

15 IN 5 RECREATION/COMMUNITY CENTER COMPLEX COMMITTEE
PLANNING LIFELONG ACTIVITIES FOR YOU (PLAY) TASK FORCE

Meeting Minutes, Jan. 25, 2007 (submitted by Ron Gonder)

Ambroz Recreation Center

7:30-8:30 A.M.

Attendance

Committee members: Myrt Bowers and Alan Bernard, co-chairpersons, Ron Gonder and Jackie Harrington, co-secretaries, Julie Sina, Nancy Nygren, Mary Day, Judy Fitzgibbons, Phil Wasta, Jean Bjorseth, Brian Long, Kim Hilby, Sandy Bruns and Versa Lauritsen (new member)

Advisers: None

Feasibility Study Funding

Bernard gave a report on two breakfast meetings that were held with members of the Cedar Rapids city council on January 23rd and 24th. The meetings were arranged by councilman Justin Shields. Councilpersons who were able to attend one or the other of the two meetings were, mayor Kay Halloran, Brian Fagan, Kris Gulick, Jerry McGrane, Chuch Swore, Tom Podzimek and Pat Shey. Six other members of the PLAY Task Force also attended one or the other of the meetings. The purpose of the meetings was to inform the council members of the progress of the work of the PLAY Task Force since meeting with council members last May and to ask for city financial support in funding a feasibility study by professional architectural/engineering firms to assess the feasibility of constructing a new state of the art recreation/community center complex. Specifically the city was asked for \$60,000, which is estimated to be about one half the cost of the feasibility study. (The PLAY Task Force intends to raise the other \$60,000 from private sources.) The general consensus was that the council would consider the request and would confer with the city manager about it. Bernard also reported that he had met with Lee Clancey, the president of the Cedar Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce, to discuss fund raising for the feasibility study and that Clancey had some suggestions and said the chamber would help PLAY in identifying possible sources of funding.

Interview Day for the Feasibility Study Finalists

Everything is set for the interviews on January 30th of the four previously selected applicants to do the feasibility study. The interviews begin at 1 P.M. in the city council chambers. It was reported that Barker Rinker Seacat Architecture of Denver, CO came to Cedar Rapids on January 23rd and that PLAY committee members Sina and Hilby took them around the city to gather information for their interview and to see certain things first hand. Williams Architects of Carol Stream, IL had been in Cedar Rapids earlier for the same purpose.

Glenview, Illinois Facility

Lauritsen presented some information about a Glenview, IL facility that is a good example of combining a recreational and senior center into a community center. It occupies 7 ½ acres. Questions were answered and discussion was held about it and about having a sub-committee visit it in the future.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on the regularly scheduled second Thursday of the month, which will be Thursday, February 8th at 7:30 A.M. at the Amroz Center.