

MRPA Programming Section Meeting

September 24, 2010

Inver Grove Heights Community Center

Attendance:

Lisa Abernathy, St. Louis Park
Travis Karlen, Plymouth
Nick Thompson, Inver Grove
Andy Soltvedt, Golden Valley
Eric Boettcher, Roseville
Roxann Maxey, Roseville
Lisa Maurer, Rosemount
Erin Mayberry, Northfield
Al Vandehoff, Inver Grove
Jerome Krieger, Blaine

Teresa Gangelhoff, Mendota Heights
Michelle Snider, MRPA
Nicole Gorman, Minnetonka
Sara Woeste, Minnetonka
Ann Davy, Minnetonka
Mike Anderson, Oakdale
Reed Smidt, Woodbury
Kari Hemp, Bloomington
Kelly Mertes, Richfield
Kristin Aarsvold, Edina

Agenda:

Meeting was called to order by Reed Smidt at 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Introductions

Additions to the Agenda – No additions.

Approval of Minutes

Speaker: Minnesota Volleyball Headquarters: 763-493-4130, www.mnvolleyballhq.com

- Laurie Flores, CEO: laurie@mnvolleyballhq.com
- Jana Norsten, President: jana@mnvolleyballhq.com
 - Lori and Jana presented their organization to the group; they offer a variety of volleyball opportunities for all ages. They currently contract their services in Woodbury, Plymouth and Robbinsdale.
 - They provide skill training, competition leagues/tournaments, and club services. Both indoor and sand volleyball for Ages 4 – 55, female, male and co-ed.
 - They use community gyms and provide the coaches, promotion, newsletters, online registration, volleyball carts, shirts and surveys.
 - They work with communities to keep the cost reasonable, camps cost about \$95.00 for participants.
 - Laurie and Jana would love to speak with other communities to see where they can partner to make competitive and club volleyball available to more people.

Speaker: Minnesota Timberwolves

- Sean Sittick, Group Event Representative: 612-673-1699, sittnick@timberwolves.com
 - The Timberwolves welcome groups to their games. They offer group packages and will work with agencies to make the event fun: shooting free throws, meeting Crunch, etc.
 - MRPA Night with the Timberwolves is Wednesday, December 29th and all group ticket holders can go on the court after the game to shoot a free throw.
 - Contact Sean if you would like to set up a group visit.

NRPA Conference Update, Michelle Snider

- The NRPA Conference is just 5 weeks away. As the local host there is much preparation before the event.
- Off-site Institutes – there are 15 off-sites to choose from and NRPA has allowed non-registered professionals to participate in these as well. Check out the NRPA website for registration information.
- Leisure Tours – 5K Run at Lake Harriet on Thursday morning. Two golf tournaments one on Monday and the other on Friday.
- Volunteer Opportunities – It takes 400 – 500 volunteers to put on this event, if you are interested in volunteering at the Off-sites or socials contact Randy Quale. If you would like to volunteer as a room host go to the NRPA website.
- Wednesday, October 27th the MRPA will host a social at Brits Pub from 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

MRPA Update, Michelle Snider

- Softball Tournament coming up September 25.
- A facility tour was held on August 19th. Participants visited Burnsville Performing Arts Building, Target Field and Bunker Beach Water Park.
- GPS Workshop will be held in Maple Grove in November.
- ERLI began last week; 21 participants are enrolled.
- The Aquatics Section is working on forming a Swim Program. They still need legal review.
- Conference 2012 is approved to be held at Craguns in Brainerd on September 18 -21st.
- The Awards Committee is excepting Professional Nominations.
- Now excepting nominations for MRPA Board seats; 7 positions are up for re-election.

Topic Discussions

New Summer Programs

- Reed Smidt, Woodbury, started a Yard Game League that was a big hit. It was a 5-week season, he had 14 teams in the first session and they played on the outfield of a softball field. It attracted a wide age range.

Warming Houses

- Jerome Krieger, Blaine, has closed some warming houses, but has 4 open. Last year they had their largest attendance (9,000) since the late 90's (they count every 2 hours).
- Kristin Aarsvold, Edina, has 9 staffed rinks.
- Eric Boettcher, Roseville, has 5 staffed warming houses.
- Kari Hemp, Bloomington, has volunteers running their warming houses, they sign out keys for their 14 sites. They also have 4 staff.
- Reed Smidt, Woodbury, had to close one rink and now has 5 used for youth practice and 1 used for open skate.
- Nick Thompson, Inver Grove Heights, just started using a keyless entry system for their warming houses; it tracks staff coming in and out. Has been a great system.
- Reed Smidt, Woodbury, held a successful Hockey Day Out last year on Presidents Day.
- Minnetonka has a Rink Rat Hockey program which is played outdoors. They have parent volunteers coach and it has been very successful.

Summer Leadership Workshop Recap

- Lisa Abernathy, Leadership Workshop Chair, shared that there was around 110 participants and that the workshop was a success. The evaluations were positive and the Superhero theme was fun and embraced by the committee and participants.

NRPA Conference in October—No meeting scheduled

Next Meeting: November 19 at Water Park of America

- There will be a tour at 9:00 a.m., meeting at 10:00 a.m. and lunch following for those interested.
- Reed is still looking for host facilities for the upcoming meetings; please contact him if you are interested.