



**Sports Commission Board Meeting minutes**  
**May 9, 2018 ■ 11:30am**  
**Central Illinois Regional Airport**

**ATTENDEES:** Matt Hawkins, John Althoff, Denise Balagna, Stan Lewis, Doug Damery, Jon Voegele, Jim Benson, Beth Sauser, Leanna Bordner, Kathleen Lorenz (by phone) and Brittney Sage.

**I. Public Comments**

- i. None.

**II. Action Items**

- a. 2018-2019 Operating Budget
  - i. John stated that for the current fiscal year, Membership Dues are expected to be at least \$19,000.00. The Midwest Nationals sponsorship was down due to higher equipment costs for scoring in 2017. Student Athlete Banquet income should increase. Kathleen Lorenz asked if the membership goal for 2019 is achievable and Matt Hawkins noted that yes, a few more members still need to pay.
  - ii. Regarding the new fiscal year, John Althoff noted that the Illinois High School Football Coaches Clinic has chosen to stay in Champaign for another year and that the \$1,000.00 that would have been spent on it can be moved to new event sponsorships. John also mentioned that NASC costs are up due to the increase in membership and tradeshow fees. Denise Balagna motioned to approved the 2018-2019 Operating Budget. Jon Voegele seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

**III. Discussion Items**

- a. Not Your Normal Street Vault
  - i. John Althoff noted that there will not be an event for 2018 as Mike did not get enough sponsors. John stated that Mike is planning for a 2019 event instead with an early June date.
- b. Sixty Six Games Esports Tournament
  - i. John Althoff stated that November 17-18, 2018 is being looked at for possible dates and that Grossinger Motors Arena is interested in hosting this event. John noted that he does not believe the logo has enough to do with Bloomington-Normal and McLean County. Matt Hawkins noted that we still need to look at the budget, because they are unsure of what to do about the computers at this point. Jon Voegle inquired about a price range for sponsorships with this event. Matt Hawkins noted maybe around \$1,000.00 and that the BNACVB might be able to help as well. Matt Hawkins noted that the Sports Commission did not feel comfortable with owning the tournament at this point.

**IV. Committee Reports**

- a. Fundraising
  - i. **State Farm Student-Athlete Recognition Banquet – June 19:** John Althoff noted that Larry Lyons will be the speaker and the event will be from 7-9pm. John also noted that bids are still out for a sight to host the event and student nominations are still out.
- b. Facilities

- i. **Sports Complex:** Doug Damery noted that they should have more information regarding the study by the end of the month. Kathleen Lorenz asked if there will be a joint meeting to discuss this or if there will be three different meetings. Doug noted that it will most likely be a joint meeting and they are looking at dates soon and will just hold one special meeting to discuss. Doug also noted that he has a conference call with Sports Facilities Advisory (SFA) on Friday, that things are progressing, and that they are happy with the user group information. Kathleen Lorenz suggested that a 5:30pm work session on a Monday would be a good idea to run past council as this is a time when they are already committed to their duties.
- c. Sports Identity
  - i. **National Collegiate Roller Hockey Championship:** John Althoff noted that Matt Hawkins is looking to bid and that there would be around 1,000 room nights for this event. John also noted that there would be roughly 50 teams with about 800 participants and 600 spectators for the event. The event will be in early or mid-April and has been held in Cedar Rapids, Iowa previously. Matt Hawkins mentioned that Grossinger Motors Arena is very interested.
  - ii. **New Sports Commission Events:** John Althoff asked if anyone had any ideas for new Sports Commission events and noted to please feel free to add any ideas you may have. Leanna Bordner discussed robotics as an idea and mentioned Metal Cow and Power Surge. Jon Voegelé noted that kickball was very well received as a first-year event. Denise mentioned that footgolf takes place at Highland Park. Matt Hawkins noted that he assumed Highland would be open to hosting an event then. Denise agreed and said that she didn't see why Highland wouldn't be open to hosting.

## V. Open Discussion

John Althoff noted that the Normal Cornbelters will host next year's All-Star game. John added that State Farm will be sponsoring the event again and that there may be a home run derby with Cubs and Cardinals players.

Matt Hawkins briefly discussed the Bloomington Edge Central Illinois Recruiting Showcase and noted that there were 157 athletes from many different schools and some from the Chicago area. Matt noted that Charles Welde from Bloomington Edge created the event himself and that they will look to continue and grow the event. Matt also noted that Normal Community and Normal West high schools are both interested in a game at the Grossinger Motors Arena.

## VI. Director's Report

- a. **U.S. Figure Skating Regional:** The bid was submitted yesterday and Matt Hawkins noted that we may hold off until 2020 although they really want 2019. Matt mentioned that the first date option is October 23-27, 2019 which is during ISU's Homecoming and that the other options were during IHSA Boys Golf and ISU Family Weekend but that those times are even more busy than homecoming. Matt Hawkins discussed that we should know more in June and that they are looking at around 600 room nights and a significant economic impact for the event.
- b. **Illinois High School Football Coaches Association Clinic:** Matt Hawkins noted that they have decided to stay in Champaign for 2019. He added that Champaign heard that they may try to move the clinic and convinced them to stay. However, if Champaign does not meet the terms set, the clinic will consider Bloomington-Normal for 2020.
- c. **IESA Dual Team Wrestling State Finals:** Matt noted that the IESA Board has decided to keep this event in DeKalb.

- d. **State Farm Youth Classic – June 24-27:** Matt Hawkins discussed that there are currently 250 golfers registered and that this is about the same as last year. Golfers must be registered by June 19<sup>th</sup> and there will be a team competition this year.
- e. **Midwest Nationals Wrestling Tournament – July 13-14:** Matt Hawkins said that there are currently 40 wrestlers registered. He also noted that there will be women’s junior high, high school, and college wrestlers for the first time and that Sally Roberts from “Wrestle Like A Girl” will be there. Matt added that Sally may be in town an extra day and Denise Balagna noted that she would be interested in meeting with her if she has extra time.
- f. **Tradeshows:**
  - i. **NASC Symposium:** Matt attended and had 17 appointments, and attended several educational sessions.
  - ii. **Sports Illinois Huddle:** Matt attended and had 15 appointments with event planners.

## **VII. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40pm.

### **2018 Meeting Schedule (11:30am at CIRA)**

Wednesday, May 9

Wednesday, July 11

Wednesday, September 12

Wednesday, November 14