

15 IN 5 COMMUNITY CENTER COMPLEX COMMITTEE
PLANNING LIFELONG ACTIVITIES FOR YOU (PLAY) TASK FORCE
Meeting Minutes of December 11, 2008 (submitted by Ron Gonder)
Ambrose Recreation Center 7:30-9:00 A.M.

Attendance

Committee members: Tom Saxen & Myrt Bowers, co-chairpersons, Ron Gonder, secretary, Phil Wasta, Brian Long, Scott Schultz, Sandy Bruns, Nancy Nygren, Robin Robinson, Jeff Kraayenbrink, Mary Day, Judy Fitzgibbons and Jim Voss

Guests: Doug Elliott, vice president, CR Library Board

Library Partnership

Elliott brought the committee up to date on where the CR Library stands on flood recovery and future plans. After considerable discussion and a question and answer period it appeared that library co-location with a Community Center Complex was not a strong possibility because of the need of the library to be in a downtown location and for it to be the dominant partner in any co-location arrangement. The library would be open to possible branch options in a PLAY facility warranting further discussion as both projects progress.

Williams Architects

Saxen passed out minutes of the two meetings involving Williams Architects, which were held on November 12th after PLAY's November meeting. Those meetings were with Sasaki Associates and a debrief session with commitments by the City/Williams Architects with PLAY members. The major outcome was that Williams will not be a component of Sasaki's efforts. The Williams contract is being reviewed by the City with regard to the fee and deliverables as altered by the flood.

Community Service Center

PLAY members Saxen, Gonder, Day, Sina and Kraayenbrink attended a meeting on November 13th at Kirkwood that was an initial stakeholder workshop for a Community Service Center, which could serve as a co-location center for various city, county, state, school district and federal governmental and non-profit organizations. PLAY attended in an informational capacity.

Early Learning Institute

Robinson reported on a meeting at Kirkwood involving early childhood groups. As indicated in the minutes of the PLAY Debrief, Five Giant Steps has committed to partnering with PLAY in a Community Center Complex. The Kirkwood meeting was about co-location for those groups. They are now aware of the plans of PLAY for a Community Center Complex.

Baseball

Long reported that the construction of youth baseball fields will be discussed this month at the Major League Baseball Winter Meetings by Jack Roeder, General Manager of the Kernels. There is a desire of professional baseball to offer something positive to Cedar Rapids.

Feasibility Study Funding

Saxen reported that the CR Chamber of Commerce has contributed \$5,000 toward the funding of the Williams Architects feasibility study.

Marion Recreation Facility Plans

Voss reported on further conversations he's had with Scott Weiss who's the principle backer to construct a 22 million dollar recreational facility in Marion that would include a pool, aquatics center, indoor ball fields, quarter mile track, restaurant and coffee shop. Linn Mar schools has promised funding and participation.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday, January 8th. The site of the meeting will be changed. The meeting will be held at the CR Parks offices on 42nd Street across from Twin Pines golf course.