

**CONE PARK ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
July 6, 2016**

A meeting of the Cone Park Advisory Committee was held at 12 p.m., City Hall, 4th Floor Clocktower Conference Room, 405 6th Street, Sioux City, IA 51101.

<u>BOARD PRESENT</u>	<u>STAFF PRESENT</u>	<u>OTHERS</u>
Fran Palmersheim	Robert Padmore	
Rhonda Capron	Matt Salvatore	
Ron Colling	Angel Wallace	
Tim Seaman		
Virginia Anderson		
Craig Berenstein		
<u>BOARD ABSENT</u>		
Paul Stensland		
Joe Krage		
Karen VanDeSteege		

1. CALL OF THE ROLL

Meeting was called to order by Berenstein at 12:00 pm.

Seaman arrived at 12:10 p.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of April 5, 2016 was tabled until the next scheduled Cone Park Advisory Committee Meeting.

3. PROJECT UPDATE

Salvatore reported the City Council approved the plans and specifications for Cone Park and the contract with PLaN Architecture for design services for the day lodge at the June 13, 2016 meeting. A pre-bid meeting was held a couple of weeks ago and was well attended by contractors representing various states.

Berenstein requested an update be provided regarding the CAT grant award.

Salvatore reported a CAT funding request of \$300,000 had been approved. An agreement for the funding award was approved by City Council on June 27, 2016. The approval process required several meetings with the CAT Board. Berenstein, Padmore, and Salvatore made trips to Iowa City and Des Moines as part of the CAT grant negotiation process.

As a result of the negotiation process, the CAT Board required the City raise \$16,000 in 90 days as a condition of the award. Salvatore reported the City met the obligation under 90 days and raised \$23,000. The Gilchrist Foundation contacted staff with interest in supporting the project via their granting process. Parks and Recreation staff submitted an application request for \$15,000 that was fully awarded. Additional funds were obtained through the Parks and Recreation Foundation via the Cone Park fundraising website. Donors of \$1,000

or more will be recognized on a donor wall that will be located in the day lodge. In response to Berenstein, Salvatore reported the Cone Park fundraising site is still active and donations for the project are still being requested.

Padmore commented that Councilmember Moore would like to see an endowment established for the park and the continuation of fundraising efforts to support the fund.

Salvatore reported the bid opening will be held July 12, 2016 for construction of the roadway, recreational trail, and tubing hills. Funding is available for the ice rink/splash pad, day lodge, and ice making; but, those items will be bid later. The extensiveness of the ice rink/splash pad project will be contingent on available funding which will be identified after the bid opening.

4. ICE SKATING RINK

Salvatore reported city staff met with the Siouxland Youth Hockey Association to discuss a potential partnership between the Association and the City for the ice skating rink construction to convert the proposed flooded ice skating rink design to a refrigerated ice skating rink. Salvatore reported members from the Siouxland Youth Hockey Association were scheduled to attend the meeting; but, unfortunately no members were in attendance.

Berenstein agreed the refrigeration proposal should be considered and stated if the facility was built with full refrigeration it would attract various regional events.

Salvatore reported the ice skating rink/splash pad project currently has a budget of \$250,000. The Siouxland Youth Hockey Association is offering to contribute an additional \$300,000 to the project. An ice skating rink including refrigeration has an estimated cost of \$1 million. If the City accepts the offer, a facility agreement between the City and the Association would need to be established. Advisory members discussed the location of the ice skating rink and the requirements of the Siouxland Youth Hockey Association for use of the ice rink if the \$300,000 is accepted. The Association would require the ice skating rink be built near the ibp Ice Center and full access of the rink for tournaments, practices, and camps.

Padmore stated the needs of the Siouxland Youth Hockey Association are different from those of the City for this project. The City is building the facility for recreational use and not tournament use.

Capron asked if the Siouxland Youth Hockey Association would still be interested in funding the ice skating rink development if it is not near the ibp Ice Center. Salvatore stated the Association would provide some support but not at the \$300,000 level. They are only interested in supporting the ice rink construction if it is built close to the ice center. The current proposed location is not close to the ice center.

Anderson stated we should consider the partnership with the Siouxland Youth Hockey Association. She stated she fully supports having a refrigerated ice rink as it would attract more users and be available for use longer than a naturally frozen ice sheet. Advisory members voiced their disagreement stating the proposed partnership would go against the main purpose of the ice rink being developed as a recreational facility. Seaman stated over the years discussion of the ice rink development was that it was never going to be designed as a tournament rink but only for recreational use.

Berenstein stated the Association feels having a refrigerated outdoor ice rink would create a unique experience for users; however, he did agree it would change the scope of the project.

Padmore stated the Siouxland Youth Hockey Association should approach the City with a proposal to partner for an expansion to the ibp Ice Center and not Cone Park.

Salvatore responded to a question by Berenstein stating the City would need close to \$1 million to construct a refrigerated ice skating rink/splash pad separate from the ibp Ice Center. Salvatore informed members that the CAT funding is budgeted for the total project cost and not for independent projects.

Colling asked if the allocated funding amount of \$250,000 was sufficient for the ice rink/splash pad for which Salvatore responded the funding amount would depend on the features of the splash pad. Salvatore asked the Committee if they wanted spray features for the splash pad or spray fountains which would change the cost of the project.

Berenstein asked what would happen to the cost of the project if we reduced the size so the \$250,000 budgeted is sufficient. Salvatore responded the reduction in the size of the ice rink and the removal of water features would reduce the cost.

Berenstein stated the main feature of the day lodge is the view of the park elements from the windows. He questioned if the direction of the day lodge should be considered for an adjustment in the current design. Members discussed the design of the day lodge and ice rink/splash pad size, features, and proximity to the day lodge.

Motion by Palmersheim, second by Anderson, to reduce the size of the proposed ice skating sheet/splash pad, to move the ice rink/splash pad closer to the day lodge, replace the splash features with underground fountain sprays and reorient the day lodge with windows facing the ice rink sheet/splash pad; all voting aye.

Members commented on additional park elements for year-round use to include a zip line, green space, city-wide special events, day lodge rentals, charity walks/runs, summer day camps, and various parks and recreation programs. Anderson commented based on the design of the tubing hill and available space, the addition of a bunny hill may be an option.

5. DAY LODGE UPDATE

Salvatore presented, for discussion, the proposed design of the day lodge developed by PLaN Architecture. The facility will be visible from the roadway, constructed of stone and timber materials that will be low maintenance. There will be consideration of having a rooftop deck. At this time, the facility will be one level since including a second level would require ADA compliance with the installation of an elevator. Inside the day lodge will house ticket sales, skate rentals, and concessions. Members discussed access to the ice rink from the day lodge with the recommendation of adding radiant heating units in the area where patrons will put on their skates.

In response to Capron, Salvatore commented the day lodge will be operated by part-time staff, with ibp Ice Center staff responsible for the operations of the snow and ice making. Options for full-time staff will be considered based on the profit generated from sales.

Berenstein suggested a ground breaking event be scheduled in the fall. Salvatore will issue a press release to the media promoting the Parks and Recreation Foundation and ground breaking event.

The next Cone Park Advisory Committee meeting will be held in July, after the bid opening.

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm, on motion by Palmersheim, seconded by Anderson; all voting aye.