

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL REGIONAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE

August 18, 1993  
Metro Regional Center  
Council Chamber

Committee Members Present: Ruth McFarland (Chair), Susan McLain (Vice Chair), Jim Gardner, Sandi Hansen

Committee Members Absent: Ed Washington

Chair McFarland called the regular meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

1. Consideration of the July 21, 1993 Regional Facilities Committee Meeting

Motion: Councilor Hansen moved to approve the July 21, 1993 Regional Facilities meeting minutes.

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

2. Consideration of Ordinance No. 93-505, Approving the Revision of Metro Code Section 4.01.050 Revising Admission Fees at the Metro Washington Park Zoo

Sherry Sheng, Zoo Director, presented the staff report, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting. She noted the Zoo admission was proposed for an increase as presented in the Zoo master plan. She said the last increase was two years ago. She discussed survey results of public perceptions at the Zoo.

Councilor McLain asked if the family pass offered by Friends of the Zoo (FOZ) would also increase. Ms. Sheng noted the two programs were separate. She said FOZ received the funds from sales of member passes and then funds were transferred from FOZ to the Zoo for various uses. Chair McFarland noted through FOZ membership, members had input regarding membership prices. Councilor McLain expressed concerns about the education group increase. Ms. Sheng noted the last increase did not include an adjustment to education groups. Ms. Sheng noted adult chaperons would receive free admission under the proposed increase.

Councilor Hansen discussed the educational value of the Zoo. She stated that most teachers would be understanding of the increases.

In response to questions from Councilor Gardner, Ms. Sheng discussed specific financial aspects of the Zoo operations. She noted the Zoo planned to increase revenues in the future through food services and catered events rather than in admission increases. Councilor Gardner asked if the five year financial plan considered light rail construction impacts at the zoo on attendance. Ms. Sheng noted the attendance projections were approximated. She said the weather and parking affect attendance. Casey Short, Council Analyst, noted during the budget proceedings, 1.25 million in attendance was anticipated.

In response to Councilor McLain, Ms. Sheng stated information about free zoo admission days was promoted by the media.

Chair McFarland opened the public hearing.

Deborah Reynolds, 3612 NE 46, Portland, expressed concern about the short notification of the hearing. She said her family had been unable to go to the Zoo because of the family income levels. She did not feel Metro employees should attend for free.

Members of the Committee responded to Ms. Reynolds comments.

With no further citizens appearing to testify, Chair McFarland closed the public hearing.

Councilor Gardner stated that he was not going to support an increase in Zoo admission fees in light of the light rail construction project.

Motion: Councilor Hansen moved to recommend Council adoption of the Ordinance.

Mr. Short noted the Ordinance would be forwarded to finance for consideration prior to Council consideration of the Ordinance.

Councilor Hansen noted there was no good time to increase admissions. She expressed concerns about the potential consequences for not approving the rate increase.

Councilor McLain expressed interest in compromising the increase by providing an additional free admission day at the Zoo.

Vote: Councilors Hansen, McLain, and McFarland voted aye. Councilor Gardner voted nay. The vote was 3/1 and the motion passed.

3. Briefing on Multnomah County Circuit Court Ruling in Portland Winter Hawks v. MERC, Metro, and the City of Portland

Mark Williams, Senior Counsel, reviewed his August 12, 1993 memorandum, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

4. Review of MERC Resolutions

Jeff Blosser, Oregon Convention Center (OCC) General Manager, reviewed MERC Resolutions Nos. 93-4 through 93-9, copies of which are included in the record of this meeting.

Kathy Rutkowski, Principle Administrative Services Analyst, presented the financial aspect of Resolution No. 93-5, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

5. Status Report on Convention Center Minority Marketing Task Force

Mr. Blosser reviewed his memorandum dated August 11, 1993, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

Gary Grimmer, POVA Executive Director, stated they supported the proposed \$36,000 for the task force directives.

6. Briefing on Portland Metropolitan Sports Authority

Will Glasgow, Executive President of the Portland Metropolitan Sports Authority, and Craig Honeyman, Executive Director, introduced themselves. Mr. Glasgow described the activities of the Sports Authority during the last five months.

The Committee discussed the activity of the Sports Authority.

With no further business before the Committee, Chair McFarland adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan Lee  
Committee Recorder

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**APPROVED**  
Date 9-16-93