

Symons Recreation Complex Natatorium Board Minutes December 9, 2024

The Natatorium Board met on December 9th, 2024 at 5:30 pm. The following people were in attendance: Dave Turk, Todd Coppernoll, John Cler, Grant Worthington and Melony Walters (via online). Staff members Mike Hardy and Kyle Ewing were present. County/City Attorney Michael Windle was also present along with Symons Foundation members Barb Wentz, Alan Lins, Suzanne Fish and Dean Amundson. County Board member Marty Brewer arrived at 5:57pm.

1. Call to Order - Cler called the meeting to order at 5:37pm.
2. Roll Call of Membership
3. Open Meetings Compliance - Verification was met, per Hardy.
4. Approve Agenda – Worthington made a motion to approve the agenda. Turk seconded. Motion carried.
5. Approval of Minutes of November 11, 2024 – Turk made a motion to approve the minutes. Worthington seconded. Motion carried.
6. Public Comment – none.

Administrative Reports:

7. YTD Membership Updates – Hardy provided a report of November memberships. Current active membership is 1,888 members. Membership continues to climb steadily.
8. YTD Budget Updates- Hardy shared a spreadsheet with revenues and expenses through November 30. Revenues continue to exceed expenses, current YTD is 3% over revenues over expenditures. Hardy is projecting a positive finish to 2024 budget. Both County and City have paid 100% of their shared contribution in 2024.
9. Staff Report – Hardy reported on Celebrate Pink auction event which raised about \$2,000 for pool atrium furniture. He also noted that Symons will have messages on WRKO during the holiday season courtesy of the Symons Foundation. Ewing reported approximately 100 members took part in the Ugly Sweater Run/Walk raising almost \$1,000 for our swim lesson scholarship fund.
10. Symons Recreation Complex Foundation Report – Barb Wentz reported the Foundation is working on end of the year letters to review old donations and solicit new donations.

Action Items:

11. Consider request from St. Marys School for use of the swimming pool for SeaPerch program training – Program Director Mary Cooper along with 3 students from St. Mary's presented the SeaPerch program, in which students build robots and maneuver underwater around obstacles. They will be attending a national competition in March and are requesting use of the swimming pool for 7 teams of students on Tuesday afternoons 1-2pm December 17 and 2:30-3:30pm January 21-March 16. Due to the size of their group, they are requesting exclusive use of the entire pool. Hardy noted that Symons direct costs would just be the wages for a lifeguard, which would be approximately \$15 per hour. Motion by Coppernoll to approve St. Mary's use of the swimming pool on the dates provided for \$15 per hour, seconded by Worthington. Motion carried.
12. Consider final recommendations for updates to the County/City Swimming Pool (Symons) Agreement – due to the length of discussion expected, this item was moved to the end of the agenda.
13. Consider recommending transferring \$1,400 from Fund 37 (Every Child's A Swimmer) to Fund 36 (Symons Operating Budget) to cover 2024 youth swimming lesson financial assistance and free pool passes – Turk moved to transfer \$1,400 from Fund 37 donations to Fund 36 Operating Expenses to cover 2024 scholarships and free pool passes, seconded by Coppernoll. Motion carried.

14. Consider recommending acceptance of December donations from the Symons Recreation Complex Foundation –
Hardy passed out a draft resolution and a list of donations the Foundation had approved for Symons. Included was \$11,015.92 of equipment to include 2 kettlebell racks, 20 pool noodles, 6 tables and 24 chairs for the pool atrium, Red Cross certification fees for 7 new lifeguards, a cordless backpack vacuum with batteries and accessories, and 2 folding shower seats. Motion by Turk to accept December donations from the Foundation, seconded by Coppernoll. Motion carried.
15. Consider re-branding and sponsorships related to sustainability of current and future facilities that are part of the SRC – Tabled due to no new information available.
- (12.) Consider final recommendations for updates to the County/City Swimming Pool (Symons) Agreement –
Attorney Windle discussed the 1987 City/County Agreement and went through recommendations for each section. He took input from members on the agreement and will draft a new agreement for the net meeting which members will need to approve so that it can be forwarded on to both the City Council and County Board for consideration. Overall members thought the agreement works well, especially currently as both City and County officials get along well and have worked together, however with the changing of officials it is important to consider language to account for potential disagreements and keeping the shared responsibilities and input on equal footing. Due to both City and County now employing an Administrator, many duties of the Board have changed since 1987, including hiring and firing, budget preparation and paying bills. Windle will clean all of the language up to make current and in the best interest of all parties and Symons. Windle noted that the membership will change to appoint a member of the Symons Foundation Board in lieu of UW-Richland rep, and that person may need to recuse themselves from some votes to avoid conflicts of interest, such as accepting donations from the Foundation. Foundation member Dean Amundson passed out several suggestions he had on the agreement, many of them already addressed by Windle. Changes will be made and draft agreement brought to next meeting.
16. Future Agenda Items – None.
17. Adjourn—Turk made a motion to adjourn at 6:47pm. Coppernoll seconded. The motion carried.