

CAPITAL CENTER COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, January 9, 2013

A meeting of the Capital Center Commission (CCC) was held on Wednesday, January 9, 2013 in the 1st Floor Conference Room of the Department of Planning and Development, 444 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903.

1. Roll Call

Members Present: Michael McCormick, Guy Abelson, Deming Sherman, Wilfrid Gates, Greg Benik, Duncan Johnson, William Kite, Melvin Bilezerian and Councilman John Iglizzi

Members Absent: Chairman of the Committee on Urban Redevelopment, Renewal and Planning, Christopher Thomas, John Sinnott, Barry Fain, Seth Handy and Martha Werenfels

Staff Present: Christopher Ise and Lisa Dinerman, City Legal Counsel

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:03 PM, Chairman Sherman presiding.

2. Minutes

2.1 Approval of Commission Meeting Minutes of October 10, 2012 and December 12, 2012

2.2 Acceptance of DRC Meeting Minutes of September 25, 2012 and October 23, 2012

Mr. Gates made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCormick, to ratify the approval and acceptance of the meeting minutes. All voted in favor.

3. Welcome New Members

Chairman Sherman welcomed new commissioners William Kite, Melvin Bilezerian, and Martha Werenfels (not present).

4. Election of Officers

Mr. Abelson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Benik, to reelect Mr. McCormick as Vice Chairman and Mr. Thomas as Secretary/Treasurer. All voted in favor.

5. 2013 CCC Meeting Schedule

Acceptance of the Capital Center Commission's 2013 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Abelson made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gates, to ratify the acceptance of the Capital Center Commission's 2013 Meeting Schedule.

6. Parcel 7: Providence Station

Proposal to install bollards, fencing and gates as part of Amtrak's security project at Providence Station.

Chairman Sherman announced that the project was presented and discussed at the CCC meeting on December 12, 2012. The Commission did not have a quorum at that meeting, but agreed to approve the project and ratify the decision at a subsequent CCC meeting. The project is time sensitive due to government funding.

Chairman Sherman noted that the proposal to create a new parking area on the east side of the station, which was a concern raised by Ted Sanderson of the Rhode Island Historical Preservation Commission (RIHPC) at the DRC meeting on November 20, 2012 meeting, was rectified at the CCC meeting on December 12th. He added that it is important for Amtrak to proceed with the project and to be on schedule. Chairman Sherman stated that the Commission is still awaiting final work from the Rhode Island Department of Transportation (RIDOT) regarding the plaza, adding that the RIDOT plan is somewhat related to the Amtrak project but separate.

Mr. Gates made a motion, seconded by Mr. McCormick to ratify the approval of the project, made at the 12/12/12 CCC meeting. Mr. Gates reiterated that recognizing the special jurisdictional relationship of this Federal, State, and City facility, and given that Providence Union Station on Parcel 7 is a

structure within Capital Center that requires twenty-four hour, seven-days-a-week operational security, the Commission hereby approves Amtrak's Station Hardening Project, including the parking area on the east side of the station, as presented. In addition, allowing parking on Parcel 7 is not to be construed as surface parking on any other lots unless allowed by the Commission's Design and Development Regulations. All voted in favor.

Other Business

- Chairman Sherman gave a brief overview of the Providence Station/Amtrak plaza history. A discussion followed regarding the funding source for RIDOT's proposed improvement project. Mr. McCormick stressed that ongoing maintenance of the plaza is important.
- Chairman Sherman explained that the developer of Parcel 6 came before the DRC to present minor design changes the proposed Building B, Phase 1. The project is currently on hold.
- Mr. Gates noted that the Commission is becoming more vocal on maintenance and upkeep of the District, and suggested a walking tour with the Commissioners in April or May to see existing conditions firsthand.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:30 PM.

Christopher Thomas
Secretary/Treasurer