

## Kitsap Public Facilities District

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### MEETING NOTES – Regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors Eagle's Nest Conference Room, Kitsap Fairgrounds and Event Center February 28, 2005

**Attendance:** Linda Berry-Maraist, Vice-chair; Stephen Stagener, Treasurer; Andy Maron. Staff: Anne Blair, Administrator.

**Call to Order:** Absent a quorum, Vice-chair Linda Berry-Maraist convened those present at 6:35 PM. By consensus, board members agreed to hear the reports and discuss the Agenda items as announced, with the understanding that no decisions would be requested nor made during this session. It was agreed that Anne would prepare Meeting Notes as an informal record of the proceedings.

#### **Special Presentation: Kitsap County Sports Facilities Inventory.**

Contractor Chris Steel distributed a data summary for the publicly owned facilities and explained a hand-drawn map of the county showing nearly 600 sports/recreation venues available and currently being used by teams and schools in this county. The report was well received and prompted numerous ideas and suggestions for expanding the scope of the project from both board members and the public attending the meeting. Even though Chris Steel had the backup data to support his findings, people were generally surprised – even skeptical -- about the accuracy of the wide discrepancies/differences in numbers of sports/recreation facilities among the three areas of the county. All agreed that that one point of discussion validated the need for this type of inventory. It was suggested and informally approved to use the school district boundaries, as well as the commissioner districts as ways to distinguish geographic areas in the county. Chris will develop maps showing both school district and commissioner areas. In addition, he will include a key to the population in each school district (these numbers are easily available and are updated annually) as a frame of reference for the number of facilities in each geographic area. It also was suggested that once the report was available on-line, there be hotlinks to an internet mapping service so that people could find a field and then click on it to find driving directions to that field. In addition to the map-locator, it seems helpful to identify a contact person/office for each field. Chris agreed to work with the GIS mapping folks to incorporate as much of this as possible and return to the board with the updated maps, as well as the electronic maps.

#### **Report on Regional Projects**

**Fairgrounds and Event Center.** Department staff leads Frank Abbott and Luran Erickson reported that Cris Gears would be the County Administrator AND Department Directors through April. At the end of that month, he would decide which of the two assignments he would take. In the meantime, the Facilities, Parks and Recreation Department is doing business as usual with the existing staff assignments. They provided details about plans for the June 4 & 5 Grand Opening Celebration. These two days are to be filled with local sports celebrities, sports clinics, softball/baseball and volleyball games/tournaments, and fireworks. High school bands and professional sports team mascots will be present and add to the festivities. KPFD was asked to contribute \$10,000 to underwrite the celebration. After explaining that KPFD had contributed \$1,000 to the Kitsap Conference Center Grand Opening event, Linda suggested that the board would consider this request at the next meeting. She personally would recommend a \$5,000 donation. This will be on the Agenda for a decision at the March 14 board meeting.

Frank reported that the Pavilion is being used daily for volleyball (by far the most popular sport, drawing about 125 kids regularly and adult rec. leagues three nights a week), tennis and baseball pitching/batting practice. This facility also is used for senior citizens inside walking in the mornings, preschool day time gymnasium play periods and will host two volleyball tournaments, with at least 24 teams each. The word-of-mouth “advertising” has been very successful.

The baseball fields are being scheduled at this time. In 2006, Olympic College will use Field 1 as its home field. Because the college and high school seasons mesh easily and will be finished before the Blue Jackets' season begins, the field will be fully utilized. At this time there are indications that this facility will host nine AAU tournaments – these are each 16 team tournaments. Frank is competing to host a large AAU national tournament for 11-12 year olds. If successful, this tournament will include use of the Bremerton and Poulsbo Parks Dept. fields. He is exploring possibility of hosting NWAC (community college), as well as NCAA Division III Women's National Volleyball tournament at the Pavilion. He estimates that the application will require \$40,000 seed money.

The baseball concession contract was awarded to CloverLeaf.

