

Joint City/School Memorial Field Planning Committee

May 20, 2025 Meeting Minutes DRAFT

Location: City Wide Community Center, 14 Canterbury Road

Time: 5:00 pm

Committee Members Present:

City Councilors:

- Nathan Fennessy, At-Large Councilor
- Jeff Foote, Ward Ten (Chair)

Board of Education:

- Jim Richards, Zone A
- Barbara Higgins

City/School Staff present: Matt Cashman from Concord School District, David Gill from the City of Concord.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Mr. Foote. Mr. Richards made a motion to accept the minutes from last meeting. Ms. Higgins seconded and approved.

Mr. Foote asked Mr. Gill to review updated Master Plan concept with committee. VHB and Huntress Sports arranged the new concept showing track with field inside, new grass field and new stadium along the western edge of the parcel, softball fields in general location of the existing track and added additional onsite parking. This new concept does not show existing little league field on the site.

There was a conversation around the traffic flow of the new parking lot, possibility of adding more parking if we terraced the hill area. The committee also requested showing the baseball field in correct orientation as there was a concern how close the new parking area and change the field orientation may provide better flow on the site.

Committee discussed the need to have bathrooms and some team rooms under the main grandstand to better accommodate spectators and teams. In addition, committee members wanted to move the main stadium to location to the grass rectangular field. This will allow the grass field in between the new track and new stadium. Having a grass field near the track will allow all track events to be held in same general location.

There was conversation around the number of seats needed for the new stadium, current plans show 2,000 seats and the committee thought maybe 1,500 seats would be enough. However not recommendation was made to reduce the number of seats. The new track area has grandstands for 750 people.

In general, the committee indicated they liked the new updated master plan concept and just a few additional changes they should be close. He committee asked Mr. Gill to work with vendor to update lasted concept for the next meeting.

Mr. Fennessy mentioned in the cities FY26 Budget the City Manager is requesting the next phase of the project for final design and permitting of \$1.5 million. The cost of the next phase equally shared between City and School. Mr. Richard indicated the School District currently does not have funds approved for the share. However, he will bring back to the district.

The committee agreed the next meeting would be on Tuesday, June 10 at 5 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm, motion by Mr. Fennessy, seconded by Mr. Richard, motion passed.

Minutes submitted by David Gill, City of Concord