

**THE RHODE ISLAND CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY  
MEETING OF THE  
DUNKIN' DONUTS CENTER COMMITTEE**

**November 27, 2007**

**A meeting of the Dunkin' Donuts Center Committee of the Rhode Island Convention Center Authority (hereinafter referred to as "Authority", the "CCA" or the "Board") was held on November 27, 2007, pursuant to notice, at the Rhode Island Convention Center Boardroom, One Sabin Street, Providence, Rhode Island.**

**Board members present were Dave Duffy, Jeff Hirsh, Dale Venturini, Jason Fowler, Patrick Butler, Bernie Buonanno, Paul MacDonald and Marianne Corr.**

**Also in attendance, Jim McCarvill, Betty Sullivan and Kerrie Bennett, Convention Center Authority; Tim Muldoon, Deb Tuton and Nancy Beauchamp, SMG/RICC; Bruce Leach, Legal Counsel; Ben Gedan, Providence Journal and Eileen Smith, Recording Secretary.**

**Mr. Duffy called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm and announced that the next meeting would be held on December 18th at 3:00 p.m.**

**Noting that the minutes of the October meeting had been distributed, Mr. Duffy sought a motion to approve. Upon a motion duly made by Mr. MacDonald and seconded by Mr. Fowler it was unanimously**

**VOTED: to approve the minutes of the October meeting.**

**Mr. Duffy acknowledged Mr. Lepore and his staff for their response to the tragic incident over the weekend. Mr. Lepore stated that everyone did all that they could to save the boy's life. He noted that New England Ambulance, that has a presence at every game, had several EMTs and a paramedic on site as well as the Providence Fire Department. Mr. Lepore said that everyone was devastated. Mr. Lepore noted that he had spoken with the family's pastor who informed him that a scholarship will be set up in the boy's name. He also noted that he will meet with the boy's parents who are grateful for the care and attention that Patrick received.**

**Mr. Lepore thanked his staff and especially John MacDonald for getting the building up and running. He said that John MacDonald has climbed over and crawled under the entire building. Mr. Lepore to also thanked Mike Troiano for making sure that all the cabling for everything electronic was back up and running. Mr. Lepore noted that the five in-house electricians hooked up computer and telephone lines. Mr. Lepore stated that attendance at hockey games is improving. He said that TSO was a great show although there were a few challenges with the plumbing and the inability to turn off some signage. Mr. Lepore stated that plenty of compliments were received from the sellout crowd and the new design of the concourse worked well.**

**Mr. Lepore presented the financial highlights. Mr. Lepore noted that**

**the (\$18,000) unfavorable variance in revenue to budget is primarily due to advertising revenue. Mr. Lepore stated that we should see a big swing over the next few months. He said that there is an enormous buzz with advertisers. Mr. Lepore noted that some expenses are higher than budgeted and are construction related. He also noted that parking costs for the Providence Bruins and Providence College increased because the Dunkin' Donuts Center lot was unavailable because of construction vehicles. Mr. Lepore said that we will see an increase in revenue from concessions. He said that the quality of food is better because it is being prepared at the stand and not in a commissary and put under heat lamps.**

**Mr. Lepore reported on coming events. He stated that WWE and Van Halen tickets will go on sale in December and most likely sell out. He said that the numbers for the Disney on Ice Princess Classic are fantastic.**

**Mr. Buonanno asked Mr. Bacher to address the committee. Mr. Bacher distributed the Renovation Project Status Schedule. He noted that as of November 26th the project is 65% complete. He stated that 150 people are working 6 days a week and focusing on the concessions and said that the suites will be ready in January. Mr. Bacher stated that the lobby work is scheduled for the spring and major signage in 2 weeks. Mr. Bacher reported that the job is still tracking on budget. Mr. Buonanno told Mr. Bacher that legislators have asked about the budget. Mr. Duffy informed Mr. Bacher that we**

have been unhappy with the mechanical problems in the building and Mr. Bacher assured him that the problems are being addressed. Mr. McCarvill noted that the layout of the temporary box office is not ideal, but SMG is working through it.

Mr. Buonanno asked Mr. Ahlborg to report. Mr. Ahlborg distributed his monthly report. He stated that the areas of concern to him are the suites and the restaurant. He said that more workers and hours may be needed to make sure that the schedule is met. Mr. Ahlborg said that it was expected that some areas would not work perfectly but overall everything went well.

Mr. McCarvill reported that the patrons' experience was not affected by the issues but the tenants and the concert promoter had some negative comments. Mr. McCarvill stated that we need one list of things that need to be done and in what sequence. He said that we will compile a master list with input from Gilbane, Ahlborg, SMG and Sports Services. Mr. Fowler asked who was paying for the heaters and generators since the heat is not working in the dressing rooms. Mr. Bacher said that the Authority is not paying. Mr. Duffy asked Mr. Bacher what is his biggest concern. Mr. Bacher answered that it would be the schedule for the suites. Mr. Bacher noted change orders and directions are being received on a daily basis from the design team. Mr. Buonanno asked if the project had more asbestos than anticipated. Mr. Bacher said no. Mr. McCarvill stated that asbestos was found in many places but in small amounts but we had

**budgeted \$500,000 and we will not go over budget. Mr. McCarvill stated that his other concern is the first televised game and he would like to see a mock game to address any deficiencies. Mr. McCarvill noted several unanticipated problems with the TSO concert. Mr. Duffy asked why Disney on Ice is a challenge. Mr. Lepore said that Disney takes over the building for a week and it will be difficult to continue construction.**

**Mr. Buonanno asked Ms. Bennett to update the committee. Ms. Bennett reported that the media coverage for the opening was great. She also reported that the fire suppression system worked very well and that was a big investment. She stated that work continues on the placement of the war memorial and that a meeting would take place tomorrow with Blue Cross to finalize their commitment to the site agreement. Ms. Bennett stated that she would be meeting with Chairman Carter at the Providence College game honoring Veterans. Ms. Bennett stated that the contract with the artist for the public art is being negotiated.**

**Mr. Duffy asked if there was any other business. Hearing none he sought a motion to adjourn. Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Fowler and seconded by Mr. MacDonald it was unanimously**

**VOTED: to adjourn at 3:40 p.m.**