

15 IN 5 COMMUNITY CENTER COMPLEX COMMITTEE
PLANNING LIFELONG ACTIVITIES FOR YOU (PLAY) TASK FORCE
Meeting Minutes of May 13, 2009 (submitted by Ron Gonder)
HACAP Offices in Hiawatha at 7:30 A.M.

Attendance

Committee Members: Tom Saxen & Myrt Bowers, co-chairpersons, Ron Gonder, secretary, Jackie Harrington, treasurer, Nancy Nygren, Judy Fitzgibbons, Jim Voss, Robin Robinson, Brian Long and Scott Schultz

Governor's Bonding Bill

It was reported that the decision was made by city officials and others involved that the Community Center Complex (CCC) would NOT be part of the city's request for funds from the governor's "I-Jobs" infrastructure 750 million dollar bonding plan that was recently passed by the state legislature. There is, however, a 118 million dollar segment of funds in the bonding plan for which the CCC may still apply. An application would have to be submitted and the CCC project would be in competition with other projects from around the state for that funding.

Economic Development Authority

The city council approved the application request to the U.S. Economic Development Authority (EDA) for funds for design and engineering for the CCC project and the request was submitted. Many thanks to Gail Loskill for all her hard work and many hours spent on getting the application completed. Word on the success of the request is expected sometime in early summer. (Secretary's note: It has since been learned that the request for funds from the EDA has been denied.)

Williams Architects And Treasurer's Report

There are still some Williams Architects deliverables on the feasibility study. It's critical that PLAY receive those deliverables in the next 30 days so that a complete presentation on the feasibility study can be made to the city council in June. There is still a \$5,000 to \$6,000 shortfall in the amount of funds for which PLAY is responsible to raise to fund the feasibility study. PLAY needs to consider some applications for funds from various entities to make up that shortfall.

Chamber Of Commerce Presentation

PLAY has been asked to make a one hour presentation at the Chamber of Commerce on May 27th at 10 A.M. on the progress of the PLAY CCC to chamber members, various governmental officials and various other interested individuals and groups. Williams will be providing some necessary information for the presentation. The most critical piece needed is a visual of what the CCC might look like. Saxen, Bowers, Harrington and Loskill will meet to organize the presentation.

Action Plan For The Months Ahead

PLAY needs to undertake some outreach efforts in getting information out to media, key community individuals and key persons in political office. PLAY needs to involve those who can start zeroing in on a location for the CCC. Ellis Park was identified as a location in the

EDA application, but that location needs further scrutiny. Partners to share office space in the CCC and to support the project need to be further explored and identified. And the sustainability of the CCC as a financially sound operating entity needs to be proved.

Farmers Markets

Fitzgibbons will coordinate and implement plans for a PLAY informational booth-tent at the downtown farmers markets this summer. The first market is Saturday morning, June 6th.

Next Meeting

The next PLAY meeting has been set for Thursday, June 18th at the Cedar Rapids Parks & Recreation Dept. Parks Offices meeting room on 42nd St., N.E. at 7:30 A.M.