

Quad City Civic Center Authority Minutes
Thursday, February 18, 2021

Board Members Present: Chairperson Reggie Freeman, Jennifer Walker, Paul Mulcahey, Mike Haney, Larry Meeske, Randy Tweet, Stacey Happ, Jeff Nelson, Martin Vanags
Other Persons Present: Scott Mullen, Rocky Jones, Kevin Snodgrass, Kim McVey, Roger Strandlund (Califf & Harper, P.C)
Absent: Fran Prochaska

Introduction and Public Comment: Chairperson Reggie Freeman called the meeting to Order at 12:30 p.m. Chairman Freeman noted that no members of the general public were in attendance. He also confirmed with Scott Mullen (Executive Director) that no written comments were received subsequent to the last meeting.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Mr. Meeske, second by Mr. Tweet, to approve the Minutes for the Board Meeting occurring on January 21, 2021. With Chairperson Freeman calling for a vote on the motion, the vote was taken (roll call), and it carried unanimously.

Financials: Rocky Jones presented the financial statements with commentary (handout). Motion by Mr. Mulcahey, second by Mr. Tweet, to approve the financial statements for the period ending January 31, 2021. With Chairperson Freeman calling for a vote on the motion, the vote was taken (roll call), and it carried unanimously.

Director's Report:

1. Facility Improvements: Optimizing Low Public Activity During Shutdown Period.

a. Scott Mullen provided a status report on numerous facility improvements. The improvements have been previously approved by the Board and are designed to prepare the Arena for its bright future in the post-Pandemic era.

b. The improvements have addressed various parts of the Arena (particularly suites) and Conference Center, with areas of focus being carpeting, seating, lighting, and sound systems. Some mechanical and structural work has also occurred (cone entrance, air handling unit in locker room, etc.).

2. Tenant Improvements. Mr. Mullen made reference to the 2020 Resolution relating to the restaurant (Chop House). He predicted a future update made possible by improved weather.

3. Redevelopment of Lawn Area and Riveredge/Docking Area East of Arena.

a. Mr. Mullen explained that some activities have been slowed by the necessity of compliance with grant funding requirements and the typical sequencing of work for a waterfront construction project.

b. Mr. Mullen provided some detail as to the need for IMEG (engineering consultant) to complete agency-required studies and preliminary design work. The project will be rolled out in multiple phases due to funding requirements and the interplay of various reviewing entities.

4. Funding Opportunities.

a. Mr. Mullen characterized the various industry-wide attempts to benefit arenas such as TaxSlayer Center. He characterized the present status as a "wait-and-see"; hampered by an atmosphere of frequent rule and guideline modifications.

b. Mr. Mullen stated his pleasure in being able to announce that TaxSlayer Center received some Pandemic-related relief funding; and noted that the hockey team was also a successful applicant.

5. Health-Related Certifications and Re-Opening Preparation.

a. Upcoming events. Mr. Mullen provided an event-by-event tentative schedule and new booking prospects.

b. Next up: TaxSlayer Center Re-Opening Safe Strategic Plan – initially applied to the 2021 Missouri Valley Conference Women’s Basketball Tournament (MVC). Mr. Mullen described the attendance limitations, social distancing, cleaning activities, technologies and other components of making TaxSlayer Center compliant with Illinois Department of Health guidelines. Mr. Mullen described the certification which places TaxSlayer Center as an industry leader. Mr. Mullen also described collaborations designed to restore and exceed pre-Pandemic activity levels (e.g., joint efforts with the Chamber and Visit Quad Cities).

6. TaxSlayer Center as a Facility Useful in Improving the Health of Quad City Residents.


a. Mr. Mullen described a recent collaboration with the Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center (facilitated by the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce).

b. Messrs. Mullen and Strandlund described the workings of the Intergovernmental Agreement involving Rock Island County and County Emergency Management Agency, all toward the utilization of TaxSlayer Center for the mass vaccination program.

c. Ms. Walker commented that the activities within the above-described report caused TaxSlayer Center to deserve high praise for its civic contribution.

d. Added to Ms. Walker’s comments was Mr. Mullen’s expression of appreciation to Paul Mulcahey for a recent letter published in the local newspaper (extending Mr. Mulcahey’s thank-you for TaxSlayer Center’s success in the well-run vaccination program).

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was duly adjourned at 12:54 p.m.



Roger L. Strandlund, Acting Secretary