

Arena Task Force Meeting Minutes

Meeting: June 11, 2015

Location: Highland Arena

Present - Mike Searles, Mike Mcgrath, Candy Petersen, Steve Reeves, Jon Oyanagi, Moose Johnson

Staff/Note Taker: Sara Ackmann

Guests Paul Haglund Highland Arena Superintendent

1. Meeting called to order at 11:08 a.m.
2. Review minutes
 - Correction to spelling of Candy Petersen's name
min accepted
3. Jon O shared the new vision statement adopted in 2015 by the board as well as the updated mission statement and goals. The Task Force will use these to guide their work
4. The group took time to discuss some ideas on how to increase usage
 - Reintroducing the neighborhoods to the rinks via a variety of sports
 - County can do research on what the costs are for converting an arena to accommodate different sports; artificial turf at an arena for example for badminton
 - Create transportation solutions for those in need, diverse population's interested parents
 - Gather from St Paul Park and rec any data on what trends - for recreational needs they see in the communities
 - Re name facility - from arena to a more multiple use type description
 - Tennis - growing
 - Interest in handball
 - Fewer opportunities for open skating - especially early in season and during winter school break- look at finding ways to expand opportunity
5. Demographic Data for St Paul and Ramsey County was reviewed with the group. The Task Force would like demographics from school districts in St Paul as well as surrounding suburbs
6. Misc. Information
 - Jon O shared info regarding the property here at Highland that it is owned by St Paul Regional Water and their plan to decommission the water reservoirs to the west of the arena.
 - Jon encouraged the group to keep the opportunity in mind as a possible enhancement to Highland - inc parking drainage and expanding on Highland to create another sheet of ice thus creating economies of scale in operational expense.
7. Agenda items for Upcoming meetings
 - Suggestion to move Sept meeting to 24th – all agreed. Meeting calendar will be adjusted.
 - July - Develop plan for engagement
 - who are we going to engage, what are we going to talk about, when and where
 - July sports commission presentation on costs to run an arena
 - July arena conversion costs
 - August - alternative uses for the arenas

Next meeting at VSC Meeting adjourned 12:33 p.m.