

First Energy Stadium Commission

James Schlegel - Chairman
Gary Yeager, Jr. - Vice Chairman/Secretary
Rick Denunzio - Member
Rick Mountz - Member
Michael Schorn - Member
Carlos Torres - DPW Liaison
Donna Reed - City Council Liaison
Strat Marmarou - Commissioner Emeritus

Stadium Commission Meeting

Date: March 22, 2023
Location: First Energy Stadium, RBI Room
Present: James Schlegel, Gary Yeager, Jr., Rick Denunzio, Michael Schorn, Donna Reed
& Strat Marmarou
Absent: Rick Mountz & Carlos Torres
Guest: N/A

Order of Business

I. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chairman James Schlegel.

II. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes of the January 25, 2023 meeting were presented and a motion was made by Michael Schorn to approve without change and seconded by Rick Denunzio; the motion passed. The minutes will be forwarded to the City Clerk.

III. Old Business

- Chairman Schlegel shared Scott Hunsicker's (GM Fightin Phils) consistent update since last meeting, including the approved deferment by MLB for project completion in early 2024. Thanks to a mild winter, progress continues in all areas. The new lights, poles, warning track, and homerun wall are slated to be ready for Opening Night (Tuesday, 4/11/23).
- The discussion to honor the legacy of Frank Denbowski continued from the January meeting. A unanimous decision by all in attendance concluded with personal donations collected to commemorate our fallen colleague with a memorial brick. Once this is finalized, The Stadium Commission will present a letter reflecting this heartfelt gesture to Frank's wife, Rachel.

IV. New Business

- Chairman Schlegel shared upcoming dates of importance at First Energy Stadium:
 - Tuesday, 4/4/23 @ 3:30 p.m. = Ceremony recognizing the partnership and naming rights for the Event Center Facility (Redner's Markets, Inc.)
 - Tuesday, 4/11/23 @ 5:00 p.m. = Cocktail social preceding Opening Night for the 2023 Season; including introductions on the field during pre-game
- Donna Reed recapped the International Outreach by the City of Reading with our delegates from Sister Cities in England and Germany. She commended the superb hospitality that the Fightins' staff provided to the groups that took advantage of this historic opportunity (275th Anniversary) to personally tour America's Classic Ballpark during their visit.
- Michael Schorn began a discussion with Donna Reed regarding the "unchanged" appropriation of \$5,000 as the annual contribution from the Stadium Commission for capital repairs at First Energy Stadium. All in attendance agreed with unanimous support for Chairman Schlegel to propose that The City of Reading approve a "long overdue increase" to this funding. Factual evidence will accompany this request highlighting that every single facet of any repair completed has increased in cost (i.e. time, material, labor) since this amount was set forth almost two decades ago.
- Chairman Schlegel issued a wholehearted thank you to Rick Denunzio for his efforts as Vice Chairman/Secretary for two years. Furthermore, he welcomed Gary Yeager, Jr. into this exact role and looks forward to working with him.

V. Miscellaneous

- Chairman Schlegel reminded all to complete and forward our individual Statement of Financial Interest before May 1st.

**A motion was made to adjourn by Michael Schorn, seconded by Rick Denunzio,
and the meeting concluded at 7:22 p.m.**

The next meeting of The Commission is scheduled for May 31, 2023.