

Hames PE Center Task Force Meeting  
Sitka Fire Hall  
November 13, 2007  
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Minutes

Present: Kayla Boettcher, Chair; Fred Knowles; Gretchen Clarke; Megan Pasternak; Sherry Tuttle; Michael Harper; Joe Castro; Bob Medinger; Curt Ledford; Eric Speck; Thad Poulson; Bernie Gurule; Russell Brandon; Paul Columb; Chris Horan; Lynn McGowan; Judy Ozment

**Report on “Adopt an Assembly Member”**

- John Holst: is supportive and recognizes the need, but he will ask hard questions: What is the cost, how much will the City have to subsidize? He also wants to know the physical condition of the building, is the City going to be taking on a liability for something not worth the cost? What is the long term commitment? He is concerned about the loss to the community in terms of the Coast Guard and Troopers.
- Marko Dapceovich: Wants a “realistic” Operational Plan clearly outlining revenue and expenses. All users must pay, and group users need to have fees increased. Wants realistic user numbers. He has no interest in any capital dollars going into the facility. He views the one year lease as the end of it for the city. If one penny is going to SJ in the deal, he is not interested. "Do not just try and tell us what we want to hear".
- John Sherrod: Wants specifics in terms of monetary figures, wants volunteer information—not just “volunteers” but who, what, and when. If he agrees to this, wants to see a plan for sustainability and continuance of the momentum of the task force.
- Nancy Cavanaugh: Very much supportive of the work of the task force. Would like to see the city purchase the facility outright, though realizes that is not likely the view of the rest of the assembly at this time. Believes that the way to counter Marko’s opposition is not through ledger pages but by highlighting how Hames is an asset to the community.
- Cheryl Westover: Paul has sent emails but has had no response. He will try contacting her by phone.

**Comments on Assembly Report:**

We only need 4 votes. At this time we have Nancy, Reber and Jack. The role of volunteers is as support—fundraisers, work-parties, not in day to day operations.

**Assembly Packet Report:**

Lynn projected the income for the center at \$140,238.84 based upon the membership information we do have from SJ and the increase in rates. We will verbalize in the report to the assembly that this is a very **conservative** figure.

Revenues generated by the center through membership and rentals will go into the city's general fund account minus 9%. This will be used for equipment purchase, etc. and is to incentivize membership.

The lease is currently in the hands of the SJ board. We should receive it tomorrow, 11/14/07.

Russ Thorpe and the worker from Anc are working to cut and cap the heat for the center. Heat is currently on in the building.

On tab 2, section 1, clarify that the center will not be used to the exclusion of youth.

Individuals' word will be taken regarding current membership. It was suggested that individuals with current memberships be asked if they would like to renew their membership now as a show of support for the HaWC.

Short-term maintenance is not included on the ledger sheet. It was suggested that the \$6,900 in current memberships be removed and that money put in as a line item for maintenance. (The \$6,900 is a null figure for the center as it represents neither money in or out.)

With regard to the marketing plan, there is potential grant money to support a "Wellness Program" for the period of a year. It was suggested that this tab be marked as "Informational Only" and revenue positive.

Sherry will contact SJ childcare to inquire about the possibility of "drop in" service for parents wishing to use the HaWC for a few hours.

Will formally note in the assembly packet that the Taskforce will continue to meet past Nov 30, 2007.

The "Letters of Support" section will be changed to "Community Support" in order to highlight the 10+ new lifeguards that were recently certified, the tremendous efforts of the community with regard to the Saturday work party, etc.

It was suggested that we ask the SJ Board to write a letter of support for the lease and the Taskforce's efforts.

**Paul will secure letters of support from Sitka Pt and Sitka Medical Center.**

**Lynn will ask Colleen Pellett to place us early on the agenda for November 27, 2007.**

**Gretchen will speak with Nancy and Reber asking them to request public testimony under our agenda item.**

**Lynn will send the list of "Cost to the Community" if Hames closes for us to comment on and add to.**

**Everyone spread the word to friends and neighbors of the need to attend the Assembly Meeting and/or write the assembly members letting them know of the support for the center.**

**Next Meeting Tuesday, November 20, 2007, at noon at the Sitka Fire Department**

**\*If the assembly passes this, Curt will need help the 1<sup>st</sup> few days in getting stuff moved over, etc so operations can begin Dec 1, 2007!**