview of the history of our arenas - when they were created, built as practice arenas, some have evolved into game arenas with modifications, but Aldrich was designed to be the game site, then Highland with that additional second sheet was a second primary game location. With the acquisition of VSC, RC now has 3 facilities that are our primary game locations.

b. Matt Just reviewed RCPR ice distribution for 2014/15, a snap shot of Oct –March. Matt described by arena the use and the % of available (bookable) hours each of our customers are using in each arena - handout

Note-Mahtomedi and Woodbury youth associations are on contract with RCPR for 800 hrs – plus an additional \$25,000 for capital improvements.

Discussion about Ramsey county mission on who should the arenas be serving. Jon reminded the group that this is the charge of the ATF - to recommend to the county who should be the customer.

c. Last 10 years of financial data shared with the group. Handout Revenue exceeded all expenses for all arena options but the arena expenses such as capital improvement costs and administrative overhead is not included - the arena operation is subsidized.

Todd has master list and is willing to share - which arenas are running with R22

3. A snap shot of ice arena rental rates from 2005, 2010 and 2015 was shared with the group. When the County decides to do a rate increase it is an extensive process researching neighboring arenas, market analysis and analyzing operational costs. We work to stay competitive, not price ourselves out of the market but are not pricing to cover 100% of our operating costs. Todd shared that a study they completed noted one sheet of ice costs aprox \$400 an hour to operate and most locations are just barely getting \$200/hour in fees. Handout

4. Ramsey County Ice arena advertising for 2015 was shared with group. Another method the Arena operation uses to generate additional revenue. Handout

5. Meeting locations for next few meetings were selected – Vadnais Sports Center – June, Highland for July and Pleasant for August – Sara will confirm Pleasant.

6. 12:40 – Steve Reeves and RCPR M & O Paul Bibey gave ATF members a tour of the ice arena
1:00 meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting:

June 11th at Highland Arena 11:00am. – 1:00pm

Next meeting Agenda topics and other items:

Provide group with Ramsey County Vision, Mission and goals

What is the future forecast of demographics - what are the trends?

Share MIAMA report

Presentation by Steve Olson – MN Armature Sports Commission

Economic overview of ice arenas

Pete Carlson – Super Rink – creative programming

Share with the group – agreements at each arena –ie: land ownership – or other

Distribute to group prior to next meeting – expenses by arena