

METROPOLITAN EXPOSITION RECREATION COMMISSION

RESOLUTION NO. 144


The Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission finds:

1. That the staff of the Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission has received numerous complaints from patrons pertaining to the lack of sufficient non-smoking areas on the upper concourse of the Portland Memorial Coliseum, and about the smoking area in the upper-balcony level of the Portland Center for the Performing Arts' Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall.
2. That the Oregon Health Division's Department of Human Resources has recommended the expansion of the non-smoking areas on the upper concourse of the Portland Memorial Coliseum, and the management of the Portland Center for the Performing Arts recommends the upper-balcony level of the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall be designated a non-smoking area..
3. That there is a growing awareness and concern throughout the United States that second hand (passive) smoking is an important health hazard. Epidemiological studies and reviews are strengthening the evidence that passive smoking harms the health of people who inhale the toxic fumes generated by smoking people. Such indirect, or second hand (passive) smoking causes death by lung cancer and by heart disease.
4. That cigarette smoke is a known carcinogen.
5. That as managers of public assembly facilities our patrons have a right to expect, and it is indeed our duty, to provide entertainment in a safe and enjoyable environment.
6. That the Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission has the authority to set the smoking policy in the Portland Memorial Coliseum and the Portland Center for the Arts' Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall.


BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED:

That the Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission approves expanding the Portland Memorial Coliseum's concourse non-smoking area to include the southwest quarter of the upper concourse, and to designate the Portland Center for the Performing Arts' Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall's upper-balcony level a non-smoking area.

Passed by the Commission on this 11th day of September, 1991.

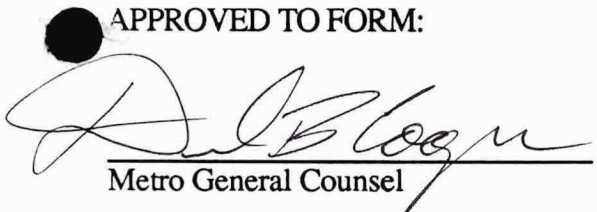


Chair



Secretary/Treasurer

APPROVED TO FORM:



Metro General Counsel



Memorial Coliseum Complex

Civic Stadium

September 9, 1991

Revised

MEMORANDUM

TO: Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission

FROM: Timothy J. Fennell, Facility Director *TJF*

SUBJECT: Expanding the non-smoking concourse area at the Portland Memorial Coliseum and the lobby of the upper balcony of the Arlene Schnitzer Hall.

Background

In 1981, Oregon passed the "Indoor Clean Air Act". The law went into effect in July, 1983. It was designed to protect the public health, comfort and environment by prohibiting smoking in public places, except in designated areas. However, in Oregon smokers are free to smoke where they like since there are no laws against smoking or laws against smoking in public. The Oregon "Indoor Clean Air Act" regulates smoking in public places very loosely. The Act only requires managers, or people in charge of public facilities, building lobbies, auditoriums, stores, schools, and the like to post a "Smoking in Designated Areas Only" sign in public access areas. The only violations are if you don't put up a sign, or if you leave ash trays in the no smoking area. Unfortunately, the Oregon "Indoor Clean Air Act" does not have a lot of strength in it.

Update

Currently the Coliseum bans smoking from the arena seating area and designates only one-quarter of the concourse as a non-smoking area. No smoking has been expanded to all public rest rooms and signs have been posted in these areas. The Coliseum continues to receive complaints from patrons pertaining to limited non-smoking areas on the concourse level. A walk-through during a Blazer game, with representatives from the Oregon Health Divisions Department of Human Resources was done to determine if the Coliseum had adequate non-smoking areas.

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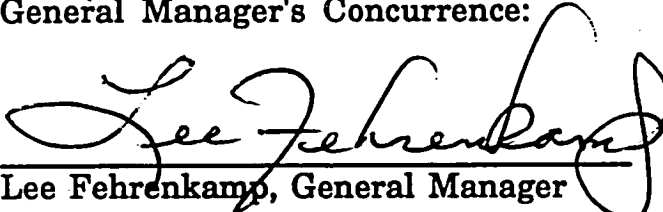
The Portland Center for the Performing Arts restricts smoking in certain areas of its facilities. Specific complaints have been received about the level of smoking in particular places in all buildings. Currently, we are looking at ways of ventilating some locations to alleviate the levels of smoke. There are some locations that cannot be ventilated properly. One such area is the lobby of the upper balcony at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall. Numerous patrons and staff complaints have been reported in this particular area.

Recommendations

It was recommended by the representatives of the Oregon Health Division's Department of Human Resources to expand the non-smoking areas on the concourse. It is staff recommendation to expand the current one-quarter of the concourse non-smoking area to a full one-half of the concourse as a non-smoking area. Currently, the northeast quarter of the concourse is a non-smoking area. Staff recommends that the southwest corner of the concourse also be a non-smoking area. Proper and sufficient signage would be posted as well as public address messages educating the public to the non-smoking areas.

It is recommend that the upper balcony lobby of the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall be designated as a non-smoking area. Proper signage will be posted advising the public of this change as well as being enforced by the usher corps.

General Manager's Concurrence:



Lee Fehrenkamp, General Manager

Date

TF:jc