

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 4, 2020

Heather Carmona, Vice- Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at 2300 East Lincoln.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Heather Carmona, Pam Graham, Ross Kaplan, Ellie Noble, Dominick Pulis, John Rusche and Bill Wiebrecht

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Meehan

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT: John Butcher, Seaholm High School

ADMINISTRATION: Lauren A. Wood, Director of Public Services
Carrie A. Laird, Parks and Recreation Manager
Connie J. Folk, Recreation Coordinator

PRESENTER: Robert Stempien, Senior Vice President Plante Moran

GUESTS: Susan Collins, Cindy Rose and David Young

It was moved by Bill Wiebrecht, seconded by Dominick Pulis to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2020 regular meeting as amended.

Yeas –7 Heather Carmona, Pam Graham, Ross Kaplan, Ellie Noble, Dominick Pulis, John Rusche and Bill Wiebrecht

Nays – 0

Absent-1 John Meehan

AGENDA ITEMS:
No Agenda Items Presented

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #1: Parks and Recreation Improvement Funding Update, LRP session 1/25/2020

Lauren stated she wanted to provide the information as it was presented at the Long Range Planning Session.

No Action was taken by the Parks and Recreation Board

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #2: Parks and Recreation Funding Opportunity, LRP session 1/25/2020

Lauren stated that Mr. Valentine had presented the Parks and Recreation Funding Opportunity at the Long Range Planning Session and wanted to provide the information to the Parks and Recreation Board members.

No Action was taken by the Parks and Recreation Board

COMMUNICATION/DISCUSSION ITEM #3: Presentation of Birmingham Ice Sports Arena Facilities Assessment, 1/25/2020

Lauren introduced Robert Stempien, Senior Vice President from Plante Moran who presented the facilities analysis of the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena.

Robert reviewed the facility assessment with the Parks and recreation Board that included lighting, roofing and mechanical equipment components.

Robert stated that the Birmingham Ice Arena was built in 1973 and still has most of the original equipment.

Robert stated that Birmingham Ice Sports Arena has been very well maintained compared to surrounding ice arenas that were built the same year.

Robert stated that the mechanical controls are outdated, lobby seating was installed in 1973, existing knob hardware needs to be replaced with ADA lever handles.

Robert stated that the opening behind the player's benches adjacent to the walkway leading to the locker rooms is very tight and is not ADA but is grandfathered in.

Pam Graham asked if proposed new equipment would be energy efficient. Robert stated that are quite a few energy savings advancements for the different components located at the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena.

Bill Wiebrecht asked if the upgrades are not made to the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena isn't it true that the facility could be closed. Robert stated the ice pad needs to be seriously looked at.

Robert stated that Berkley had a leak in the floor and the mechanicals were in bad shape so they sent it to the voters for approval which was not approved. Berkley ended up shutting down.

Robert stated that in a 10 mile radius there are about seven ice arenas to rent. But keep in mind that some of these facilities are private institutions and already have programmed activities.

Dominick asked about the districts associated with ice arenas. Robert stated that hockey teams can only accept so many different hockey players from the different districts.

Heather asked if there is a relationship with the other ice arenas if there is a problem and the teams need ice. Connie stated that the arena managers have a good relationship and we all do work together.

Robert continued through the report on pro's & cons of a new ice arena, and the pro's & cons of renovating the existing facility.

Dominick asked about revenue on a yearlong basis so that the Parks and Recreation Board are armed with the information to share with the public when asked about future renovations to the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena and why the renovations make sense to proceed.

Robert stated that typically ice arenas don't make money and are break even facilities.

Susan Collins stated that there are not a lot of places that you can purchase ice. Deborah stated that the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena is a great place to be.

Connie stated that the Birmingham Hockey Association has a strong membership, the Learn to Skate program is growing, and the Birmingham High School Varsity and JV teams have skated at the facility for the last three years and the Figure Skating Club of Birmingham skate out of Birmingham.

Robert stated that the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena is a jewel based on the other surrounding arenas that had been built in the same time period.

Robert stated that renovations would occur during the summer months.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Carrie stated Barnum Ice Arena was opened but has been closed due to the warm weather.

Dominick asked when the Parks Rules and Regulations will be reviewed by the Parks and Recreation Board.

Connie stated that hopefully in March.

NEW BUSINESS:

Carrie stated that the department will be recommending to the City Commission at an upcoming meeting a LED lighting replacement project for the Birmingham Ice Sports Arena.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

No items presented

Heather Carmona stated the next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 6:30 pm at DPS.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:19 pm
Connie J. Folk, Recreation Coordinator