

City of Worcester, Massachusetts

Michael V. O'Brien
City Manager

Timothy J. McGourthy
Chief Executive Officer
Worcester Redevelopment Authority



WORCESTER REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Tuesday, April 10, 2012

12:00 P.M.

Union Station – CMRPC Conference Room

2 Washington Square

Worcester, MA 01608

Present:

Worcester Redevelopment Authority Board

John Donahue, Chair
Robert Thomas
Richard Eid
Robert Diaz

City of Worcester

Timothy McGourthy, WRA Chief Executive Officer
Michael Traynor, Deputy City Solicitor
Erin Cahill, Financial Manager, WRA
Richard Trifero, WRA Facilities Manager
Jane Bresnahan, Executive Office of Economic Development

Members of the Public

Dante Comparetto

Pursuant to a notice given (attached), a meeting of the Worcester Redevelopment Authority was held at 12:00 P.M. on April 10, 2012.

1. Call to Order

Chief Executive Officer Timothy McGourthy called the meeting to order at 12:00 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Mr. McGourthy called the roll.

3. Minutes of the March 13, 2012 Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Thomas and seconded by Mr. Diaz, the minutes were accepted on a 4-0 voice vote.

4. Discussion/Votes

a. I.T. Vending – Request to install video game

Mr. McGourthy updated the Board members regarding a request from I.T. Vending to install a Megatouch fusion video game near the vending area for patrons. Mr. McGourthy recommended against the installation of the video game. After discussion, the Board asked Mr. McGourthy to notify IT Vending.

5. Other Business

a. Monthly Expenditure Report

Erin Cahill, WRA Financial Officer, reviewed with the Board the check detail and monthly comparison summary noting that there is a \$59,000.00 surplus in the snow budget along with receipt of a check in the amount of \$10,000.00 for the recent filming at the Station.

b. WRTA Monthly Update

A groundbreaking ceremony was held on April 3, 2012 with local, state and federal officials as well as Board members attending. Mr. McGourthy noted that work has already begun on the site and that he expects to bring a lease between the WRA and WRTA to the May meeting for Board approval.

c. Theatre District Initiative

Mr. McGourthy reviewed with the Board the recent article concerning WBDC's plans for redevelopment of the Telegram & Gazette building. Mr. McGourthy noted that the City will assist with securing funding for environmental issues. Mr. McGourthy will keep the Board apprised of any details to the Master Plan.

d. Tenant Updates

All tenants are up-to-date with their rent.

Mr. McGourthy reviewed with the Board the request by Byblos Lounge and Restaurant to operate a hookah bar within its restaurant. The current City ordinances prohibit this due to the tobacco control ordinance that was recently enacted. Mr. McGourthy informed the Board that the plans for a hookah bar were included in early discussions regarding the restaurant, however the necessary approvals were not filed prior to the City's adoption of the smoking ordinance. Mr. McGourthy requested that the Board approve his request to City Council to amend the City's smoking ordinance to allow smoking bar uses within Union Station tenant areas.

Mr. Eid offered a vote to recommend the operation of a hookah bar at the Fusion Lounge and Restaurant following all guidelines of the smoking ordinance. Mr. Diaz seconded the vote.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. McGourthy
Chief Executive Officer