

MINUTES OF THE METRO COUNCIL REGIONAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE

March 17, 1993
Council Chamber

Committee Members Present: Ruth McFarland (Chair), Jim Gardner,
Sandi Hansen, and Ed Washington

Committee Members Absent: Susan McLain (Vice Chair)

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

1. Minutes of the December 8, 1992, January 20, February 3, and
March 8, 1993 Regional Facilities Committee Meetings

Motion: Councilor Gardner moved to approve the minutes as
written.

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

2. Consideration of Resolution No. 93-1768, Amending the Regional
Strategies Compact Forming the Oregon Tourism Alliance

Don Rocks, Executive Assistant, presented the staff report. He
discussed the history of the Oregon Tourism Alliance Board. He
noted the resolution would confirm appointments to the board. He
discussed the two levels of membership, associate and full
membership.

Councilor McFarland asked if communities along the Columbia Gorge
were members of the Board. Mr. Rocks said Hood River was the only
community on the Gorge east of the Metro area that is represented.

Councilor Gardner asked what membership status Metro held. Mr.
Rocks said Metro was a full member. He said Metro would be
included in the travel and tourism guide entitled Northwest Oregon.

Chair McFarland requested Councilor Washington be included in all
meeting notices for the board.

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

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

UNSCHEDULED ITEM - Consideration of Resolution No. 93-1780,
Confirming the Appointment of Metro Representatives to the Oregon
Tourism Alliance Board

Mr. Rocks noted the assigned Metro representatives to the Oregon
Tourism Alliance Board was Councilor Ruth McFarland; and that he

would serve as alternate. He noted the appointment was through June of 1994.

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.

3. Review of MERC Resolutions

Casey Short, Council Analyst, distributed MERC Resolution No. 218. He noted another resolution was distributed without a signature and number. He stated that item would be forwarded to the chair for a signature.

Jeff Blosser, Acting General Manager, summarized the resolution. He noted the MERC Resolution No. 218 was an addendum to the MERC Personnel Policies to be utilized as a result of the Commission ceasing operation of the Memorial Coliseum.

Councilor Gardner asked if preference would be given to the MERC employees for Metro positions. Mr. Blosser clarified that the preference was for vacant MERC positions only. Councilor Gardner favored extending the preference to Metro positions.

Councilor Hansen concurred with Councilor Gardner. She asked if the number of affected employees was known. Mr. Blosser noted the number would be known shortly.

Mr. Blosser discussed the remaining resolution that addressed the hiring of an interim General Manager.

Councilor Hansen noted she did not favor a nation-wide search for a replacement.

Councilor Hansen questioned Mr. Blosser about budget related items. She questioned the number of staff requested for the general management. She noted a controller and two accountants were proposed in addition to the accounting related positions at the facilities. Mr. Blosser noted many staff members were located at the Coliseum and would be relocated to the facilities. He noted the transition of the Coliseum to the Trailblazers would continue into the next fiscal year. Councilor Hansen said she would continue to question redundancy in the accounting and finance positions.

4. Status Report on Funding Task Force

Pam Erickson, Project Manager, distributed and summarized a March 17, 1993, memorandum related to the Regional Funding Task Force, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting. The memorandum summarized the result of a public opinion poll.

Related to the tax packages, Councilor Gardner questioned what was proposed. Ms. Erickson said a sales, income, or payroll tax was examined for the cultural program. She explained the combinations discussed for the arts program.

Councilor Gardner questioned if a definition was provided for the terminology used. She said they were not specifically defined.

Councilor Hansen noted publicity should include information about the number of jobs the arts provide.

Councilor Gardner noted separating the Arlene Schnitzer Hall from the PCPA might promote the confusion that should be avoided. He also noted the Zoo and OMSI charged adequate admission while many of the other programs did not.

Councilor Hansen discussed the regional aspect of the plan. She noted the plan might be titled the Regional Literacy Plan.

5. Status Report on Metro Regional Center Project

Berit Stevenson, Project Manager, distributed and summarized Metro Regional Headquarters report number twenty-six.

Neil Saling, Regional Facilities Director, presented the parking/transportation and project budget portion of the report. He discussed the security system at the building. He noted consideration was being made to refinance the building.

Councilor Gardner noted he did not want, need, or desire to have a space budgeted at the facility. Mr. Saling noted a survey would be conducted to assess the needs of all Councilors.

Don Carlson, Council Administrator, noted during a discussion with the Presiding Officer she indicated her favor of Councilors paying for their own parking. She noted it would need to be decided by the Council.

Chair McFarland asked if enough fee spaces were available for employees requesting parking. Mr. Saling noted there was enough at this time. Councilor Hansen favored re-evaluation of Councilors situations be considered. She also favored reserving the daily spaces.

REGIONAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE
Minutes of March 17, 1993
Page 4

The Committee discussed the plaza retail space. Ms. Stevenson noted the desire was for a food service type vendor. She noted Motor Mokha coffee shop was very interested in the space. She said Rich's Deli was also interested. Councilor Hansen said Motor Mokha had a significant recycling program. Ms. Stevenson noted no decision had been made on the vendor. Councilor Gardner requested examining advantages of utilizing a broker.

Councilor Hansen noted she attended a function that utilized plastic lumber. She said the day care might consider utilizing the product for indoor and/or outdoor play items.

Mr. Short questioned about the liability of the change order required by the Portland Planning Commission. Mr. Saling said discussions would occur. He noted Mr. Cooper had provided a legal opinion. He said there also exists an attitude that the owner will pay for services they benefit from. Councilor Gardner noted the 11,000 square feet cost \$475,000 and Metro did not even want or need the space. Ms. Stevenson noted the cost included other elements.

Mr. Saling noted four active prospects were considering the Metro Center building.

The Committee discussed holding a meeting to discuss budget related issues. The Committee favored including discussion of the City of Portland review of the MERC budget at that meeting. Mr. Short noted he was working on getting the City of Portland's opinion on the issue. He said he would continue relaying the information to the Committee.

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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