

**Wenatchee Valley Sports Council
Board of Director Meeting
Tuesday, September 21, 2010**

Attendance: Eric Granstrom, Trina Elmes, Caryl Morrell, Ryan Baker, Pete Liske, Sally Brawley, Dan Kelly, Ken Osborne, Ernie Rodriguez, BJ Kuntz, Dan White, Erik Bakke, Dave Graybill and Mark Madland.

Meeting was called to order by President Carol M. at 12:06 pm. Minutes from the August 10th meeting were moved for approval by Pete L. and seconded by Dan W. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Middle School Wrestling Championship

Eric reported to the board that his negotiations with Rocky Mountain Nationals regarding a middle school wrestling tournament in January at Town Toyota Center had broken down. The representative Eric was dealing with, Ed Gutierrez, forwarded an email from Eric to the Wenatchee Mayor, Town Toyota Center and others that caused quite a stir. Apparently, Eric had offended Mr. Gutierrez, who then wanted to make waves out of it. Eric said the issue boiled down to a bid fee of \$10,000-\$15,000 RMN was requiring for the event to come to Wenatchee. Eric said he didn't have the bid money and wished Mr. Gutierrez luck in finding someone locally who could. Eric offered the Sports Council's assistance with hotels. The reference that caught the attention was Eric saying he, "didn't have a pot to pee in..." regarding funding to make a bid for the tournament. Eric characterized the communication between he and Mr. Gutierrez "difficult, at best." Eric said he was reprimanded by Roger Clute for the verbiage he used in the email and immediately apologized to Mr. Gutierrez, but that the issue had grown legs since his last correspondence with the man August 24th. At last report, Eric said the Town Toyota Center was going to request funding for a bid from the Tourism Promotion Assessment Committee. Brief discussion was held by the Board and BJ asked where Mr. Gutierrez planned on getting his mats for the tournament. Eric said he assumed the local schools and/or clubs. BJ and Dan W. agreed that the school mats would not be made available for a non-school event.

Contract with the City of Wenatchee

Eric informed the Board that the contract for services provided by the Wenatchee Valley Visitors Bureau and Wenatchee Valley Sports Council to the City of Wenatchee is scheduled to end October 14th. A volatile political climate and the city's economic crisis have put in doubt a smooth contract negotiation. Originally, Eric said the WVVB and Sports Council were looking for a 5-year commitment from the City, but now it looks like the City will be interested in only a one-year commitment. Sally advised the Board the City is in a very difficult position and that the WVVB/Sports Council may see a reduction in funding from the City. Dan K. asked "what if the contract is not renewed?" Eric said, "I'm out of a job, and so too is the rest of the Visitors Bureau." "However," Eric added, "Roger (Clute) does not believe this is a likely scenario and that he believes the City will roll over the current contract for another year."

Columbia Colstor Painting Project

All seven panels have been spoken for to preserve the Ridge to River images on the East Side of the Columbia Colstor Warehouse. Businesses that have stepped up included:

Mission Ridge

Biosports

Sangster motors

Wenatchee AppleSox Baseball Club

Columbia River Media Group

Coca-Cola

Not only will the images be saved and the logos of participating businesses be added, but the Wenatchee Valley Sports Council logo will replace the Ridge to River logo for our efforts!

2011 Budget

Eric handed out the first-draft budget request for Sports Council funding for 2011. He said that the Sports Council's portion of the overall WVVB Budget is only 19% and that he's only requested a total increase of \$375 over what was budgeted in 2010. He added that he was not asking for any increase in salary or benefits and that the extra funding is only to cover new event promotion in the Wenatchee Valley. Erik asked to have an email of the budget sheet with an added column for the 2010 level of funding. Eric agreed and said he'd get it out as soon as possible.

New Business:

2010 Ski Fever Ski Show October

Once again, Mission Ridge Ski & Board Resort and the Wenatchee Valley Visitors Bureau and Sports Council will have a booth at Ski Fever ski show in Seattle. The dates for this year's show are October 15, 16 & 17 at the Washington State Convention Center. We have teamed with Leavenworth and Stevens Pass to occupy our own island with a prime location near the entrance of the show, so we're really looking forward to it!

We'll be needing help manning the booth, having fun and inviting skiers to the Wenatchee Valley and Mission Ridge for the coming ski season. If you or your staff can help, please let me know and I'll start putting together a time sheet for booth time. I've heard that working a 4-hour shift is easiest, so let's work on that concept. Show hours are Friday, Oct. 15 1-10pm; Saturday, Oct. 16 10am-9pm; and Sunday, Oct. 17 10am-6pm.

In addition, the Wenatchee Valley Lodging Association is offering to pay mileage to Seattle and back to Wenatchee as well as pay for your *hotel accommodations if you agree to work the booth over multiple days. (*must be at government or discount rate; WVVB can make reservations for you if you wish)

Directors Report:

Triple Crown Update

They're coming back with the tournament in the Wenatchee Valley April 9-10, 2011. Drew Reiners will be making a trip out from Colorado October 26-28 to meet with

hoteliers and facility partners to iron out any wrinkles for next year's tournament. So far, Triple Crown has contracted with Coast Wenatchee Center; Holiday Inn Express; Springhill Suite by Marriott and Comfort Suites for 170 rooms and is finishing contract details with Comfort Inn, Cedars, Best Western and LaQuinta for those dates in April. He's expecting to contract a total of 400 room nights, not counting the independent team reservations and all participating and non-participating hotels. In addition, he's locking down the use of Tedford; Paul Thomas; Recreation park; Lincoln Park; Kirby Billingsley Hydro Park; Walla Walla Point Park; and Morris Little League Park for the tournament. He's also in need of two more full, 90-foot fields for Saturday, as Dan White Field and Eastmont Junior High Fields are being used on Saturday. I've recommended he contact Cashmere and Cascade about their fields, which he's doing. We won't be able to do the same reception we did for the inaugural event at Town Toyota Center last year, so Drew and I are working together on coming up with an idea for this year, possibly in the Convention Center. If you have any suggestions, let me know. Again, the dates conflict again with the Western Elite Ski Series at Mission Ridge (April 5-12), so the hotels and Sports Council will have to work together.

Thunder Swamp Sprint Boat Races - There were 1,400 tickets sold and over 2,000 people present for the inaugural race September 4th. Hundreds of people also showed up at the Show n' Shine Friday, September 3rd at Wenatchee Valley Mall. Besides the wind and dust, all who went said they had a great time. We had a follow up meeting last Friday regarding tweaks for the next race and are always open to input from those who attended, including whether the dates for 2011 should be changed away from the 4th of July and Labor Day weekends.

Biographies - Eric went through and made up biographies for those who hadn't supplied one already and put them on the website. (See website details)

Sangster Motors Benefit Sale - Sangster Motors in Wenatchee is having a Community Sales Events September 21-25 with a part of the proceeds to benefit the Wenatchee Valley Sports Foundation. So if you know anyone in need of a new or used car, send them to Sangster Motors this week!!!

The next board meeting is October 19th, noon at the Town Toyota Center.

Erik B. moved to adjourn at 1:23, it was seconded by Dan K. Motion carried.

Respectively submitted,
Eric Granstrom & Trina Elmes