

Minutes of the Metro Council Regional Facilities Committee
March 16, 1994
Metro Regional Center
Council Chambers

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

Committee Members Absent: none

Other Councilors Present: Susan McLain

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

1. Consideration of the March 2, 1994 Regional Facilities Committee Minutes

Motion: Councilor McFarland moved to approve the minutes with amendments.

Vote: Councilors McFarland, Gates, Washington, and Hansen voted aye. Councilor Moore was absent. The vote was 4/0 and the motion passed.

2. Councilor Updates

Councilor McFarland noted the Bi-State Policy Advisory Committee would meet Friday, March 25, 1994 at 9:00 a.m. in the Council Chamber.

Councilor Gates reported the End of the Oregon Trail Project was moving forward as planned.

Councilor Moore reported Jan McCoy at the Metro Washington Park Zoo had been elected to President of the American Association of Zookeepers. She stated the Zoo Tri-Met stop was discussed in a recent meeting. She stated several previously deferred details of the Zoo Light Rail Station had been restored or satisfactorily mitigated. She requested a re visitation of the assignment of Metro Regional Center updates to the Finance Committee.

3. Consideration of Resolution No. 94-1925, Confirming the Appointment of Gary Conkling to the Metropolitan Exposition-Recreation Commission

Casey Short, Senior Counsel Analyst, presented the staff report, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

Gary Conkling introduced himself. He spoke to his commitment to caring for "regional assets" as a suburban member of the MERC. Councilor Washington asked Mr. Conkling to elaborate on his desire to secure stable funding for the facilities. Mr. Conkling discussed his personal background as it related to his interests in the facilities.

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

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

UNSCHEDULED ITEM - MERC RESOLUTION NOS. 94-9 & 94-10

Pat LaCrosse, MERC General Manager, presented the resolutions, copies of which are included in the record of this meeting. He discussed the process leading to Resolution 94-9, Authorizing the [MERC] General Manager to

execute a Broadway Series Agreement with Dan Bean Presents, Inc. He explained Dan Bean Presents, Inc. was selected due to the firm's experience with Broadway productions. He discussed the decision not to put the agreement out to bid. Harriet Sherburne, PCPA Director, was available for discussion.

Mr. LaCrosse then discussed Resolution 94-10 amending the Hotel/Motel Tax dedication to allow for \$600,000 per year to be allocated with restrictions, to the PCPA. Chair Hansen noted a Metro resolution was being drafted to endorse the MERC Resolution 94-10 and requesting Multnomah County to adopt the amendment.

4. Discussion of Support Services Costs Charged to MERC and the Zoo

Jennifer Sims, Director of Finance & Management Information, distributed and summarized reports entitled MERC Summary and History of Interfund Transfers and Zoo Operating Fund Summary and History of Interfund Transfers, copies of which are included in the record of this meeting.

5. Final Report of the Funding Task Force

David Knowles, Chair Funding Task Force, introduced Bill Bulick, Kathleen Johnson-Kuhn, and Clark Worth. He then presented the Funding Task Force Final Report, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting. He summarized the history of the development of the need to conduct the funding task force study.

Mr. Bulick discussed the organization of the committee and process used to develop ideas. Mr. Worth discussed the services provided by a variety of arts groups in the region specifically, the Metropolitan Arts Commission.

Mr. Knowles discussed the revenue strategy and funding mechanism included in the report. He stated the recommendation of the task force was to attempt a broad based equitable tax in the form of income tax surcharge. He then reviewed the draft ordinance included in the report.

Councilor Gates expressed concern about the \$250,000 minimum budget limitation related to Children's Scientific and Cultural Accessibility Program on page 4 of the draft cultural ordinance. He thought the amount might limit some organizations from participating.

Ms. Johnson-Kuhn stated the business community was committed to help increase private funding sources for the arts programs. She spoke to increased public awareness as a way to promote contributions.

Mr. Knowles requested the committee consider the proposed ordinance and the Executive Officer's proposed budget that includes an allocation for an arts education component.

Councilor McLain expressed her support of the report. She stated there was controversy at the Council of how to fund many Metro programs.

Motion: Councilor Gates moved to recommend that the Council accept the report and extend a thank you to the participants on the study.

Councilor McFarland and Chair Hansen concurred with the motion.

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

6. Citizen Communications

Richard Helzer, Attorney at Law representing Double Tee Promotions, appeared to testify regarding MERC Resolution 94-9 (Broadway series agreement). He explained that it was his opinion that the Resolution was in violation of competitive bid requirements and should have been offered as an RFP.

David Leiken, President Double Tee Promotions, Inc., read a letter into the record, a copy of which is contained in the record of this meeting.

In response to Councilor McLain, Mr. Leiken discussed the history of the process used to award the agreement to Dan Bean.

Mark Williams, Senior Assistant Counsel, explained he had advised Mr. Helzer and Mr. Leiken that the Committee would be hearing the resolution from MERC at this meeting. He explained Metro had exempted MERC from competitive bid requirements for lease of facilities. Councilor McLain requested written explanation of the history of executive management's contract authorization authority. Councilor Moore concurred with the request.

Chair Hansen stated she would ask Mr. LaCrosse to present a report of the process.

With no further business before the committee, Chair Hansen adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan Lee
Committee Clerk

APPROVED
Date 4-6-94