

City of Derby - Board of Education

Field House and Baseball Field Building Committee

August 29, 2019
JR Payden Field House
45 Chatfield St.

Special meeting – Held simultaneously with the Athletic Complex Building Committee (separate minutes to be filed)

Present Field House and Baseball Field Building Committee Board Members:

Dr. Matthew Conway
Mr. Anthony DeFala
Mr. Ted Estwan
Mr. George French
Mrs. Laura Harris
Mr. George Kurtyka
Mr. Kenneth Marcucio
Mrs. Janine Netto

Absent Field House and Baseball Field Building Committee Board Members:

Mr. Edward Armeno
Mrs. Debra Borrelli
Mr. Andrew Cota
Mr. Dan Foley
Mr. Jim Gildea
Mrs. Rebecca O'Hara
Mr. Peter Olenoski
Mr. Martin Pascale
Mrs. Casey Picheco
Mr. Charles Sampson

CALL TO ORDER

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call Taken at 5:35 p.m.

PUBLIC PORTION

Judy Marcucio has noticed cars idling in the parking lot recently. They have the motors running and often the headlights shine toward her house. She requested that landscaping be considered to provide a barrier and possibly the users of the facility can be made aware that this is a neighborhood setting.

No one else from the public wished to speak

Motion Passed: That the public portion is closed by George Kurtyka and second by Anthony DeFala. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion Passed: That the Field House and Baseball field Building Committee minutes for July 18, 2019 be approved, as written, by Anthony DeFala and second by George Kurtyka. Motion carried unanimously

ASTROTURF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS SESSION.

Bob Ward and Jeff Wilson were present to answer questions regarding the new turf fields. They addressed questions and concerns for both the baseball and football fields.

First, metal spike use was strongly discouraged. At the very least practice time should be in baseball turf shoes with molded cleats. The pitcher should be discouraged from “digging” in as this will result in a worn spot and damage at the mound. The batting area is designed so that there will be replacement pieces provided as this is an area of greater wear. Again, the practice of “digging” in should be discouraged. Members noted that with the increase in turf surfaces in many facilities, the practice of metal spikes is diminishing. On the signs decided for the facilities, the use of metal spikes has been listed as prohibited.

Motion Passed: That all metal spiked footwear shall be prohibited in Payden Park by Matthew Conway and second by Ted Estwan. Motion carried unanimously.

Next, the turf was discussed. The turf surface is specifically designed dependent on the use. The outfield of the baseball field is the same product as the turf on the football field whereas the baseball infield is cut shorter to better serve the performance in that section. It was noted that the level of sand that is integrated into the turf can affect the performance of the field. The staff will be trained on grooming and the measurement and application of sand. It was recommended that grooming be performed every 100 hours of play, over-grooming was discouraged. Astro Turf will visit the field yearly to observe the surface and will be available if issues arise during the eight year warranty. With proper maintenance and appropriate play a field can generally last from 10 to 12 years. There will be three extra batting boxes included in the purchase. It was suggested that the pitching mound have reserved materials for any patching that may be needed.

Speaking more to the football field use but also in regards to the baseball field, members of both committees discussed the use of football sleds, vehicular travel on the material and emergency access.

Motion Passed: That the use of football sleds shall be prohibited in Payden Park by Matthew Conway and second by George Kurtyka. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion Passed: That maintenance trucks and other vehicles shall be prohibited in Payden Park by George Kurtyka and second by Ted Estwan. Motion carried unanimously.

Members discussed emergency access. Mr. Ward indicated that if the vehicle entered and exited the facility slowly with no spinning of tires, quick acceleration or braking that the effects could be minimized but it should be avoided if possible. Athletic Director Matt Bradshaw indicated that he has already been in communication with the ambulance corps and plans have been developed for their staging and transport of injured players. Members noted that LIFESTAR has used the football field for landing of their helicopter in the past. Members of the Athletic Complex Building Committee indicated that a letter should be sent to the Fire Department to terminate this use and find an alternate location. Mr. Bradshaw understood that the parking lot at the DHS/DMS has been designated as the alternate site.

At this time the Athletic Complex Building Committee members adjourned their meeting.

UPDATE FROM THE PROJECT MANAGER AND THE ARCHITECT.

The project is down to finishing the outstanding items on the punch list.

