

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL REGIONAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE  
OF THE METROPOLITAN SERVICE DISTRICT

March 24, 1992

Council Chamber

Committee Members Present: Susan McLain (Chair), Tom DeJardin,  
Ruth McFarland, Ed Washington

Committee Members Absent: Tanya Collier (Vice Chair)

Chair McLain called the regular meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.

1. Consideration of the minutes of the February 11, 1992 Regional Facilities Meeting

Motion: Councilor DeJardin moved to approve the February 11, 1992 Regional Facilities Minutes as written.

Vote: All those present voted aye and the minutes were adopted.

2. Consideration of Resolution No. 92-1591, Authorizing Issuance of an RFP for Oregon Convention Center Parking Study

Neil Saling, Regional Facilities Director, presented the staff report. He said the Oregon Convention Center (OCC) was expected to expand five to seven years after opening. He said existing parking would be insufficient to support an expansion, requiring replacement of the existing parking. He said if the existing parking was to be replaced, construction should begin by summer of 1993 to accommodate a 1995-97 expansion of the OCC. He said the scope of work included four key factors: inventory of parking spaces within one-quarter mile radius of the OCC; identification and analysis of parking at peak events; project future requirements, considering hotel construction and the new arena; and proposed alternative solutions. He said the Request for Proposal (RFP) would continue into the 1992-93 fiscal year. He said the cost is estimated at \$25,000-\$35,000. He said funds were available and a carryover appropriation into the 1992-93 fiscal year would be necessary.

Councilor DeJardin asked if the study would examine parking beyond the one-quarter mile radius, using a shuttle bus to the OCC. Mr. Saling said the RFP did not include that option, but it could be examined. Councilor DeJardin asked if the Union Station area might be included. Mr. Saling said it might, and the Trail Blazers were including that area in their plans for arena parking; he added the study under consideration would utilize the work already done by the Trail Blazers.

Councilor McFarland asked if the extra parking at the Metro headquarters would be included in the inventory. Mr. Saling said it would.

Motion: Councilor DeJardin moved to recommend Council adoption of Resolution No. 92-1591.

Vote: All those present voted aye. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

3. Consideration of Resolution No. 92-1590, Establishing a Funding Task Force for Regional Facilities and Programs

Pam Erickson, Project Manager, presented the staff report. She said the Resolution would name the members of the Task Force for Regional Facilities and Programs. She said the need for the task force was established through adopted Resolution No. 92-1566. She reviewed the list of proposed task force members as listed in her revised Exhibit B, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

Ms. Erickson noted some positions were not confirmed, but would be included by the Council's consideration of the resolution on April 9, 1992. She noted Clark County, as a participant in the Arts Plan 2000+, expressed an interest in participating on the task force.

Councilor McFarland asked if the Clark County representative would have voting privileges. Ms. Erickson said yes. Ms. Erickson said she would add the name of that participant prior to the April 9, 1992 Council meeting.

Councilor DeJardin suggested filling the citizen position with a College or University Arts Department representative. Councilor McLain suggested one of the unfilled positions from the Business Committee for the Arts or the Metropolitan Arts Commission might be used for a University or College representative.

Motion: Councilor DeJardin moved to recommend Council adoption of Resolution No. 92-1590A, including the revised exhibit B.

Councilor Washington encouraged Ms. Erickson to seek diversity in making the remaining appointments. Councilor DeJardin concurred with Councilor Washington's comment, specifically encouraging ethnic diversity.

Vote: All those present voted aye. The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

4. Status Report on the End of the Oregon Trail Project

Ms. Erickson reviewed and summarized the material included in the agenda, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

Councilor DeJardin asked if the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) had approved the closure of the Rossman's Landfill. [Mr. Saling said Rossman's Landfill had not yet submitted a closure proposal to DEQ.] Ms. Erickson said the landfill acreage was a part of the proposed project and details of closure of the landfill would need to be resolved. She said Clackamas County favored Metro assumption of closure responsibilities for the landfill. Councilor DeJardin said perhaps the land could be donated to a non-profit organization. He said he supported the End of the Oregon Trail project.

Councilor McFarland said she supported the project.

Councilor McLain asked if a November election was ideal. Ms. Erickson said November was ideal to secure maximum federal and state funding support of the project. She said the proposed public survey poll would indicate whether a November election victory was feasible. She said Clackamas County favored a November ballot, but due to the many issues on the November ballot a May ballot may be more favorable. Councilor DeJardin noted more voters participate in the November election.

5. Presentation of Phase II Report on Performance Audit of MERC's Business Practices

Hal D'Ambrogia, KPMG Peat Marwick, reported on the Phase II of the Performance Audit of the Metropolitan Entertainment-Recreation Commission (MERC) business practices. He said the main focus of the report was consolidation of the accounting and personnel functions. He said the issue of consolidation dates back to when MERC was under the responsibility of the City of Portland.

Mr. D'Ambrogia said the accounting functions of accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, events settlement and concessionaire contract monitoring were examined. He said based on the examination, a reduction of accounting staff from 6.0 full-time employees (FTE) to 3.6 FTE positions was recommended, with 2.0 of the 3.6 FTE to be housed at Metro. He said following the reduction of staff, the position of Controller would require re-examination.

6. Work Session to Discuss Budget Issues in the Regional Facilities, Zoo, and MERC Departments

The Committee held a work session to discuss budget issues in the Regional Facilities, Zoo and MERC Departments.

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David Knowles, Member, Public Policy Advisory Committee on Regional Facilities, testified to encourage Metro to enact recommendations from the Advisory Committee. He said specifically those recommendations to produce a business plan for the facilities and consolidate operations to reduce costs should be implemented.

Casey Short, Council Analyst, referred the Committee to issues in his March 17, 1992 memorandum, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting. Mr. Saling responded briefly to the items and said a formal response was forthcoming.

Mr. Short noted a special meeting of the Regional Facilities Committee would be held March 31, 1992. Councilor Washington asked that Mr. Knowles' recommendations be further considered at that meeting.

With no further business before the Committee, Chair McLain adjourned the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan Lee  
Committee Clerk

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