

JANUARY 31, 1990

The Manatee County Convention and Civic Center Authority met in REGULAR SESSION at the Civic Center, Palmetto, Florida, Wednesday, January 31, 1990, at 7:36 a.m.

Present were members:

Russell A. McInerney, Chairman
P. Allen Schofield, Vice-Chairman
Donald Brittain
Walter Grace
Barbara Turner
Eugene Wiseman

One seat vacant due to resignation of William Orr.

Also present were:

John Graham, Director
Wanda Mc Brearty, Assistant Finance Director, representing
R. B. Shore, Clerk of Circuit Court

News media notified, but not present.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman McInerney.

PROMOTIONS

W. Stuart Gregory, former Authority Chairman, was present to review past Authorities' efforts in in-house promotions. He stated the efforts were financially unsuccessful and a limit had been set on the amount which could be spent on any one event.

Discussion: Attempts at country-western concerts; acting as landlord instead of promoter more profitable; hotel on Gateway property; success rate of co-promotion; community/business support needed, etc.

Terri Kiel, Convention and Visitors Bureau, suggested contacting promoters around the State to offer use of the Center at a reduced price to bring in people, and pursuing national sponsors.

Questions were raised as to the need for adding the cost of insurance to the room rental. Instead of charging small groups, it was suggested a blanket policy be found that would cover events.

Discussion: Seating capacity; 40 buildings in Florida with over 5,000 capacity; renegotiate fee with Ogden Allied; over-priced; one-man shows affordable, etc.

(Depart Mr. Grace)

GILBERT WATERS PROPERTY

Ms. Kiel stated Gilbert Waters had eight developers view his property adjacent to the Center for a hotel. She stated that most of the developers had planned a larger facility than that presented to the Authority by Mr. Waters.

(Enter Mr. Grace)

PROMOTIONS (Cont'd)

Joe St. Lawrence suggested events be geared to the demographics of the area during different times of the year.

John Graham, Director, stated the Center Hall calendar is full from October to March.

The Chair submitted a list of "Tasks and Areas of Responsibilities" prepared by a local citizen.

Discussion: Package deals for golf and/or tennis; working with Holiday Inn Riverfront; making contacts for conventions in Tallahassee; economic impact of Chris Craft and Cardiology conventions; documenting number of hotel rooms booked by Center users.

(Mr. Schofield absent for a portion of discussion)

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(Cont'd)

Harry Wright, Palmetto, submitted a plan for cost reduction.

Discussion: Request John Holland, former Authority member, relay experiences on previous promotions; developing a Mission Statement to determine direction of the building; become landlord only; concentrate on meetings and conventions; need support of the County Commission and Tourist Development Council, etc.

Disposition: Request placement on Commission agenda February 6, 1990, and invite Mr. Holland to a meeting.

PART-TIME EMPLOYEES PAYMENT

The Chairman submitted letters to Patricia Glass, County Commission Chairman, wherein he requested support of the concept of paying part-time employees by check the night they work, instead of having them wait two weeks for payment.

TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

In previously submitted letter to Mrs. Glass, the Chairman requested appointing a member of the Authority to the Tourist Development Council (TDC) and submitted the name of Mr. Grace.

Discussion: Amending the present TDC Ordinance to allow the first cent of resort tax to go to beaches, remaining funds from two cents; go before the County Commission to request member be appointed to TDC; meet with Commissioners individually; TDC members have conflicts of interest regarding funding, etc.

(Mr. McInerney absent for a portion of discussion)

RATES - MISSION STATEMENT

It was determined that the rate structure be reviewed and a Mission Statement discussed at the next meeting.

VIDEO

The Director advised that the promotional video of the Center was almost complete. It will be edited with a video made for certain interests (meetings, parties, etc.).

BOX OFFICE

Discussion followed regarding opening the Box Office earlier than the present 12-noon time. ~~It was determined it be opened on Saturday on a 30-day trial basis.~~ >>ELETED 3/14/90

(Mr. Grace absent for a portion of discussion)

WILLIAM ORR - RESIGNATION

Question was raised if Mr. Orr had resigned. Wanda Mc Brearty, Assistant Finance Director, stated a letter of resignation, effective January 29, 1990, had been delivered to the Clerk's Office.

ROOF REPAIRS


Mr. Graham reported that preventative repairs are being done on the roof and that Jack Olsen will be requested to attend the next meeting for a report.

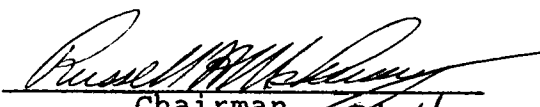
MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:

APPROVED:


Clerk
Adj: 10:05 a.m.
/sgf


Chairman 3/14/90