Work is progressing on the press box. The location is a challenge. The footings have been set and delivery of the unit is set for prior to September 20th, the tentative first home game. The unit is complete and the vendor only needs a week to schedule the delivery.

While sitting at this meeting this evening it was noted that the sunlight coming into the front windows was blinding due to the angle of the sun. It was questioned if a shade could be placed on the window. Windows on each side already have shades installed. This will be explored.

Eric noted that the baseball field lights were tested and there are some outages that will be repaired. He noted the equipment cubbies at the dugouts were to be all weather but are not and the contractor is replacing them. The screening on the back of the dugouts will be opaque with the Derby logo on it.

Dr. Conway noted that Public Works is working with the contractor who oversaw the landscaping. Areas of grass have to be repaired.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES:

Mr. DeFala confirmed that all invoices have been reviewed and verified by the Finance Director. Mr. Izzo noted the great detail of the review by contractor and himself prior to presentation to the committee.

Motion Passed: That the Field House and Baseball Field Building Committee approve the Johnson Health Tech NA Inc. invoice#9002414777 in the amount of \$44,765.00, by Anthony DeFala and second by Ted Estwan. Motion carried with Ms. Netto abstaining.

Motion Passed: That the Field House and Baseball Field Building Committee approve the Kaestle Boos invoice #17015.02.12 in the amount of \$1,980.00, by George Kurtyka and second by Anthony DeFala. Motion carried with Ms. Netto abstaining.

Motion Passed: That the Field House and Baseball Field Building Committee approve the Kaestle Boos invoice #17015.03.11 in the amount of \$677.60, by Ted Estwan and second by Anthony DeFala. Motion carried with Ms. Netto abstaining.

Motion Passed: That the Field House and Baseball Field Building Committee approve the Kaestle Boos invoice #17015.06.1 in the amount of \$6,600.00, by Ted Estwan and second by Anthony DeFala. Motion carried with Ms. Netto abstaining.

Motion Passed: That the Field House and Baseball Field Building Committee approve the Turner Construction invoice 90715390 in the amount of \$807,989.87, by Ted Estwan and second by George Kurtyka. Motion carried with Ms. Netto abstaining.

Motion Passed: That the Field House and Baseball Field Building Committee approve the Fountainhead. invoice #4787 in the amount of \$2,280.00, by Ted Estwan and second by George Kurtyka. Motion carried with Ms. Netto abstaining.

Motion Passed: That the Field House and Baseball Field Building Committee approve the Fountainhead. invoice #4727 in the amount of \$1,200.00, by Anthony DeFala and second by Ted Estwan. Motion carried with Ms. Netto abstaining.

Motion Passed: That the Field House and Baseball Field Building Committee approve the Fountainhead. invoice #4728 in the amount of \$6,795.00, by Anthony DeFala and second by Ted Estwan. Motion carried with Ms. Netto abstaining.

Motion Passed: That the Field House and Baseball Field Building Committee approve the Fountainhead. invoice #4726 in the amount of \$76,829.85, by Ted Estwan and second by George Kurtyka. Motion carried with Ms. Netto abstaining.

ACCESS TO FIELD HOUSE AND BALCONY DURING GAMES

Members agreed that the field house is a beautiful building and everyone will want to use it and should have access to it during events. With that said it was suggested that weight limitations, occupancy limits and any other code demands should be clarified to properly allow use of the building.

CORRESPONDENCE

Dr. Conway is coordinating the delivery of the furniture and other materials from Ms. Payden. It is scheduled to arrive on September 23rd.

FIELD HOUSE AND BASEBALL FIELD RIBBON CUTTING DEDICATION

Ms. Harris reported plans are going very well. The next meeting is September 30th at the J. R. Payden Field House. She will need to have approval to use the building on that night. It is important to be at the building so as to finalize details of the ceremony.

PAYDEN FIELD HOUSE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Cota was unavailable this evening. The Board of Alderman have approved the hiring of a custodial supervisor for up to 20 hours per week and a custodian for up to 10 hours per week. All other details are still under discussion with the Board of Alderman.

FIELD HOUSE PLAQUE

The final proof is being prepared for acceptance.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

No session was needed.

ADJOURN

Motion Passed: That the Field House and Baseball field Building Committee adjourn at 6:30 p.m. Motion by George Kurtyka and second by Anthony DeFala. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted;

Karen M. Kemmesies

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These minutes are subject to the Commission's approval at their next scheduled meeting.