

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL REGIONAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE

April 21, 1993
Council Chamber

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

Committee Members Absent: none

Other Councilors Present: George Van Bergen

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

1. Briefing on Status of Roosevelt Elk Exhibit at Metro Washington Park Zoo

Chair McFarland summarized a memorandum dated April 13, 1993 from Sherry Sheng, Zoo Director, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

She explained the bid for Roosevelt Elk Exhibit construction came in higher than expected.

In response to a question from Councilor McLain, Kay Rich, Assistant Zoo Director, stated the shortfall would be transferred from Miscellaneous Exhibits in the FY 1993-94 Budget. Councilor Gardner asked what items might not be completed if the transfer were made. Dr. Rich explained any projects that exceed the \$20,000 balance would be continued to the FY 1994-95 Budget.

The consensus of the Committee was to allow the Zoo to proceed with the project.

Casey Short, Council Analyst, asked if the change should be made in the FY 1993-94 Budget prior to adoption. The Committee discussed the issue and concluded that the adjustment should be made.

Motion: Councilor Hansen moved to include the item in the FY 1993-94 Budget.

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

Councilor McLain discussed concerns about the final budget recommendations. She specifically discussed the compromise on the transfer of monies from the Zoo Capitol Fund to the Zoo Operating Fund for design of the Oregon Exhibit and a new Zoo entrance. Ms. Sheng replied by stating staff was comfortable with the compromise decided at the Budget Committee Phase III hearing.

2. Consideration of Memorandum of Understanding between Metro Executive Officer Rena Cusma and Portland City Commissioner Mike Lindberg Outlining why discussions specified in the amendment to the Consolidation Agreement shall not take place and describing method and timeline for alternate objectives

Don Rocks, Executive Assistant, presented the staff report, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting. He also explained the agreement contained in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

Councilor Gardner said he agreed with the goal included in the MOU. He stated he was disappointed with the situation. He said the changes should have occurred earlier. He expressed a desire to make the issue a priority of the Council. Chair McFarland agreed that the item would be made a priority.

Mr. Rocks noted during negotiations, it was apparent that the City of Portland would not relinquish budget authority until they were assured that they would not resume responsibility of operating the facilities included in the agreement. He said they understood less interference in the budget process was desirable to Metro.

Councilor McLain urged for closure of the issue.

Councilor Hansen requested regular updates on the issue. Chair McFarland agreed to schedule the issue for every other meeting until the matter was resolved.

Councilor Hansen asked for a preview of negotiations with the City of Portland regarding proposed parking fees for the Metro Washington Park Zoo parking lot. Mr. Rocks summarized discussions to date. Mr. Short noted the issue would be discussed in detail at the April 22, 1993 Council Meeting.

3. Review of MERC Resolution Nos. 221, 222, 223, and 224

Chair McFarland asked what the profit was related to the Phantom of the Opera event. Jeff Blosser, Acting MERC General Manager, stated approximately \$100,000 in net revenue was received.

Mr. Blosser summarized the MERC Resolutions Nos. 221, 222, 223, and 224, copies of which are included in the record of this meeting.

Related to a question from Councilor Gardner regarding Resolution No. 222, Mr. Blosser noted there should be no further request for increase in alcohol prices at the Civic Stadium in FY 1993-94. Councilor Gardner noted prices between a small and large beer was not significant. He expressed concerns about patrons opting to

drink more than they might be inclined to based on price. He noted he did not advocate pricing as a means of social consciousness. He said the Civic Stadium should not be compared to the Memorial Coliseum because it was a different type of facility.

4. Status Report on Funding Task Force

Pam Erickson, Project Manager, presented the Funding Task Force report. She noted discussions with cultural organizations were occurring. She said monthly meetings would continue for additional discussion. She noted cultural diversity would be discussed at the next meeting of the task force.

Ms. Erickson reported the task force was watching the Legislature for any related legislation.

In response to a question from Councilor McLain, Ms. Erickson said the task force would prepare a report in June. Councilor McLain stated if the task force was unable to propose a funding program, Metro needed to know so that they might proceed with other measures. She noted the time sensitivity of preparation of a proposal. Ms. Erickson said she would convey those concerns to the Chair of the task force.

5. Status Report on metro Regional Center Project

Berit Stevenson, Project Manager, distributed and summarized report number twenty-eight, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

Neil Saling, Regional Facilities Director, discussed the contingency. He said he was comfortable with the current contingency.

Mr. Saling distributed and summarized a report related to the leasing of the Metro Center building, a copy of which is included in the record of this meeting.

Councilor Gardner asked if the rates for parking reflected the true cost of providing the spaces or were at market rate for the area. Mr. Saling explained it was difficult to determine true costs of the spaces. Ms. Stevenson noted the monthly rate was market for the area. She said those rates would be reviewed with the operator yearly. Mr. Saling noted the review should be included as a contract provision.

Councilor Hansen asked if she could utilize her parking space twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Mr. Saling said the answer was yes, and any problems should be promptly reported.

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Mr. Saling noted the Zoo was not participating with Metro staff related to bid proposals for construction. He expressed concerns about proposals related to Regional Facilities Department funding.

With no further business before the Committee, Chair McFarland adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan Lee
Committee Recorder

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