

FROM THE DESK OF
BRYAN ARNOLD

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March 28, 2016

Via Email

The Honorable Ron Jensen
President,
Grand Prairie Sports Facilities Development Corporation
317 W. College St.
Grand Prairie, Texas 75050

Re: Resignation

Dear President Jensen:

I am writing to tender my resignation as a Board Member of the Grand Prairie Sports Facilities Development Corporation. While I am thrilled with the chance to join the great team at the City, I must tell you what an honor it has been to serve on the Sports Corp Board.

In 1992, Grand Prairie citizens boldly enacted a ½ cent sales tax increase dedicated to the construction of a world class horse racing facility. Supporters believed the project could be a potential game changer for the City. The Sports Corp was founded to help make that vision a reality. Though there were more than a few dark days in the process, the Sports Corp, thanks to strong leadership by people such as former Mayor Charles England and H. Wayne Hanks, persevered and the track opened for live racing in April, 1997. When those first thoroughbreds came thundering down the stretch, it made all of the lawsuits over licensing, the difficult and seemingly never ending negotiations and the struggles to find financing a distant memory.

Since then, the simulcast signal, including “at Grand Prairie”, has been broadcast all over the world, we’ve hosted a Breeders’ Cup, seen two changes in lessee/operator, and welcomed millions of racing fans into our city. The facility itself remains beautiful and is a source of pride for Grand Prairie residents. In the meantime, the Sports Corp paid off the \$65M bond obligation 17 years early and, to date, has transferred over \$22M back to the City for projects such as libraries, fire stations, recreation centers, the Uptown Theater, and many more.

Though Texas racing currently faces a competitive disadvantage versus surrounding states with expanded gaming, Lone Star Park has been, and continues to be, a game changer for Grand Prairie.

Thank you for your ongoing leadership of the Board and for allowing me to serve. Best wishes to you and all of the Board members and to LSP moving forward.

The Honorable Ron Jensen

3/28/16

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Sincerely,



Bryan Arnold

cc: Tom Hart
City Manager

Via Email

Cathy Dimaggio
City Secretary

Via Email