



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes

Columbia Sports Commission

Thursday, February 8, 2024
12:00 PM

Columbia Sports
Fieldhouse, Philips
Farm Rd, Columbia,
Missouri 65201

I. CALL TO ORDER

James Arnold, Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:02 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Joey Wilmes was present as a representative from Columbia Parks and Recreation. Convention and Visitor's Bureau (CVB) staff members Adam Ziervogel and Trevor Bradley were also present.

Present: 10 - Julie Calfee, Carter Marcks, James Arnold, Jared Klarfeld, David Egan, Tony Daniel, Heather Cairns, Kristopher Kunz, Ethan Cobb and Beau Baehman

Excused: 1 - Susan Hart

Non-Voting: 3 - Amy Schneider, Gabe Huffington and Richard Walls

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Calfee motioned to approve the agenda; Baehman seconded. Agenda approved as is.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Calfee motioned to approve the January Meeting minutes; Marcks seconded. Minutes approved as is.

Attachments: [Meeting Minutes 23-Jan-2024](#)

V. OLD BUSINESS

National Middle School Basketball Association Update

Ziervogel provided an update on the National Middle School Basketball Association's *Missouri Middle School Basketball State Championships*, following a call with the organizer after funding was approved.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Attachments: [Sports Commission Report - February](#)

Sports Commission Report

The events in the attached February Sports Commission Report were discussed. Past events mentioned in the report that were discussed include the Missouri State High School Activities Association's (MSHSAA) *Show-Me Bowl State Football Championships* at Memorial Stadium, the Missouri Basketball Coaches Association's (MBCA) *Norm Stewart Classic* at Mizzou Arena, the Wonder Woman Foundation's *Wonder Women Girls Wrestling Tournament* at Battle High School, and the MBCA's *Sophie Cunningham Classic* at Columbia College's Southwell Complex.

Future events mentioned in the report that were discussed include the *Missouri State Homeschool Basketball Tournament* (February 9-10) at the Columbia Sports Fieldhouse, the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association's (NIRSA) *Region IV Basketball Championships* (February 16-17) at Mizzou Rec, the MSHSAA *State Wrestling Championships* (February 21-23) at Mizzou Arena, the MSHSAA *Show-Me Showdown State Basketball Championships* (March 6-9; 13-16) at Mizzou Arena and *Missouri Middle School Basketball Championships* (March 15-17) at multiple venues across Columbia. Tentatively scheduled business that was introduced in the report and discussed included Prospects National's *Midwest Qualifier Mizzou Showcase* at Taylor Stadium and Atkins Baseball Complex.

Cobb commented on the NIRSA Basketball Regional Championships, sharing the size of the event and his hope to soon bring a National Championship to Columbia.

Schneider introduced volunteer and sponsorship opportunities for MSHSAA Basketball and Wrestling Championships.

Recently awarded business included in the report and discussed included the Professional Disc Golf Association's *Amateur World Disc Golf Championships* (August 2025) at Harmony Bends Disc Golf Course and MSHSAA *Show-Me Bowl State Football Championships* (December 2024) at Memorial Stadium. Potential business included in the report and discussed included NCAA Men's and Women's *Cross Country Regional Championships* for November 2026 or 2027 and NCAA Men's and Women's *Golf Regional Championships* for May 2027 or 2028. Bids to host these events were submitted on February 8.

VII. STAFF REPORTS

Sport Sales Activities

Ziervogel mentioned the Columbia Chamber of Commerce's *Quarterly Membership Breakfast* at The Crossing on February 21, where MSHSAA's *Show-Me Showdown State Basketball Championships* would be a topic of discussion.

Ripken Baseball is open to exploring partnerships for the 2025 season. Ziervogel noted their reputation as a well-respected baseball organizer that the city has not yet had much luck partnering with.

Special Olympics of Missouri is expected to release an RFP for its *Summer Games* soon.

Ziervogel shared the recently acquired post-event report for the 2023 AJGA Stan Utley and Mid-America Youth Golf Foundation Junior Championship that was hosted at the Club at Old Hawthorne in July and is set to return in July of this year.

The CVB hosted its annual *Star Night* last night that highlights employees at hotel properties that have done outstanding work in the hospitality industry. Mizzou Athletics was awarded the Allied Partner of the Year Award, which was accepted by Associate Athletic Director Colleen Lamond, for their outstanding work with the city's hotel partners and Convention and Visitor's Bureau to benefit tourism through sporting events they help host. Susan Hart of the Sports Commission was part of the Award Winners Selection Committee. Jared Klarfeld, a hotel representative on the Sports Commission, was awarded the Hospitality Professional of the Year Award.

Columbia Parks and Recreation Presentation

Columbia Parks and Recreation Director, Gabe Huffington, shared the results of the feasibility study for the Northeast Regional Park that it recently acquired, conducted by Darin Barr of Ballard*King and Associates. Parks and Recreation organized focus groups with several key organizations in the city that have interest in the facility's renovations to provide input. The Sports Commission was one of those groups that provided feedback to the consultant. The facility currently has two buildings: the Colosseum and the Sapp Building. A portion of the park must still be set apart for the Boone County Fairgrounds. The study determined that an indoor, multi-use facility, especially one that contained indoor turf fields, is the most needed facility for the city. Ziervogel noted the ability to utilize the facility for non-sports activities to generate extra revenue.

Huffington also noted expansion of the Columbia Sports Fieldhouse and upgrades to Gans Creek Recreational Area, which includes the creation of 8 to 9 miles of biking trail for cyclo-cross.

VIII. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

There were no other comments.

IX. NEXT MEETING DATE

March 14th, 2024

X. ADJOURNMENT

Daniel made a motion to adjourn. Kunz seconded. All voted in favor of adjourning at 12:44 pm.

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