

Sports Commission Board Meeting Minutes  
January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 · 11:30am  
Shirk Center

**Attendees:** Mike Damery, Ray Ceresa, Eric Veal, Velea Harvey, Rich Zeller, Tony Bauman, Doug Damery, Beth Sauser, Leanna Bordner, John Althoff

**Call to order:** Beth called the meeting to order at 11:43am

**I. Public Comment:** None

**II. Action Items:**

- a. **B-Town Throwdown Pickleball Sponsorship- March 31-April 2-** Evergreen Racquetball is hosting a 100+ people event and they are requesting \$500 sponsorship. This event currently serves as a fundraiser for the racquetball club and has potential for growth. This event falls under the events development category which supports local events. Only concern is the ability for growth, including but not limited to space for the event, adding multiple days and times. Motion to approve \$500 sponsorship as presented with continual conversation of growth made by Leanna Bordner. Seconded by Velea Harvey. All in favor. Approved.
- b. **Illinois Top Times Sponsorship- March 24-25-** Top Times is hosting a 1,000 + coaches/athletes event end of March 2023. Projected over 250 college coaches will be present. They are requesting \$2,000 sponsorship. Discussion is had about this organization and how it helps with true exposure for athletes. They invest in making the following year a success and donate the remaining funds to local athletic groups. A request of tracking overnight hotel stays was asked and will be brought up to the organizer. Motion to approve \$2,000 sponsorship as presented by Velea Harvey. Seconded by John Althoff. All in favor. Approved.

**III. Discussion Items**

- a. Events Development Report- This group met early this week.
- Engaged with local pickleball groups- how to support the growth and their needs across the board.
  - Golf- Discussion on putting together a 1-day golf clinic, May 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>, with kids from Boy's and Girls Club, Jewel's Club, Etc. This would be a great lead up and promote growth towards The State Farm Youth Classic.
  - Looking to increase/ partner with local events to promote the local events of the community.
- b. Membership & Fundraising Report- This group met early this week. Invoices/ invites are going out to hotels by the end of the month. They will set a date for follow-ups. They are looking into possible involvement with tradeshow, Insurance agents, local attractions and development of brochures, PowerPoints, and membership application packets.
- c. Sports Identity Discussion- Members of the board are continuing to reach out and gain knowledge of groups and activities that could benefit the growth and development of the community.

**IV. Open Discussion**- None

**V. Director's Report**

a. State Far Youth Classic- June 25-27- Registration should be open by this upcoming Friday. Continue communication with 1<sup>st</sup> Tee Programs to boost awareness and participation.

b. Sixty Six Games Exp- October 20-22- This year, this event will be at Grossinger Motors Area. Looking forward to a positive and fun event.

**2023 Meeting Schedule (11:30am)**

- **Wednesday, March 8**
- **Wednesday, May 10**
- **Wednesday, July 12**
- **Wednesday, September 13**
- **Wednesday, November 8**

**VI. Adjourn** Beth adjourned the meeting at 12:34pm.