

**THE RHODE ISLAND CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CONVENTION CENTER COMMITTEE MEETING**

**December 20, 2011**

**A meeting of the Convention Center Committee of the Rhode Island Convention Center Authority Board of Commissioners was held on December 20, 2011, pursuant to notice at the Rhode Island Convention Center Boardroom, One Sabin Street, Providence, Rhode Island.**

**Board members present were Committee Chairman, Jeff Hirsh Venturini, Jim Bennett, Scott Gunn, and Dale Venturini.**

**Also in attendance were Jim McCarvill and Betty Sullivan, RICCA; Tim Muldoon and Nancy Beauchamp, RICC; Steve Habl, VETS; Larry Lepore, DDC; Michael Nugent, House Fiscal Office; Bruce Leach, Legal Counsel and Eileen Smith, recording secretary.**

**Mr. Hirsh called the meeting to order at 1:50 PM. Mr. Hirsh noted that the Committee did not meet in November and the minutes of the last Convention Center Committee meeting were approved at the Board meeting in November.**

**Mr. Hirsh recognized Mr. Muldoon and asked that he address the Committee. Mr. Muldoon presented the financial report for the Convention Center. He stated that Net Income is down for the month**

of November due to lower than expected event and food & beverage revenue. The non-occurrence of budgeted events and reduced rent for Literacy for All contributed to a lower than expected month. Mr. Muldoon said that on the positive side parking is improving. Mr. Hirsh asked if more parking could be offered to Hasbro as they move employees downtown. Mr. Muldoon said that we are almost to capacity. Mr. Hirsh questioned the URI parking contract. Mr. Muldoon noted that URI student parking is a very good deal for the garage. He stated that because most classes are held in the evening students do not take up space for parkers during the day.

Mr. Muldoon reported that an employee health and safety day was recently held at the Convention center. He said that both the Convention Center and the Dunkin' Donuts Center staffs participated. Mr. Muldoon noted that department heads lead discussions on safety procedures in an attempt to make people aware of their surroundings. Mr. Muldoon said that the safety day is an opportunity for employees to point out where improvements can be made.

## **VETS**

Ms. Sullivan reported that the VETS renovations are going well and the punch list items are being addressed. Ms. Sullivan stated that we have an opportunity to upgrade the lighting at the VETS to LED lighting using Federal stimulus funds. Mr. McCarvill said that this opportunity came to us through the Department of Administration.

**Discussion ensued regarding the project and the time challenges to get the project complete by March 31st.**

**Mr. McCarvill reported that both revenue and attendance are down at the Theater. He said that a major concern is attracting the right fit for the facility. Mr. Hirsh said that parking must be one of the main issues facing the VETS. Mr. McCarvill noted that Ken Mancuso is working with the State on using adjacent land that is owned by the State. Mr. McCarvill said that with some leveling and asphalt there would be enough parking for approximately 50 cars. Mr. McCarvill also noted that Mr. Mancuso has had conversations with the City regarding the designation of four spaces on the street to be used as a taxi stand.**

**Mr. Hirsh asked if there was any new business. Hearing none he asked for a motion to adjourn. Upon a motion duly made by Ms. Venturini and seconded by Mr. Gunn it was unanimously**

**VOTED: to adjourn at 2:20 PM**