

CIVIC CENTER COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

October 8, 2020

Attendees:

CCC Members: Chairman John Harrity, Commissioner Jim Knowlton, Commissioner Lowell Alexander, Commissioner John Brissette

City: John Odell

SMG: Sandy Dunn, Jim Moughan, Melissa Bishop

Call to Order: Chairman Harrity brought the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. John Odell took the roll call. All four Commissioners present.

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes: Chairman Harrity asked for a Motion to accept the Minutes of May 28, 2020. Commissioner Alexander made a motion, Commissioner Knowlton second. All in favor.

Bob Cousy Statue Status Update: Chairman Harrity referred to John Odell. John explained that the statue was well underway and that the installation should be in March. Chairman Harrity has had several meetings with Mr. Cousy and a statue design and the final placement has been recommended. Sandy Dunn and Jim Moughan agreed with the placement of the statue on the left hand side of the main plaza pathway near the flagpole and John Odell was awaiting confirmation that the tunnel under 100 Main Street would not be an issue for a 7000 pound statue. The City architects are reviewing to be sure. Chairman Harrity also mentioned that Crompton Park basketball court was being resurfaced and would be dedicated to Mr. Cousy.

Project Status Updates: John Odell reported that the Phase 2 renovation project was on hold due to revenue shortfalls but in the interim the delayed Vault design was now 75 percent complete. The phones were less of an issue since they are not in use but that their design was underway with the potential for additional security cameras. Chairman Harrity asked if the cameras were part of the deal and John Odell confirmed that the financial package was for both as one is the backbone of the other. The expense is substantial but no dollar amount available yet.

SMG Reporting: Sandy Dunn reported ongoing conversations with the Railers hoping for a January 15th date. Revenues showed a loss of 2.7 million from the original budget as they have been closed since March 15th. They have a draft reopening plan and working on a budget for that as there would be costs involved with no aisle seating, PPE products, phone orders, cashless, etc. Chairman Harrity asked if there

were conversations with UMass about the field hospital reopening and Sandy said no additional conversation although the DCU was considered a warm site and could be up and running if needed. The Audit for June of 2020 is happening and in addition to the revenue shortfalls there is money owed that will likely not be repaid as the vendors are closed and not suspected to reopen. The Pirates joined a new league and signed a three year contract. It is hoped they will start in March. The Black Lives Matter mural on the street looks terrific. Commissioner Patrick Lowe will receive a plaque thanking him for his service and his name will be added to the memorial Board plaque with his dates of service. Sandy also reminded the Commissioners that on October 23rd at 8:00 p.m., the Lifetime Channel would debut the movie Christmas on Ice, filmed on the Oval and other city venues.

Chairman Harrity made a Motion to Adjourn. Commissioner Alexander second. All in favor.