

Date: Wednesday, March 9th, 2022

Location: Faribault and Virtual

## **Attendance**

### Austin

- Riley Donovan

### Faribault

- Paul Peanasky
- Jill Strodman
- Chad Barman
- Kevin O'Brien

### MRPA

- Michelle Snider

### Northfield

- Melissa Bernhard

### Rochester

- Ben Boldt

### St. Peter

- Joey Schugel

### Online

- Nikki Callahan - Owatonna
- Dani Bakken - Owatonna
- Brad Dushaw
- Dale McCamish - Rochester
- Tom Schmitz - New Ulm

## **Topic / Item**

1. Call to Order / Introductions / Attendance
  - a. Meeting Called to Order at 10:30am
2. Additions to / Approval of Agenda
  - a. Ben - First
  - b. Kevin - Second
  - c. Motion Carried
3. Approval of Minutes from February 2022 Meeting
  - a. Kevin - First
  - b. Riley - Second
  - c. Motion Carried
4. Treasurer's Report
  - a. General Fund (Checking) Balance - \$3654.27
  - b. Scholarship Fund (Savings) Balance - \$8024.62
    - i. Tom - First
    - ii. Ben - Second
    - iii. Motion Carried
5. MSF Update -
  - a. No Report in February
6. MRPA Board of Directors Report - Joey
  - a. Met February 23rd, 2022
  - b. Registrations allowed for financials to increase
  - c. Presentations
    - i. Name new date for awards ceremony
  - d. Conference Committee Chairs
    - i. Presented an update
    - ii. Proposals are due on Friday
  - e. Meredith Lawrence
    - i. Gave a presentation on a potential MRPA podcast.
      1. Quarterly podcast
    - ii. Formed a committee
      1. Board gave approval

- f. Northstar Partnership
  - i. Has been approved
  - ii. Packet is available for those to assist in finding new corporate partners
- g. Strategic plan priority on additional park maintenance education opportunities
  - i. Rob from Otswego is the contact
  - ii. Zoom meetings first Wednesday of each month
- h. Next meeting is April 27th, 2022
- 7. Recreational Sports Commission Report - Michelle Snider
  - a. New members have joined
  - b. Looking at ways to collaborate with athletic management group
- 8. Network Updates
  - a. Aquatics - Kevin O'Brien
    - i. 60 minute meeting
    - ii. July 31st Lifeguard Games at Bloomington Aquatic Center, 6:00pm
      - 1. Red Cross likely can contribute "Swag"
      - 2. Cost TBD
      - 3. Registration Open TBD
      - 4. Hoping to hear back from a Nebraska group about how they run a similar event
    - iii. April 15th is the bulk order deadline
      - 1. Can include custom logos
    - iv. May 20th is de-escalation training
      - 1. Price TBD
    - v. Other topics covered
      - 1. Lifeguard secondary duties
      - 2. Swim lesson registration policies
        - a. Preferences to past participants?
      - 3. Pushing non-members to join MRPA
  - b. Programming - Michelle Snider
    - i. Usually meets to the third Friday of each month.
    - ii. Meeting will be March 11th
    - iii. Topics
      - 1. Background Checks
      - 2. Seasonal Employees
      - 3. Pickleball Courts
      - 4. Community Gardens
  - c. Other - N/A
  - d. Michelle's Report
    - i. Awards Luncheon is April 1st in Apple Valley
    - ii. Softball HoF Banquet is in Brooklyn Center
      - 1. Dan Lauer out of Plymouth
    - iii. Creating Leadership Development Network
      - 1. Will meet the first time on April 1st
      - 2. Amy Peterson and Andrew Pimmental
    - iv. Creating Facilities Network
    - v. Five new groups have come online within the last 18 months
    - vi. Two upcoming meetings for education workshops
      - 1. Fridley and Rosemount
    - vii. Annual audit review at the end of March
    - viii. Subgroup working on race and diversity items
- 9. Old Business
  - a. SMRPA Scholarships
    - i. Sent out to both Winona and Minnesota State
    - ii. April 15th is deadline
- 10. New Business - Melissa Bernhard
  - a. Guest Speakers
    - i. How do we go about deciding if we want to hear from guest speakers?

1. Used to restrict it to only those who were a member of MRPA
- ii. Would bring added benefit to the monthly meeting.
- iii. Likely would end up being some "sales pitches"
- iv. Is it limited to 10 or 15 minutes?
  1. Motion - We are going to allow guest speakers at our monthly meeting, with the approval of the president.
  2. First - Paul
  3. Second - Riley
  4. Approved
- b. Vice President Addition
  - i. Melissa moved to President
  - ii. Left Vice President vacant
  - iii. Riley Nominated by Paul and Seconded by Ben
    1. Riley Donovan Approved

## 11. Timely Topics

- a. Athletic Management
  - i. Are any municipalities having participants with gender identity items come up?
    1. Has come up in the larger communities
    2. Aquatics came regarding with what type of apparel is required
- b. St. Peter
  - i. Hiring a full time maintenance person
  - ii. Seasonals close next week
    1. Job fair at the high school
  - iii. Spring looks crazy busy
  - iv. Shade structures are a priority for 2022
- c. Faribault
  - i. Baseball has Amateur State Tournament
  - ii. Park development with city planning
  - iii. Safety Camp
    1. Does anyone have weather safety speaker contact?
    2. Kids process through social media and bullying
  - iv. Offering free swim lessons at the high school
    1. Eight male and 13 female participants
    2. Hoping it could turn into a life guard class is swimming skills progress
  - v. Mat aerobics in the pool has 13 or so folks participate each week
  - vi. Joint aquatics volleyball league with Northfield
- d. Austin
  - i. Hiring new director, posted on MRPA
  - ii. Bob Motsgow (Gophers) had an event at the Arena
- e. Rochester
  - i. Adding family restroom facilities
  - ii. Court study for outdoor courts
    1. What is most meaningful to add
  - iii. Master planning is occurring at two parks
  - iv. Does anyone have a tournament level disc golf course?
    1. Austin will send pricing information
    2. Does anyone else have any information?
- f. Northfield
  - i. City is doing the capital investment plan
    1. Data is back
    2. Needs to present to park board on Thursday, then city council
- g. New Ulm
  - i. Schell Brewery brought back their annual beer festival
    1. Use South Park heavily for parking
  - ii. Civic Center hosted Bantam B and A regional hockey tournaments
    1. 16 Teams

- iii. Home show and Camper show have both canceled. Farm show is only using one arena.
- iv. Dozens of memorial bench donations annually now
- v. Aquatics and Fitness Coordinator position is available
- vi. Pickleball is exploding
- vii. Highway 14 between New Ulm and Rochester will be completed within the last two years

12. Adjournment

- a. 11:14 AM
  - i. Joey - First
  - ii. Kevin - Second
  - iii. Carried
- b. April Meeting
  - i. New Ulm on April 13th at 10:30am