



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes

Pool Committee

Wednesday, February 8, 2017

6:30 PM

City Hall-5th Floor Conference Room
400 La Crosse St
La Crosse WI 54601

Approved at 3-1-2017 meeting.

Call to Order - Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Jim Webb, Barb Janssen, Jai Johnson, Jeanine Serrano, Carl Miller, Emily Farmer, Joel Dettwiler, Jay Odegaard (City of La Crosse).

Approval of January 11, 2017 Minutes.

Barb Jansen moves to approve, Carl Miller 2nd. Motion passes to approve the minutes from 01/17/2017.

Agenda Items:

- A. Introduction of new appointed member.

Council Member-Jai Johnson introduced as new member to replace former Council Member-Elaine Anderson.

- B. Replacement of Vice-Chair-Elaine Anderson.

Jim Webb makes a recommendation that Jai Johnson be appointed as Vice-Chair. Unanimous consent by the committee in regards to his recommendation. Jai Johnson confirmed as Vice-Chair of the La Crosse City Pool Committee.

- C. Discussion regarding pool type terminology.

Pool terminology list presented by Jai Johnson to clarify terms for use by the committee. Terms acknowledged by Burbach. List is an effort to have the committee members communicating effectively.

- D. Presentation by Burbach Aquatics and discussion regarding 1st conceptual site plan and opinion of cost of construction for replacement pool at existing location.

Motion by Jai Johnson to move into public hearing. Carl Miller 2nd. Motion passes to enter into public hearing.

Estimated Cost: 4.5M to 5M

Cast in place, Concrete Pool with 50 year design timeline

Cost Estimate does not include demolition costs for existing pool.

New bathhouse will be shifted more toward Campbell Rd. All materials/mechanicals are at grade level (3743 sq ft.). Pool Design to include a lazy river, shade structure, grass berms, zero depth entry w/ spray features, starting blocks for 8 lane swimming area, climbing walls and one meter diving board (6743 sq ft.). Lazy River has adjustable current and additional mechanicals. Occupant load design will determine the number of toilets required for the facility.

Footprint: Burbach assumes that UW-La Crosse Campus must have easements onto City property based on current property line descriptions. 20,000 sf deck space. Additional green space inside the fence with berms at a raised level for pool viewing.

This plan does not yet include planning for historical preservation. Preservation would most likely include only the building. Jim Webb questioned the structural integrity of the current pool house. Burbach mentioned a bathhouse will most likely be less to build new, rather than to be restored. Direction to Burbach by the committee for this meeting was to not consider the historic preservation.

Jeanine Serrano questioned the length of the pool. Pool length can be designed to include 25 yds. rather than 25 meters. Audience questions on width of lanes (7' is typical). Depth on the shallow end of the pool is listed as 3.5 ft. Burbach referred to the idea that in order to be a multi-use pool, the 2-4 ft. area is used most by swimmers.

Joel Dettwiler & Jim Webb asked about the removal of the lazy river. What can be done with that space in terms of smaller pool, splash pad or structure that allows for an indoor therapeutic pool? Committee needs to determine 2 to 3 designs for the Memorial Pool site per Jay Odegaard.

Jai Johnson commented on the need to understand programming in order to develop a design that fits what the public wants and the city can provide. Barb Janssen mentioned the need for the opinion of experts in the La Crosse area on programming who are working with students on a regular basis.

- E. Presentation by Chip Schilling regarding collaborative indoor/outdoor aquatics center followed by discussion.

Presentation by Mr. Chip Schilling regarding the option of an indoor aquatic facility for the City of La Crosse (Begins 6:30 on Audio). Original planning for an indoor aquatic facility began in 2013 and centered on Central High School. Research comes from USA Swimming (Governing Body).

Competitive swimming alone cannot support an indoor facility. Four pillars of aquatics recommended by USA Swimming: 1. Competitive events, 2. Exercise, 3. Rehab/Therapy, 4. Swimming Lessons. Mr. Schilling added 5. Recreation. Look at programming and needs of community. Programming then drives the design of the facility. It is recommended that communities build facilities with different bodies of water in order to have multiple activities at one time.

Expenses of staffing and maintaining an indoor pool can cost up to 10% of the cost of a pool each year. With limited funds, smaller bodies of water are ideal in to have multiple activities which can result in multiple streams of revenue.

Informal survey performed by Mr. Schilling and Mike Desmond of the La Crosse BGC. Attempt to arrive at an estimate of number of kids that can swim in the City of La Crosse. Roughly 40% of "kids" cannot swim in the City (based on non-scientific survey).

Not sufficient indoor pool space for recreation, nor competitive swimming. Outdoor pools only open 76 days/year. Current indoor pools are open 365, but limited with availability. Mr. Schilling feels that swimming in La Crosse has been stunted. Mr. Schilling with Jeanine Serrano discussed the idea and importance of swimming in school curriculum.

Presentation of design with 4 bodies of water: 1. Competition pool with seating, 2. Diving well with bulkhead, 3. Rehab/Therapy Pool, 4. Additional shallow pool. Locker-rooms and facilities for each area and participants are available. Mr. Schilling mentioned Rochester, MN as a model for indoor swimming facilities and programming.

Burbach did not address the need for an Indoor Regional Aquatic Center. Possible locations near GENA neighborhood.

Five Groups interested in supporting an aquatic center (per Mr. Schilling). La Crosse Schools, Aquinas Schools, BGC of La Crosse, Gundersen Health and Mayo Clinic.

Barb Janssen asked if the groups interested in supporting the aquatic center would be willing to commit to assisting with maintenance costs each year. Mr. Schilling did not have commitments from the supporters at this time. The project is still early in the process. Comments from the audience regarding the costs of maintaining an indoor facility. Comments regarding when the need is from a seasonal time frame. Jeanine Serrano commented re: swimming lessons waiting list at the YMCA in the winter time.

F. Discussion and finalization of list for potential pool sites in the City of La Crosse.

Burbach visited the pool sites today. Locations Visited: Weigent, Bluffview, Losey side of Forest Hills. Reviewed new locations mentioned: Kmart Site, Roellig Park (Near GENA). At the next meeting the committee will decide upon two possible sites for the pool design. (Jim Webb)

G. Discussion on time line.

Jai Johnson presented a tentative timeline as to how the Pool Committee can proceed to have a pool design proposed for 2018 Capital Improvement Budget. The Parks and Recreation Department is tentatively looking to begin design phase in April. The Parks and Recreation Department has talked of putting a “wedge” into the City of La Crosse Capital Improvement Budget for 2018.

Next Meeting Date-Agenda Items.

March 1 or March 15-2017

Adjournment

Notice is further given that members of other governmental bodies may be present at the above scheduled meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision-making responsibility.

NOTICE TO PERSONS WITH A DISABILITY

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