

Bobbie Walthall

From: csuen3@sunflower.com
Sent: Tuesday, January 15, 2013 12:45 PM
To: Aron Cromwell; Bob Schumm; Bobbie Walthall; David L. Corliss; Hugh Carter; Mike Amyx; Mike Dever
Cc: clawhorn@ljworld.com
Subject: Ordinance 8833

January 15, 2013

Dear Mayor, City Commissioners, and City Manager,

We would like to request you defer Ordinance 8833 from tonight's city commission consent agenda #4c as it states that "Fairway, LC" is the owner of record when actually "RCP, LLC", according to the Douglas County Register of Deeds, is the owner of record as of December 21, 2012.

Please include this in tonight's commission packet.

Thank you for your consideration.

Arch Naramore
Cindy Suenram
1204 New York



January 15, 2013

Mayor Schumm, Vice-Mayor Dever, and Commissioners,

I am writing to voice Kaw Valley Soccer Association's (KVSA) support of the proposed Rock Chalk Park recreation center. KVSA currently serves over 1800 members annually and represents one of the largest youth sports organizations in Lawrence. The popularity of youth soccer has grown substantially throughout the United States in the last decade. The success and exposure of the local Major League Soccer team, Sporting KC, and the US Men's & Women's National soccer teams have contributed significantly to the rapid increase in the popularity of the sport and in the participation that our organization has witnessed over the last 5 years.

In 2010, KVSA was selected to serve as one of five Midwest regional Sporting KC Junior Affiliate developmental programs. The Kaw Valley Soccer Association, and all Sporting KC Junior Affiliate Developmental Academies, will offer a clear path for players to the United States Soccer Federation Developmental Academy, the MLS Reserve league, and potentially, professional contracts with Sporting Kansas City. Through this affiliation, KVSA and Lawrence is becoming a regional hub for competitive soccer players and teams that will travel to our community to participate in specialized training sessions and competitive tournaments throughout the year.

With the increased popularity, and competitiveness of soccer in this region, the demand for indoor and outdoor training and playing space continues to grow. Our members have routinely struggled to find indoor space in Lawrence to train from November to March each year. Dozens of our most competitive teams travel to Kansas City during these winter months to participate in indoor soccer leagues in order to continue playing throughout the winter months. In our view, the lack of indoor athletic space in Lawrence continues to create unnecessary travel related expenses for the families of our community.

For the reasons mentioned above, the Kaw Valley Soccer Association strongly supports the approval of the Rock Chalk Park development. KVSA would be one of the primary users of both the "Fieldhouse" and indoor turf space proposed in the new recreational facility. If the project is approved, we desire to form regional futsal leagues and host regional indoor tournaments. KVSA currently hosts two outdoor tournaments each year that draw over 160 soccer teams annually. More than 75% of the participating teams travel to Lawrence, twice a year, from outside our community. We believe that the Rock Chalk Park development would not only reduce the need of our young athletes to travel to Kansas City, but would serve as regional athletic destination that could be used to "connect" the soccer communities of both Kansas City and western Kansas. We're confident that the creation of regional futsal leagues and indoor tournaments would have substantial and continued economic benefits to the businesses of our community.

We applaud the Commission for considering partnerships that will allow for the development of a larger facility and we are extremely excited about the possibilities, and the potential economic benefits, that a facility of this size would offer our members and community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Marcus Dudley", is written over the typed name.

Marcus Dudley
Executive Director
Kaw Valley Soccer Association
785 218-2085 c