

15 IN 5 COMMUNITY LIFE CENTER COMPLEX COMMITTEE  
PLANNING LIFELONG ACTIVITIES FOR YOU (PLAY) TASK FORCE  
Meeting Minutes of Sept. 10, 2009 (submitted by Ron Gonder)  
Cedar Rapids Parks & Recreation Dept. Parks Offices 7:30-8:45 A.M.

Attendance

Committee members: Tom Saxen, co-chairperson, Ron Gonder, secretary, Jackie Harrington, treasurer, Mary Day, Jim Voss, Judy Fitzgibbons, Gail Loskill, Julie Sina, Phil Wasta, Brian Long, Jeff Kraayenbrink and Scott Schultz

I-Jobs Funding Request

Saxen reported that the PLAY request for 4 million dollars from the state I-Jobs fund to plan and design the Community Life Center Complex (CLCC) was denied. It was denied because it didn't meet the established criteria level for scoring among the other requests. The lack of City-County collaboration and financial commitments toward future funding coupled with the lack of the project being shovel-ready was the probable reason for denial. Moving forward the best procedure probably is: (1) Complete the city's open house process for public input. (2) Have Williams Architects complete their feasibility study and present it to the City Council. (3) Have the City and County establish the CLCC as an area priority backed up with firm funding plans. (4) Have the City and County effectively lobby the state legislature for I-Jobs funding for the CLCC project.

Farmer's Markets

Fitzgibbons reported a lot of very favorable person-to-person contact at the PLAY booth at the downtown Farmer's Markets to answer questions about the CLCC. The indoor aquatic component of the CLCC seems to draw a lot of positive attention, particularly from young families. There will be one more market on Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup>.

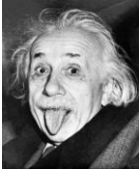
City Open Houses

Loskill reported on the CLCC as a component of the Parks & Recreation Master Plan presented at the second City flood-related Open House in August. On the information cards that were received from those who attended there was a lot of support for the CLCC. For the final Open House on October 6<sup>th</sup> a preferred plan will be presented for the public to assess. City Council input will be sought on the CLCC's inclusion in that plan. There probably needs to be some discussion with the County on this since the Witwer Center is included in the CLCC project.

Williams Architects

Kraayenbrink reported that Williams Architects would make a final presentation to the City Council and the Board of Supervisors in November, which will conclude their feasibility study.

## PLAY's Future Role –



"In the middle of every difficulty lies opportunity." ~Albert Einstein

Discussion was held on what PLAY's role should be in the coming months. There was consensus that the committee should stay active through the early part of next year, continue to meet monthly and to reassess at that time.

### Jones Park Baseball Project

Long reported that the Jones Park baseball project has been a building block for the future of youth baseball in the City. Work will begin soon on the new youth diamond and the refurbishing of two existing diamonds.

### Next Meeting

The next meeting was set for the regularly scheduled second Thursday of the month and will be held on Thursday, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 A.M. at the Parks & Recreation Dept. Parks Offices.