

Minutes of the Metro Council Regional Facilities Committee  
March 2, 1994  
Metro Regional Center  
Council Chambers

Committee Members Present: Sandi Hansen (Chair), Ed Washington (Vice Chair), Ruth McFarland, Terry Moore

Committee Members Absent: Mike Gates

Other Councilors Present: Susan McLain

Chair Hansen called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**1. Consideration of the February 16, 1994 Regional Facilities Committee Minutes**

Motion: Moore moved to approve the minutes with amendments.

Vote: The vote was unanimous and the motion passed.

**2. Zoo Update**

Sherry Sheng, Metro Washington Park Zoo Director, presented an update on activities at the Zoo. She discussed the results of a feasibility study on the development of the Zoo Master Plan. She said the study focused on the potential to secure private sector funding for the Oregon Project. She stated the study found the education center and portions of the Oregon Exhibit fundable. She pointed out that the probability of private contributions to fund the entrance was slim. Further, she noted there was concern from potential donors related to the Coastal and Desert Exhibits in that they duplicate those at the Oregon Coast Aquarium and the High Desert Museum. She said the issues would be addressed early in the design process to ensure the Zoo designs a project that will be funded.

Ms. Sheng discussed issues related to the construction of the light rail station in the Zoo parking lot. She explained that the Zoo had participated with Tri-Met in the planning of the stop. She stated recent project hold-backs significantly changed the station. She expressed great concern about the station changes. She said changes to a drop-off area would alter the requirements of the Zoo entrance. She said Tri-Met told her that the cuts were made by a group of Tri-Met engineers. Councilor Moore explained the cuts in the station planning were a result of reduced Federal funding. She said further examination of those cuts was underway. Ms. Sheng said she had established a priority list for station components.

**3. Metropolitan Sports Authority - Request for Budget Allocation**

Craig Honeyman, Metropolitan Sports Authority, introduced Len Bergstein, Sports Authority Board Member. Mr. Honeyman discussed the fund raising activities of the Sports Authority and the development of a diverse support group. He said the board was being expanded to increase diversity. He discussed events the Authority was bidding on and events secured. He stated the 1993-94 Budget included a \$25,000 allocation from MERC. He noted the 1994-95 Proposed Budget was significantly reduced and asked the Committee to consider allocating \$25,000.

**4. MERC Discussion**

Chair Hansen distributed and summarized a memorandum from Dan Cooper, General Counsel, dated March 2, 1994 related to the Multnomah County Hotel/Motel Tax, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

Pat LaCrosse, MERC General Manager, introduced Mitzi Scott, MERC Commissioner. Mr. LaCrosse stated a kick-off event for the MERC Business Plan was well attended. He discussed the proposed plan to transfer portions of the Hotel/Motel Tax to provide funding for the PCPA.

The Committee discussed concerns about the Draft MERC Resolution No. 94-6 Be It Resolved subparagraph D. The issue raised was related to jurisdictional authority to levy taxes.

Mr. LaCrosse explained that sub paragraph F allowed for a review of overhead and support costs. He stated MERC had no authority to "make" Metro do anything with regards to sub paragraph F.

Casey Short, Senior Council Analyst, noted C(1) would need clarification as the 1994-95 budget created such a situation. He said the term "current revenues" needed to be defined.

**5. Consideration of Resolution No. 94-1923, Confirming the Reappointment of Mitzi Scott to a the Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission**

Don Rocks, Executive Assistant, presented the staff report, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting. Ms. Scott discussed the history of her tenure on the MERC. She likened her appointment to a public trust. She stated she desired re appointment to see several projects through completion, including the business plan completion, the Expo transition, and a resolve to the funding shortfalls at the arts facilities.

Motion: Councilor Washington moved to recommend Council adoption of the Resolution.

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

**6. Consideration of Resolution No. 94-1912, Correcting the Legal Description of Real Property Interests Transferred to Tri-Met to allow Construction of the Westside Light Rail Line Including a Station to Serve the Metro Washington Park Zoo and Modifications to the Parking Lot**

Mr. Rocks presented the staff report, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting. He explained that the resolution altered the "footprint" of the property to be occupied during construction. He stated two transactions were required to accomplish the intent. He said one document released the original agreement and the second document established the new agreement.

Motion: Councilor Washington moved to recommend Council adoption of the Resolution.

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

**7. Consideration of Resolution No. 94-1908, Funding Second-Year Metropolitan Greenspaces Education Grants Program**

Ron Klein, Senior Regional Planner, noted Resolution No. 94-1908A was distributed. He thanked Council staff for their assistance in preparing the resolution. He presented the staff report, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting. He stated the amendments specified the projects to be included in the grant awards.

Motion: Councilor McFarland moved to recommend Council adoption of the amended Resolution.

In response to Councilor Moore, Mr. Klein explained that \$54,260 was available from US Fish & Wildlife funds and an additional \$10,000 was available from excise tax. He stated a total of \$59,000 was recommended for funding. Councilor Moore advocated for the remaining funds to be awarded. Mr. Short explained that the

balance would be held in the fund balance. Pat Lee, Environmental Planning Manager, stated the balance would remain in the General Fund and would not be specifically used for education grants. Councilor Moore reiterated her interest in awarding the funds for educational use this fiscal year. Charlie Ciecko, Regional Parks and Greenspaces Director, noted Executive Officer Rena Cusma requested staff to attempt to reduce the 1993-94 budget and those funds might be at risk for said reductions.

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

Councilor Moore asked for a press release to go out to community contacts to further promote the program.

**8. Consideration of Resolution No. 94-1918, Entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Friends of Forest Park (FOFP) for Receipt of a Land Donation and Related Easements**

Nancy Chase, Regional Planner, distributed an amended version of the resolution. She then displayed a map of the property subject in the Resolution. She noted the area was outside the Urban Growth Boundary. She presented the staff report, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

Motion: Councilor McFarland moved to recommend Council adoption of the amended Resolution.

Councilor McFarland stated the adoption of the Resolution was very important and would serve a long range function. Mr. Lee noted \$17,000 was set aside to develop a management plan.

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

**9. Consideration of Resolution No. 94-1919, Establishing a Process for Considering and Executing Options to Purchase Land for the Regional Parks and Greenspaces System**

Ms. Chase presented the staff report, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting. She stated the resolution would establish a process to speed up the process for acquisition of property. She explained the eight day filing deadline for the Regional Facilities Committee would be eliminated.

Motion: Councilor Washington moved to recommend Council adoption of the Resolution.

Councilor Moore cautioned staff to adhere to Public Meetings Law.

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

**10. Citizen Communications**

No citizens appeared to testify.

With no further business before the committee, Chair Hansen adjourned the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Susan Lee  
Committee Clerk

**APPROVED**  
Date 3-16-94