

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: September 27, 2023
Location: First Energy Stadium, RBI Room
Present: James Schlegel, Gary Yeager, Jr., Michael Schorn, Strat Marmarou, & Rick Denunzio
Absent: Rick Mountz, Donna Reed, & Carlos Torres
Guest: N/A

Order of Business

I. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 7:04 PM by Chairman James Schlegel.

II. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes of the May 31, 2023 meeting were presented and a motion was made by Mike 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 passed along an update from Scott Hunsicker on the Redner's Event Center. All construction remains on schedule. As we move into the winter, the focus will change to inside project plans.
- Nothing further to report about the adjacent bank building.
- Mr. Schorn wanted to publicly thank Chris Daubert (Council District 1) for making it a point to pass along his heartfelt appreciation to The Commission for commemorating Frank Denbowski with a memorial brick at the stadium.
- The Commission treasured our participation on Friday, August 18th alongside Frank's wife, Raquel and his children. A sincere thank you to all involved within the Fightins' organization for supporting this emotional and rewarding tribute from inception to fruition.

IV. New Business

- Chairman Schlegel recapped a letter dated September 6, 2023 from Scott Hunsicker to the Stadium Commission regarding the \$5,000 annual appropriation from the City of Reading for capital repairs at First Energy Stadium. In summary, worn out wood was replaced to prevent trip and fall hazards, as well as, to bolster wooden walls that rotted away from the Left Field Deck and Pool Picnic Area.
- Copies of the aforementioned letter, the invoice, and a Fightins' check stub were presented to Gary Yeager, Jr. to maintain on file. The originals will be sent to DPW highlighting work completed so the annual \$5,000.00 appropriation check can be processed by the City of Reading.
- A motion was made by Rick Denunzio to accept the report and proceed with this annual ordinance; it was seconded by Mike Schorn and the motion passed.

V. Miscellaneous

- A tally of volunteer hours will commence at future meetings. Despite not being called upon to help with the 50/50 this summer, a review of all commission activities will be recounted in the chairman's annual report.
- Commission members shared their participation from last year's Senior Expo (limited to concourse due to rain) and last Friday's Berks Fest (also forced to rearrange weekend schedule due to rain). A concerted effort remains to attend and assist where necessary for all upcoming "offseason" events at First Energy Stadium.
- Several shared the impossibility of hearing the pre-game announcements and on-field recognitions near the 1st baseline because of the live band. The plaza activities uniquely offer fans live entertainment prior to the ballgame. However, perhaps additional speakers can be installed strategically on that side of the stadium so the PA announcers' messages and intent are audibly received by those in their seats?!?!

A motion was made to adjourn by Rick Denunzio, seconded by GYJR, and the meeting concluded at 7:23 p.m.

The next meeting of The Commission is scheduled for October 25, 2023.