



Minnesota Ballpark Authority Meeting Minutes – April 6, 2012

Chair Steve Cramer called the meeting of the Minnesota Ballpark Authority for April 6, 2012 to order at 1:00 p.m. The roll was taken. Commissioners Barb Sykora, Martin Olav Sabo, Joan Campbell and Paul D. Williams were present. Kathleen Lamb, Legal Counsel, was also present.

Commissioner Williams moved approval of the agenda, seconded by Commissioner Campbell and approved unanimously – 5 YEAS, 0 NAYS.

APPROVED

Commissioner Campbell moved approval of the January 5, 2012 meeting minutes, seconded by Commissioner Williams and approved unanimously – 5 YEAS, 0 NAYS.

APPROVED

CHAIR REPORT

- Chair Cramer reported that he and Executive Director Kenney had recently met with representatives from the Twins organization for an annual gathering to review the lease agreement and financials. Chair Cramer said that it was a productive meeting and the MBA is comfortable with where things are with both items.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

- Executive Director Kenney reported on the changes to the smoking policy at Target Field. As there have been challenges for staff and guests regarding second-hand smoke from the designated smoking corrals at Target Field, last fall the MBA sent the Twins a letter suggesting the corrals be removed for the 2012 season to be consistent with the 2006 Ballpark legislation which called for the ballpark to be a smoke-free facility. The team responded to the MBA in March, agreeing with input and starting Monday, April 6, 2012 no smoking will be allowed at Target Field. Matt Hoy, Senior Vice President of Baseball Operations, also stated that the ash trays have been removed from the grounds.

Commissioner Sykora made motion to accept this policy which was seconded by Commissioner Campbell and approved unanimously.

Update on Hennepin County Debt Service Payments on Ballpark Bonds and County Funding Initiatives in Support of Extended Library Hours and youth Activities.

The 0.15 % sales tax authorized by legislation in 2006 enabled Hennepin County to fund the Ballpark Construction with \$350 million in revenue bonds. In addition, proceeds from the sales tax can be used to fund up to \$2 million annually for the Hennepin Youth Sports Program and up to \$2 million annually can be used for expanded hours at Hennepin County Libraries.

Since 2008, Hennepin County has authorized sports program commitments totaling \$9.1 million. Not all of the grants are expended as they are committed, thus there's a lag in payments. From 2007 through 2011 Hennepin County has authorized the transfer of just under \$6.4 million for the extension of library hours at 13 Hennepin County Libraries.

Debt Service

Hennepin County budgets about \$20 million annually for ballpark debt service payments. Through the end of 2011, approximately \$84.7 million has been paid on the principal and interest, and \$19.9 million of this amount was prepayments on the principal. This ultimately equates to an interest savings of more than \$38.8 million.

A recap of Sales and Use Tax Paid at Target Field for 2011 Season was included as an attachment to Executive Director Kenney's report.

- **MBA Audit Committee Report** – Commissioner Campbell reported that the MBA Audit Committee met on February 16th for an Entrance Meeting with the State Auditor's office. Everything is in order and all required documentation was presented at the meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Target Field Operations Report – Matt Hoy, Senior Vice President of Baseball Operations

Mr. Hoy presented the Authority with a Target Field LEED Silver Certification plaque for Operations and Maintenance. Target Field is the only stadium in the United States to achieve LEED certification for both New Construction and Operations and Maintenance.

Mr. Hoy gave a brief overview of 2011 team contributions to youth activities and amateur sports. Regarding Capital Improvements for this year, Mr. Hoy stated that no specific requests were forthcoming and the Twins and the MBA have decided to let the Ballpark Capital Reserve Fund grow. The organization is looking forward to hosting numerous events this year including a Gopher Baseball game, the High School Baseball Championships and the Tim McGraw, Kenny Cheney concert this summer.

Concession Update – Delaware North Sportservice, Pete Spike, General Manager and Pia McDonough, Operations Manager

Ms McDonough reviewed the various new food and beverage products coming to Target Field, and any improvements made to food and beverage products already established at the field. She presented a list of new products and concepts, such as a "Smart Bar" in the suites and some new menu items in the restaurants. Ms. McDonough said that new this year also is the ability to load money into your ticket prior to a game and use it at all food and retail locations. Ms. McDonough also gave an overview of their community involvement and environmental stewardship programs.

Hennepin County Interchange Project – Ed Hunter, Project Manager

Mr. Hunter reported on the status of the Interchange Project. The four Short-Listed Teams for the Design-Build RFP's are M.A. Mortenson, Adolphson and Peterson, Graham Construction and Knutson Construction. A recommendation to the Hennepin County Board for contract award is scheduled for May 22, 2012. Approximately 55% of the project funds are secured. The Interchange Project still requires about \$37 million additional funding. Current funding opportunities include a DEED grant application due the end of April, \$5 million in the current Senate bonding bill, project backstop discussions with the Metropolitan Council, a request to the City of Minneapolis for \$1 million in roadway and streetscape improvements, analysis of parking revenue stream and ongoing development/naming rights discussions.

MBA Financial Report – Brenda Juneau, MBA Finance Coordinator

Ms Juneau reported on the End of the Year financials, as of December 31, 2011. Capital Fund, cash and investments are at \$5.6 million, the Authority Trust Investment Account is at \$5.6 million. The Ballpark Capital Reserve Fund is a little more than \$4 million dollars and Ms Juneau stated that the MBA is in agreement with the Twins organization to let this fund grow.

Next meeting: July 19, 2012 Target Field Tour Theatre

There being no further business, Chair Cramer moved to adjourn. The motion was approved unanimously -5 YEAS, 0 NAYS. The meeting of the Minnesota Ballpark Authority for April 6, 2012 was adjourned at 2:18 P.M.