

Quad City Civic Center Authority Minutes
Thursday, January 21, 2016

Present: Chairman Mike Haney, Reggie Freeman, Hunt Harris, Thomas Thomas, Jennifer Walker, Ted Thoms, John Hass

Absent: Don Welvaert, Paul Mulcahey, Lew Steinbrecher

Staff: Scott Mullen, Rocky Jones, Kevin Snodgrass, Joy Toporowski and Roger Strandlund (Califf & Harper, P.C.)

Other: Hon. Dennis Pauley (Mayor Rock Island), Hon. Scott Raes (Mayor Moline), Hon. John Thodos (Mayor East Moline)

Public Comment: Chairman Haney noted that no members of the public appeared with comment. Chairman Haney did, however, note the attendance of the Mayors for Rock Island, Moline and East Moline, respectively. Chairman Haney expressed his appreciation to Arena staff for extending the invitation to the Mayors and expressed to the Mayors the Board's gratitude for their interest in Arena business and their continued support of the facility.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Mr. Freeman, seconded by Ms. Walker, to approve the minutes of December 17, 2015. With Chairman Haney calling for a vote on the motion, the vote was taken and it carried unanimously.

Financials: Rocky Jones presented the financial statements with commentary. Motion by Mr. Freeman, seconded by Mr. Thomas, to approve the financial statements for the period ending December 31, 2015. Discussion included the following: inquiry by Mr. Harris on outstanding obligations and re-examination of the amount of cash identified within Mr. Jones' presentation and the effect of a rebate from MidAmerican Energy. With Chairman Haney calling for a vote on the motion, the vote was taken and it carried unanimously.

Director's Update:

Scott Mullen provided an update on the parking revenue enhancement project. General Board discussion occurred regarding identification of criteria for evaluating alternatives (cost, portability of equipment, etc). Mr. Mullen expressed his appreciation for the Board input and indicated that staff would continue to evaluate the matter, reporting back to the Board at a later date.

Additional improvement projects were also the subject of the updates provided by Mr. Mullen. The projects include the video wall and HD camera system. Mr. Mullen indicated that he would expect Mr. Snodgrass to be receiving pricing information in the near future, with a staff recommendation to follow.

Mr. Mullen described a number of upcoming events; some of the events have been secured and some are still in negotiation. As a part of an interactive dialogue between Mr. Mullen, Board Members and the Mayors, Mr. Mullen described his framework for negotiating various shows. Mr. Mullen also identified trendlines within the industry. Mr. Mullen's general projections on the future of the Arena cited particular factors (casino-related events and unbalanced contracts, outdoor festivals, public subsidies, amphitheaters and other new venues, etc.). According to Mr. Mullen, the factors he identified have had the effect of intensifying competition within the market.

Mr. Mullen informed the Board that he is continuing his efforts toward maximizing sponsorship opportunities. He described specific efforts being made which involve certain primary existing sponsors.

Staff Report on DCEO Grant and Related Projects:

Rocky Jones identified the amount owing from the State of Illinois. Kevin Snodgrass furnished a verbal report on the status of construction projects and facility improvements. Mr. Snodgrass' report included his commentary on the chiller rebuild, repairs to the cooling tower, and performance of the new retractable seating system, as well as Arena staff's success in obtaining the energy credit and a separate credit under the roof warranty.

Other:

Chairman Haney noted that a triggering date would occur in March, whereby Mr. Mullen's term of employment would be extended. He invited input of Board members on the subject; and he announced that at the next Board meeting he intends to lead Board discussion on the subject of the Executive Director position.

Executive/Closed Session: Chairman Haney noted that there would be no need to go into Executive/Closed Session; however, he invited Mr. Strandlund to address the statutory requirement of review of Minutes. Following Board comment, Mr. Strandlund presented a proposed written Resolution on Closed Session Minutes, with Mr. Thoms making a motion to approve the Resolution and a second being made by Mr. Harris. With no response being made to Chairman Haney's invitation for discussion on the Motion, Chairman Haney called for a vote on the motion; a vote was taken and it carried unanimously.

Adjourn: Mr. Thomas motioned for adjournment. Mr. Harris seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:18 p.m.

ORIGINAL DULY EXECUTED

Joy Toporowski, Acting Secretary