

**FAR Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
(PLAY Task Force – 15-in-5 Community Initiatives)
September 19, 2006**

Attendees: Chairman Alan Bernard, Julie Sina, Dwight Dohlman, Jim Voss, Kim Hilger, Brian Long and Tom Saxen.

A discussion centered on the professional responses (six) that Dwight had received re our Request for Proposals for a feasibility study for a state of the art multi-component community center/recreation complex. A distribution protocol and timeline for the review of these submissions by the evaluation committee was reviewed. The evaluation committee is comprised of members of FAR and the Community Life Center subcommittees.

The goal is the evaluation committee that will next meet on October 3 to review their independent scoring matrix results to ascertain the best candidates for the possible feasibility study engagement and then submit those firms to the larger PLAY committee meeting on October 5 for consideration.

Saxen raised the concerns that Lee Clancey had forwarded to Ron Gonder regarding questions that some City Councilpersons had asked her regarding the status of possible funding for the feasibility study for PLAY. Alan stated that our goal for the feasibility study firm screening process was to be able to present what services would be offered and its related cost so then a sound decision could be reached regarding fundraising needs. It is good business to be prepared with the facts before such a funding request is made.

Julie said the city lost the 2007 AAU wrestling tournament to Des Moines and that \$45,000 that had been earmarked for that event may become available as a possible feasibility study funding source. Kim also mentioned that the Department of Energy grant administration process requires a pre-application and some expertise may be needed if that funding source is pursued.

There apparently is some concern from the Community Life Center subcommittee regarding the speed of the feasibility study process. The evaluation committee is comprised of six FAR members and three from the Community Life Center. Dwight brought up that the latter group has more diverse constituencies that they need to define their needs. The FAR group's focus is more specific and less complex. A dialogue between the two subcommittees will continue.

Alan mentioned there may be a need to raise the community visibility of PLAY with the Council and other possible collaborators as the upcoming mid-term elections and school sales tax proposals have garnered the public's attention. After the feasibility study firm interviews have taken place, it could be beneficial

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to develop a PowerPoint presentation for a possible Council brown bag update session at the end of October.

Julie reported that she and another Rec Department employee will be attending a Recreation Department conference in Las Vegas November 15-17. Among the topics to be presented will be Aquatic Centers and facilities construction information.