Wrestling Tournament Plans and funding request. Four community volunteers (including the Olympic High School wrestling coach) provided information about their plans to host an eight-mat wrestling tournament in the Pavilion December 9 & 10, 2005. They anticipate 16 teams attending – 100 coaches and about 500 participants. They have worked hard to recruit teams (varsity, junior varsity and women's) from across Washington State for this Friday evening, all-day Saturday event. They see this as the first year in a regularly scheduled tournament and an important fundraiser for their organization. They requested KPFDF funds (\$4,500) to rent the Pavilion and underwrite some of the upfront expenses. One of the greatest challenges for this tournament will be the lack of shower facilities at the Pavilion. The budget includes shower rental costs – they also are considering best ways to utilize the Olympic High School shower rooms. Anne will contact the Spokane Sports Commission for information about how they help and/or finance tournaments during the start up years and how that financial support changes over time. We agreed to consider this request again and make a decision about the funding at the March 14 meeting.

Phase II Construction at the Fairgrounds. Frank Abbott reported on his research about the financial benefits to be derived from covering the equestrian arena. The financial benefits/rewards are minimal to nothing and a covered arena would not be competitive with the 9 covered arenas in this area were the Fairgrounds facility not to be completely refurbished including more stalls, showers, lights and bleachers etc. As a result of this new knowledge, the Fair Board is withdrawing its recommendation that this be the highest priority. Rather, the Fair Board is asking that the KPFDF consider building the equipment shed/hay barn near Thunderbird and completing the Callison campgrounds with shower facilities/restrooms. Dennis and Frank will get cost estimates for these improvements and present them to at the March 14 meeting. Hopefully, a decision on the Phase II construction priorities will be made at that time.

A new staff person has been hired specifically to manage the ball fields and maintain the turf. He begins work March 1, 2005. Dennis reported that the Gordon Field drainage contract was awarded to Matt Peer. He showcased a prototype seat for the ballfield "box seats." They will come from Beasley Construction in Belfair; Norpack is the contractor and they will complete the installation within 90-days. The bid was for \$1,845.00 for 500 chairs, with arm rests and cup holders.

**North Kitsap Regional Event Center.** Anne distributed an article published in THE SUN about this project and reported that there had been no other action on this project since the last meeting. There was some discussion about the inaccuracies in the newspaper article; it appears the reporter simply gave an overly optimistic assessment that the project would move forward easily. Anne will contact the NKSD representatives/staff and encourage them to complete their redrafting/edits to the Master Planning RFP draft as soon as possible.

### Unfinished Business

**Kitsap Sports Council.** Linda reported that she, Steve, Rick Smith and Anne had attended a Board of County Commissioners Study Session to discuss the VCB plans for a county-wide Sports Commission. Commissioner Angel encouraged the VCB, the County Facilities, Parks and Recreation Department and KPFDF to work together to develop the Sports Council and to identify funding sources for this effort. There was general support for the concept and a high level expectation that it be a collaborative project to expand the county's economic development and serve as a fundraising vehicle for the many local sports teams and

their need for revenue, as well as more sports facilities. Cris Gears was charged with convening the collaboration-discussion meetings and county-wide meetings to elicit public input about a Sports Council.

**KPFD plans to host State-wide meeting of WA State PFDs.** Anne reported that she had contacted, through an email message, all the PFDs about this concept. Only one group responded – they were very positive and plan to attend such a meeting. Anne will be telephoning each district to elicit their feedback.

**Blue Jackets' Sales and Marketing Update.** Steve reported that 100% of the outfield signs are sold; 90% of the advertising goals are met; 70% of the box seats are sold and 50% of the General Admission seats are sold. There are 45 sponsors enrolled and the mascot has been identified and the bumble bee costume selected. June 10 is the Opening Night for the Blue Jackets' season; Donobi has agreed to broadcast the games live on the web; Costco will provide on-site photos and the Kitsap Credit Union will manage the fan information booth.

### **New Business**

**Performance bonus versus merit pay increase** discussion postponed until Warren VanZee can lead the discussion.

### **Treasurer's Report**

**Sales Tax Rebate report** for January was revenue of \$82,858.65 and for February the revenue was \$111,042.93. This shows a 9% increase over February 2004 numbers. Anne distributed the revenue summary sheet with revenue numbers since 2001.

**Consideration of the current invoices** postponed until March 14 meeting.

### **Administrator's Report.**

Anne alerted board members to the special invitation to the PFD board from the Bremerton Symphony and the copy of the 2005 Report to the Community in each board member's folder. She also explained that during the month of February she had been out of the office nearly three weeks due to vacation and illness.

### **Public Comment**

Helen Miller commended the Blue Jackets' update in particular and said that, from her perspective, the KPFD was showing itself to be an overwhelmingly successful agency that was accomplishing the goals set forth when it was established.

**The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.**