

FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

Wednesday, March 27, 2024; 11AM

Depot Board Room

Attended: Commissioner Joe Deutsch, Commissioner Aaron Hill, Commissioner Dawn Morgan, Commissioner Vicki Dawson, Susan Faus, Dave Bietz, Broc Lietz, Carolyn Boutain, Kevin Boe, Stephanie D'Ambrosio, Craig Bjur, Michael Redlinger, City of Fargo, City Administrator, Rocky Schneider, Executive Director Downtown Community Partnership, Tyler Kirchner, Harry Wood, Stephonie Broughton from CVB, and Jodi Buzick

- **Review Lease transfer to H.A. Thompson & Sons Arena**

Susan Faus, presented. Discussed Organization for Safe Athletics for Kids, Inc., (OSAK), a local organization, requesting to transfer the lease at H.A. Thompson & Sons Arena (HAT) from Fargo Youth Hockey Association, Inc., to OSAK. The Fargo Youth Hockey board of directors supports the change in operating and managing the facility.

Harry Wood discussed OSAK would like to keep the HAT to serve the northside. The park district and OSAK agree that the premises and building are to be used for ice activities for the community's benefit. Fees will be set to pay operating costs at or near community market rates. Commissioner Aaron Hill shared hesitation with there not being enough funds and coming back to the park district asking for funds.

OSAK will not run a hockey club; they are a facilitator. Getting the message out this is an arena where kids can skate and have fun. Kids can participate without having to be on an actual team.

Commissioner Joe Deutsch added how this meets partnerships with the community that the park district strives for. Susan stated this is a great move for the park district.

The committee recommends moving this to the full board and place it on the Consent Agenda for consideration and approval.

Bring to the Full Board: April 9, 2024

- **Review draft Letter of Intent for Broadway Square Operations**

Susan Faus, presented. Discussed working with staff to develop a new agreement. Rocky Schneider is working with the city to bring everyone together to do what is best for Broadway Square. It is important that everyone goes in with the same goals. Discussed what makes sense to keep Broadway Square active.

Commissioner Dawn Morgan discussed the vision going forward will make a better offering at Broadway Square, than regular programming with the park district. Susan added from staff perspective events will be provided at separate locations that will still serve the community. Shifted some of the other responsibilities of the park district to focus on the parks. Commissioner Aaron Hill added the importance that the park district stays involved.

Commissioner Joe Deutsch discussed appreciation for the passion and vision with working together. At one point the park district had entire responsibility.

Susan said the park district will continue to support the transition for the rest of this year and that the pinch points brought forward by staff have been addressed.

Commissioner Vicki Dawson discussed historic concerns with snow removal and hard for park district staff to manage. Dave Bietz stated the park district will be able to manage that better. Tony Schmitt's direct involvement and expertise is a strong benefit for the park district. Part of the strategy will also be to hire contractors to help with our responsibilities.

Discussed operating under the Letter of Intent but continue to work on a formal agreement. Michael Redlinger stated the city's goal is to have the formal agreement before 2025. Block 9 Partners were added to the Letter of Intent and collaborating with them as well. Michael expressed the city appreciating the park district's support. Parties must commit to managing the several months remaining in 2024.

- **Review proposed budget for gaming at CJ's Tavern at Rose Creek**

Craig Bjur, presented. Discussed planning to adjust the 2024 Foundation budget to accommodate the expense of charitable gaming. Charitable Gaming will act as a future funding source for the Foundation. To cover the expense to get gaming established Criag is planning to utilize the 5% from current partnership agreements to cover the cost. Discussed majority of the partnership agreements build in a 5% designation to be use for the operation of the foundation. Looking to increase funds to also use for future sites. Adjustments to the budget will come from donors of the Foundation.

Susan Faus added bringing this through the Facilities Committee to provide the information. No action, just making sure everyone is comfortable with the adjustments. Discussed safeguards are in place. State regulation processes for the end of the night, confirming cash is accurate before it is deposited, and cameras over the blackjack table, and other areas. Discussed insurance and audit being separate for gaming.

- **Request permission to solicit for Request for Proposals for a Park System Master Plan**

Tyler Kirchner presented. In alignment with the park district Procurement Policy, Policy No. 390, staff requested permission to solicit for Request for Proposals for a Park System Master Plan.

The committee recommends moving this to the full board and place it on the Consent Agenda for consideration and approval.

Bring to the Full Board: April 9, 2024

- Other

Posted Deputy Director of Administration position.

Notes submitted by Jodi Buzick, Administrative Specialist