

**CIVIC CENTER COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
November 19, 2015**

Attendees:

CCC Members: Chairman John Budd, Commissioner John Harrity, Vice-Chair Jim Knowlton,
Commissioner John Brissette

Absent: Commissioner Lowell Alexander

City: John Odell

Absent: Candee Raphaelson

SMG: Sandy Dunn, James Moughan, Julia Iorio

Guest: Robert Kievra, Telegram & Gazette

Minutes Prepared by: Paige Williamson, SMG

1. Call to Order:

Chairman Budd brought the meeting to order at 12:15pm.

2. Acceptance of the Meeting Minutes – October 22, 2015

Commissioner Brissette motioned to accept the meeting minutes from the October 22nd, 2015; Seconded by Commissioner Harrity. (4 yeas, 0 nays) *Motion passed.*

3. Major Projects – John Odell

a. Capital Projects

Corner Retail Space – The Figs and Pigs retail space is very close to being finished. The space is lit and can be viewed from the outside. At this point, the delivery of counter tops for installation is what remains outstanding. Sandy Dunn commented that the end of November / first of December is being targeted for a media/friends/foodie critic test night with potential Ribbon Cutting scheduled for December 9th, late afternoon. Commissioner Harrity inquired if there was a penalty to be applied if construction was not finished by a certain deadline. Mr. Odell reported that an incentive was in place and City staff has been on site monitoring the project.

Lighting – Bids results are in as of yesterday, November 18th, 2015. The lowest bid, ZAP, has now been disqualified. The next lowest bidder was Annese Electrical Services. National Grid is being consulted as well on their figures. Scheduling of the project will be done in conjunction with SMG to minimize event interruption.

Staging – Stageright bid has been accepted. Equipment to arrive shortly after the new year.

Fire Alarm – Bid reponses are due in tomorrow, Friday, November 20th, 2015.

Commissioner Knowlton inquired about one of the glass windows located in the Pavilion lobby area that was problematic for a patron during entry, prior to the Donald J. Trump for President Rally. Sandy Dunn responded that SMG staff is aware of this particular location and precautionary measures are taken regularly to assist in preventing mishaps.

Chairman Budd complimented the great operation and quick responses to protestors taken during the Trump for President Rally event. Ms. Dunn commented that because the event was a private, ticketed event, managing disruptions was easier than what may have resulted in an open public forum. She also complimented the Worcester Police Department for their additional assistance when needed during the evening.

4. SMG Reporting – Sandy Dunn / Julia Iorio / James Moughan (detail included in monthly packet)

a. Monthly Highlights

Chairman Budd inquired if there was any further update regarding hockey team discussions. Ms. Dunn replied that there is a lease agreement on the table currently. An additional meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 20th with process continuing. The ECHL deadline is December 15th.

“Figs and Pigs” and “Worcester Wares” have been receiving a great deal of PR with the assistance of the Marketing Team at the DCU Center, as well as, the Managers themselves of each property.

b. Financial Statements – September 2015

September’s net income was \$53k better than originally budgeted.

c. Sales Report

STEM Conference was much improved during their second time here in Worcester with an estimated 1500 people in attendance (walk up of about 100 people). *MAHPERD* has committed to sign contracts for the years of 2018-2020 for their two day convention and continue to compliment the DCU Center. *Herbal Life Leadership Meeting* has brought many overnight room reservations to the City. The HL coordinator is from California and they are interested in bringing more events to Worcester. *MCAS Testing* has booked 6 more dates here at the facility as part of their alternative education program.

Many 2016-2017 proposals have been completed including a possible International Meditation & Healing Conference during the summer of 2016.

NCAA Men’s Hockey Tournament, Maroon 5, and the Holy Cross vs. Princeton Hockey have all gone on sale recently. Holy Cross is also looking to possibly bring three additional hockey games to the DCU Center next year along with the potential of basketball. Chairman Budd inquired about whether other colleges would also consider coming to the facility. Ms. Dunn responded that the attendance numbers tend to be relatively low which makes it challenging for the institutions from a cost standpoint.

5. Adjournment

Chairman Budd motioned to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Knowlton.
(4 yeas, 0 nays) Motion passed.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:40pm

December Meeting: December 17, 2015 / 12 Noon – “Figs & Pigs” Arena Concourse