

Cary Park District
Board of Commissioners
Committee of the Whole Meeting
September 13, 2018
7:00 PM
Community Center
255 Briargate Road
Cary, IL

Minutes

Board Members Present: Frangiamore, Howell, Stanko, Hauck, and Renner.

Staff Present: Jones, Krueger, Kelly, Rogus, Raica, Hughes, and Lee.

Guest Present: Thomas LaLonde, Williams Architects
Frank Parisi, Williams Architects
Leon Younger, PROS Consulting

Renner called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM.

There were no items from the Public or Staff.

Under Direction Items, Board of Commissioners Planning Workshop, Feasibility Study, Indoor Recreation Facility and/or Outdoor Aquatic Facility. Jones explained that when the Board revisited the Comprehensive Master Plan Action Plan Update of 2018, an action item was agreed upon to bring in an outside consultant, to complete a feasibility study on an Indoor Recreation Facility and/or Outdoor Aquatic Facility. The purpose of the feasibility study will be to assist the Board in its decision making regarding facility development. Jones stated that this workshop will be an opportunity for individual Commissioners to express their input on these projects. Tonight, the Board will provide feedback to the consultants on this topic.

Jones explained that the consultants hired to complete this project, representatives from Williams Architects and PROS Consulting, were present for the meeting.

Thomas LaLonde and Frank Parisi from Williams Architects and Leon Younger from PROS Consulting began their presentation. LaLonde explained the purpose of this project is to conduct a study to evaluate and understand different elements of implementing and operating an Indoor Reaction Facility and/or an Outdoor Aquatic Facility for the Cary Park District. On August 31, 2018 a kick-off meeting occurred with staff. Throughout September 4-7 input on the Park District and these facilities was gathered via phone interviews from a group of program users, local registration providers, local government representatives. Hopefully early February the final report will be submitted to the Board.

LaLonde explained that the Park District is currently underserved for indoor recreation space, and there is also a need for an updated Outdoor Aquatic Facility. These conclusions were highlighted in the CMP Update 2016 document.

Parisi reviewed what was observed on the facilities visited and toured by the consultant team on August 31, 2018. He referenced a study that occurred in 2015 pertaining to a preschool facility/senior center facility to be located in Lions Park or Community Center Park. He commented that the last major facility investment of the Park District occurred when the Community Center was renovated in 2010. He also expressed and complimented staff on current pool and mechanical room being very well kept especially in a 40 year old facility. Williams's visits many pools and he was impressed with the job staff has done to keep them in such good condition.

The consultants then asked the Board a series of questions in regards to a new Outdoor Aquatic Facility or an Indoor Recreation Facility. The questions asked included:

What are the strengths of the Cary Park District related to the opportunity to develop an Indoor Recreation Facility and/or Outdoor Aquatic Facility?

As a Board member, what do you feel are the most pressing indoor recreation and aquatic issues in the community that this opportunity may help resolve?

What partnership opportunities should be considered as part of the overall project for either facility?

What type of indoor recreation programs/amenities do you think are most needed that would support the community needs best?

If the Cary Park District does construct a new Indoor Recreation Center what should be done with the existing one?

Do you feel the community would support the operation of either facility through user fees and/or membership fees?

Discussion was held amongst the Board and consultant team on each of the questions.

Everyone understands the importance and need for both of those facilities in the community, but it is likely only one could be built.

Everyone agreed that an Outdoor Aquatic Facility would have to meet community needs/desires such as a zero-depth entry, water-slides, lazy rivers and other play features that may be changed out to keep it current with demand.

Items discussed as being desirable in an Indoor Recreation Facility would be artificial turf, court space, program space and facility support for seniors and the preschool

program. The need for the building to be flexible is important so that the courts and/or rooms can be multifunctional was also desired.

Discussion was also held on the current Community Center, and what would be done with the building if a new Indoor Recreation Facility were built. Discussion ranged from modification and revitalization existing spaces to support different programs (new or existing) to selling the building. Discussion was held on what would occur with the existing pool or the space occupied by the existing pool if a new aquatic facility was built. Discussion ranged from continue operation of the pool to utilize the space to expand the Community Center to better meet community needs.

Funding sources discussed included creating partnerships with local private/public entities, referendum, expanding borders of the Park District and contribution opportunities from user fees that many come from surrounding communities who might utilize the facility.

LaLonde asked if there were any additional thoughts that weren't discussed this evening. Frangiamore asked about the possibility of leasing or outsourcing space in a new facility to a private vendor to draw in more people from the community. LaLonde said that they have seen it done in the past, and it varies by District needs and individual community make up. Stanko stated he wants to make sure there is longevity to whatever is built.

Stanko moved to adjourn the meeting; second by Frangiamore.

Voice vote: All voting yes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55PM.

Daniel C. Jones, Secretary
Park District Board of Commissioners