

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: October 30, 2024
Location: First Energy Stadium, RBI Room
Present: James Schlegel, Gary Yeager, Jr., Michael Schorn, Rick Denunzio, Rick Mountz,
& Donna Reed
Absent: Strat Marmarou and Carlos Torres
Guest: N/A

Order of Business

I. Call to Order

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

II. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes of the September 25, 2024 meeting were presented and one revision was necessary to correctly identify the member who made the motion to adjourn.
- A motion was then made by Rick Denunzio to approve the revised minutes and seconded by Rick Mountz; the motion passed. The minutes will be forwarded to the City Clerk.

III. Old Business

- Jim began by sharing that he received some negative feedback regarding the service provided recently at The Redner's Event Center. Discussion ensued on behalf of The Commission's jurisdiction and to what lengths is it our function to report such feedback to Scott Hunsicker or instead to Director of Redner's Event Center or in fact someone else?
- The group agreed that we should pass along to Scott just as if a guest at the ballpark would share their concerns, praise, and opinions about anything and everything during the season.
- Mike Schorn piggybacked on voices he heard towards the close of this season to perhaps add a "new act" to the lineup of entertainers between innings. He cited examples and success of the likes of our Crazy Hot Dog Vendor and Bavarian Pretzel Guy.

III. Old Business (continued)

- Jim sent an email to Kyle Zeiber, Director of Public Works to follow up on behalf of the reimbursement check for the work completed at the stadium. With end of year approaching, the hope is for the appropriation check to arrive prior to The Fightins closing their books for 2024.
- Comments were shared regarding the Open House on October 6th where Commission Members acted as greeters, who then handed off to tour guides of The Redner's Event Center.

IV. New Business

- Chairman Schlegel reviewed the procedure on how a request to increase the current appropriation amount and when that timing would go into effect. Donna Reed shared some feedback on rough estimates of timelines, as well as other expenses incurred by The City of Reading annually (i.e. citing Carlos Torres' example on the boilers earlier this year, etc.)
- It appears that this \$5,000.00 appropriation amount has not been increased since the lease amendment dating way back in 2001-02!
- The Commission will continue to research whether: (a) the ordinance needs to be amended or (b) we need to create an amendment to the lease agreement that clearly highlights the original \$5,000.00 amount that has remained unchanged for more than two decades!?
- Gary Yeager, Jr. introduced the notion of providing an economic model that calculates the cost of living, inflation, and local index increases annually. The Commission would then advise Scott each January on the updated figure available via reimbursement for repairs occurring during that specific calendar year.
- The November meeting will be the last opportunity to share volunteer hours for Jim's EOY presentation to City Council.
- Also at next month's meeting, we'll set the meeting dates for our 2025 calendar.
- During our January meeting, we'll once again welcome nominees and hold an immediate election of officers. Any newly appointed position will assume their new responsibilities in February 2025.

**A motion was made to adjourn by Rick Mountz, seconded by Michael Schorn,
and the meeting concluded at 7:42 p.m.**

The next meeting of The Commission is scheduled for November 20, 2024.