

CAPITAL CENTER COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes of Wednesday, March 28, 2018

A meeting of the Capital Center Commission (CCC) was held on Wednesday, March 28, 2018 in the 1st Floor Conference Room of the Doorley Municipal Building, 444 Westminster Street, Providence, RI 02903.

1. Roll Call

CCC Members Present: Deming Sherman, Barry Fain, Martha Werenfels, Collette Creppell, William Kite, Ethan Colaiace, Anjali Joshi, Tracy Barac, and Lisa Carnevale

CCC Members Absent: Sam Bradner, Luis Torrado, Dorene Conlon, John Sinnott, Councilman John Iglizzi, and Chairman of the Committee on Urban Redevelopment, Renewal & Planning

Staff Present: Christopher Ise

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:06 PM, Chairman Sherman presiding.

2. Minutes

2.1 Approval of Commission Minutes of June 14, 2017 and November 8, 2017

2.2 Acceptance of Design Review Committee Minutes of August 22, 2017

Mr. Kite made a motion, seconded by Ms. Creppell, to approve all meeting minutes. All voted in favor.

At this time, Chairman Sherman introduced new member Lisa Carnevale to the Commission.

3. Acceptance of 2018 CCC Meeting Schedule

The Commission accepted the 2018 meeting schedule.

4. Election of Officers

Ms. Werenfels made a motion, seconded by Mr. Colaiace, to reelect John Sinnott as Vice Chair, and Barry Fain as Secretary/Treasurer. All voted in favor.

5. Condolences for Jack Gold and Mel Belizerian

Chairman Sherman expressed his condolences for deceased members Jack Gold, who had been recently appointed to the CCC, and Mel Belizerian, who had served on the CCDRC. He noted that the CCC makes small contributions to the charities listed in the obituaries. He requested to donate \$100 to one of Jack Gold's charities, and \$100 to one of Mel Belizerian's charities. Ms. Werenfels made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fain, to approve the request for the two donations. All voted in favor.

6. New Capital Center Commission Member Lisa Carnevale

6.1 Appointment of Lisa Carnevale to the Design Review Committee

Chairman Sherman noted that the Mayor has appointed Lisa Carnevale to the Commission, and added that he would now like to request the appointment of Ms. Carnevale to the Design Review Committee. Ms. Werenfels made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fain, to appoint Ms. Carnevale to the CCDRC. All voted in favor. Chairman Sherman added that there is still one advisory position open on the CCDRC.

7. Updates

7.1 Dredging of Waterplace Park and Providence Rivers

Chairman Sherman explained that the dredging of Waterplace Park has been led by an effort by the Providence Foundation and others. He added that this is a segment of one of the bond issues. He stated that the cost is \$7 million to dredge, noting that there is also money to address silt build up that is caused by road sand and the river banks. He added that there is a consent decree in force that requires addressing road run-off.

7.2 Skyline at Waterplace

Chairman Sherman gave a brief overview of the issues, noting that the storage structure that was built on the site with our CCC approval is in the process of being removed. The venue is considering other nearby locations for storage.

7.3 Intermodal Transit Center

Regarding the Providence Intermodal Transit Center (PITC), Chairman Sherman explained that only one developer, Marsella Development Corporation, has responded to the State RFQ. The proposal consists of the construction of an underground transit center to be built below grade. Above the grade would remain park like with no buildings. Mr. Kite noted that the project is still very preliminary and conceptual, adding that the developer is working with Dan Wood from the firm Work AC. Chairman Sherman suggested a meeting with Commission and the developer informally to discuss the project.

7.4 Lighting of State House

Chairman Sherman explained that the State house is being illuminated in various colors at varying times. He read a letter by Virginia Hesse from RIHPC who expressed concern with the erratic lighting of the historic building. Chairman Sherman noted that the lighting is a revenue source for the State by individuals paying to light the building in specific colors. Nick Freeman, City Council Staff, stated that this has become a topic of conversation, adding that he hopes the lighting continues. The consensus among the Commission was to not address this issue.

Chairman Sherman noted that there is a proposal to install a new memorial on the southeast corner of the State House Lawn for soldiers killed in Beirut. He expressed concern regarding the installation of another memorial on the lawn since there's an existing one on the southeast corner. He added that the area is not subject to CCC jurisdiction. Rachel Robinson, from PPS, commented that the lawn is an endangered property. Chairman Sherman stated that he may need to write a letter on behalf of the Commission expressing concern with the proposal.

8. Other Business

Chairman Sherman explained that CCC staff is reviewing two projects in house, a new garage door for the Bluer Cross Building, and a temporary ticket kiosk booth for the kayak company in Waterplace Park. The Commission had no issues with staff reviewing the projects.

9. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:03 PM.

Barry Fain
Secretary/Treasurer