

**CIVIC CENTER COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
October 25, 2018**

Attendees:

CCC Members: Chairman John Harrity, Commissioner John Brissette, Commissioner Patrick Lowe
Commissioner Lowell Alexander Absent : Commissioner Jim Knowlton

City: Thomas Zidelis, Candee Raphaelson Absent: John Odell

SMG: Sandy Dunn, Jim Moughan

Guest: James Leary – Vice President Government Relations UMass Memorial

Minutes Prepared by: Paige Williamson, SMG

1. Call to Order

Chairman Harrity brought the meeting to order at 8:03 am and congratulated the Worcester Railers on a very successful opening night with over 8800 patrons in attendance and a WIN!

2. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Brissette motioned to accept the Meeting Minutes from September 27, 2018; seconded by Commissioner Lowe. (3 yeas, 0 nays). *Motion passed.*

3. Rent Free Waiver – *UMass Memorial Annual DCF Foster Families Holiday Party -12/29/18*

James Leary – Vice President of Government Relations at UMass Memorial presented a rent free waiver application for their annual DCF Foster Families Holiday Party on 12/29/18 from 12-3pm. The DCU Center has hosted this successful event for the past two years. Chairman Harrity inquired if the date was available. Sandy Dunn affirmed. Commissioner Lowe stated that he is a medical student at UMass, however he is not employed by the hospital. Since he is not an employee, he stated he has no conflict of interest in this vote.

Commissioner Brissette motioned to accept the rent waiver request for *UMass Memorial Annual DCF Foster Family Holiday Party on 12/29/18*; seconded by Commissioner Lowe (3 yeas, 0 nays)
Motion passed.

4. Major Ongoing Projects – Thomas Zidelis

a. Capital Projects

i. Vault Improvements - Thomas Zidelis stated that the City would be proceeding with the replacement vault. There would be no loss of power for the DCU Center facility. The target for this project to begin is for 2019.

ii. Boiler Replacement - Thomas Zidelis reported that the boilers are up and running successfully in time for the heating season. Mr. Zidelis stated that this project was certainly a major undertaking, but now too, there is redundancy and more efficient energy for the DCU Center facility. Sandy Dunn thanked the City of Worcester on behalf of SMG for their investment.

iii. Master Plan – Phase 2- Update - Thomas Zidelis stated that the City is also continuing to proceed with the architects and to identify an OPM candidate. It was first thought that possibly an internal DPW candidate could fill this role, but with other large projects coming on board, South High School and Polar Park, this looks less and less possible. There will certainly be an attempt to hire from within the City first before going elsewhere. There has been no posting yet for the position. This position would need to go to Council for authorization. Chairman Harrity inquired if this would be a 3 year position or did it look to be longer term. Mr. Zidelis stated that with the amount of work coming under John Odell's department, the position looked more to be on a longer term basis. Commissioner Brissette inquired whether the Commission would need to approve the candidate once identified. Mr. Zidelis affirmed.

Sandy Dunn stated that she wanted to continue to keep top of mind the structural steel project for the DCU Center which Populous has identified. Since this is such a small project, it would be unlikely to find a company willing to do the work unless it is coupled with another, larger project. With the schools under construction and the soon to be stadium, it is important for the City to communicate to these project managers that the DCU Center steel project should be included as an add/alternate in those larger projects.

5. SMG Reporting - Sandy Dunn

a. Monthly Highlights / Financial Statements (August 2018) – *Included in Package*

Follow Up Questions

Commissioner Harrity commented on the new concourse Brewery location during the Opening Night of the Railers. He stated that this area seems to become congested often. Sandy Dunn stated that since last year, two (2) additional Points of Purchase have been added, which should help to alleviate congestion in the area.

Commissioner Brissette inquired as to the results of the testing that was to take place at the Railer's Opening Night event of the new WiFi system. Ms. Dunn said that she will come back with a complete report once the 2 other event tests have been completed.

b. Sales Report – Jim Moughan

Mr. Moughan gave an overview of the Site Pass Program highlighting past events that have stemmed directly from Site Pass such as the Jurassic Quest Event and a few Hot Tub Shows. The program is being stepped up under a new Directorship.

New England Water Works, the largest trade show in the facility, has contracted out until the year of 2024. A different Firefighter Chiefs event, much larger than the Mass Fire Chiefs Conference that DCU Center already hosts, is holding dates out until 2024. They were at Mohegan Sun, but are looking to change the environment for their event. Securities is a brand new trade show that has booked in Worcester this coming year.

Chairman Harrity inquired how the graduations, college and high school, are looking for the upcoming season. Mr. Moughan explained that Shrewsbury High School is the newest add on, as their school has expanded over the past several years. Douglas High School also has a proposal in their hands.

5. Adjournment

Commissioner Lowe motioned to adjourn; seconded by Commissioner Alexander. (4 yeas, 0 nays)
Motion passed.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:31am.

Next Standard Meeting:

Thursday, December 13th, 2018 at 7:30am (Breakfast), 8:00am Meeting – DCU Center Conference Room