

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

March 24, 2009

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 February 24, 2009, pursuant to notice, at the Rhode Island Convention Center Boardroom, One Sabin Street, Providence, Rhode Island.

Board members present were Dale Venturini, Jeff Hirsh, Paul MacDonald, Jason Fowler and Dave Duffy.

Also in attendance were Jim McCarvill, Kim Keough and Betty Sullivan, RICCA; Tim Muldoon, Debbie Tuton, Amanda Marzullo and Nancy Beauchamp, RICC; Larry Lepore, Cheryl Cohen, Lisa Coelho, Jodi Duclos, Lisa D'Ercole and Eleanor SanAntonio, Dunkin' Donuts Center; Steve Habl, VMA; Tom Crocker, Sportservice; Matt Gillen and Mikyoung Kim, Mikyoung Kim Design; Elizabeth Keithline, RI State Council on the Arts; Normand Benoit and Gene Bernardo, Partridge, Snow & Hahn; Mark Liff, Merrill Lynch; Antonio Afonso, Moses & Afonso; Susan Calise, Bank of NY Mellon; Bruce Leach, Legal Counsel and Eileen Smith, recording secretary.

Mr. Duffy called the meeting to order at 1:55 pm.

Mr. Duffy asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February meeting. Upon a motion duly made by Mr. Hirsh and seconded by Mr. MacDonald it was unanimously

VOTED: to approve the minutes of the February meeting.

Mr. Duffy asked Mr. Lepore to begin his report. Mr. Lepore reported that it was projected that the Dunkin' Donuts Center would have a loss for the month of February. Mr. Lepore was pleased to note that the facility finished the month with a profit. Mr. Lepore credited Ms. Beauchamp and Mr. Cappalli for keeping expenses down. Mr. Lepore stated that March should be another good month and that he looks forward to closing the gap to budget. Discussions ensued regarding the Providence Bruins and the work that they have done to increase attendance. Mr. Lepore stated that the Boston Bruins are enjoying a winning season which has a direct effect on the P Bruins attendance. Mr. Lepore stated that the Lil Wayne concert did very well. He noted the building had been rented for a rehearsal day. Mr. Lepore said that local vendors catered the food for the crew. Mr. Lepore reported that Cirque De Soleil will be here in July. He noted that the promoter will market the event. He said that this will be a great event for the City. Mr. Lepore said that tickets will most likely not go on sale until after the Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Circus. Mr. Hirsh suggested that some of the performers participate in the Fourth of July activities in Bristol. Mr. Lepore reported that the building is hosting a gala event for the Mayor's Conference in June. He said that dinner for

1,200 will be served and Circus performers from Ringling Brothers will entertain the guests during dinner. Mr. Hirsh asked if all the work will come out of the Convention Center kitchen. Mr. Lepore said that the majority of the preparation will be done at the Convention Center. Mr. Lepore reported that we have received a great deal of interest from acts that are touring in September. He also noted that we passed on an event in June because the artist required a \$1,000,000 guarantee. Mr. MacDonald said that some people are just not realistic and we cannot guarantee that kind of money in this economy. Mr. Fowler said that he had brought a group of friends to Monster Trucks and that they enjoyed it a great deal. Mr. Duffy asked about cleanup following Monster Trucks. Mr. Lepore reported that they pay for everything. Mr. Lepore reported that Midget Car Racing was a great event. He said that we received very good press. He also stated that a gentleman that travels to see as many races as possible stated that the Dunkin' Donuts Center was one of the best indoor venues that he has ever been to.

Mr. McCarvill reported that the lighted handrails in the front of the building are not working correctly. Mr. Lepore said that one of our electricians informed him that they weren't installed correctly from the start. Mr. McCarvill stated that we are working on a solution to the cracks in the concrete. Mr. MacDonald noted that the State agency that works with RIDOT will test the concrete to determine if the cracks were caused by the concrete mix.

Mr. McCarvill brought the Committee's attention to the illustration of the War Memorial. He noted that the design is simple and clean and easy to maintain. Mr. McCarvill said that Berkley Investments is requiring a letter of assurance that the Rhode Island Convention Center Authority will be responsible for upkeep and maintenance. Mr. Duffy asked if we should consider adding the names from the Iraq War. Mr. McCarvill reminded the Commissioners that the memorial is for City of Providence men and women.

Mr. Duffy stated that Ms. Keithline from the State Council on the Arts and the designer that was chosen for our public art portion of the renovation were here to address the Committee. Ms. Keithline introduced Mikyoung Kim and Matt Gillen of Mikyoung Kim Design. Ms. Kim stated that she specializes in landscape architecture. Ms. Kim noted that she teaches classes at RISD and spent a few years living in Providence. Ms. Kim and Mr. Gillen had prepared a Power Point Presentation and displayed models of the design that will be installed on the plot of land between the Hilton and the Dunk. Ms. Kim noted the importance of green space in the City. Therefore she designed a horizon garden. Discussions ensued regarding the materials that will be used for the sculpture. Mr. Fowler asked several questions concerning safety and liability. Ms. Kim stated that the sculpture won't be easy to access. The pathways and ramps will not be suitable for skateboarders and all openings will be rounded to avoid any sharp edges. Mr. Duffy thanked Ms. Kim and Ms. Keithline for taking the time to present the design to the Committee.

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

VOTED: to adjourn at 2:40 p.m.