



City of Madison

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Meeting Minutes - Approved MONONA TERRACE COMMUNITY AND CONVENTION CENTER BOARD

Thursday, June 17, 2010

4:30 PM

One John Nolen Drive
Hall of Fame Room

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Present: 9 -

Sheridan A. Glen; Jeffrey B. Bartell; Mona Adams Winston; Ann E. Kovich;
Diane Hesselbein; William DiCarlo; Glenn R. Krieg; Thomas J. Ziarnik and
Judy Sidran

Excused: 5 -

Warren E. Onken; M. Alice O'Connor; Henry S. Lufler, Jr.; Anne Katz and
Wayne Bigelow

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**A motion was made by Winston, seconded by Kovich, to Approve the Minutes.
The motion passed by voice vote/other.**

Excused: 5 -

M. Alice O'Connor; Warren E. Onken; Henry S. Lufler, Jr.; Anne Katz and
Wayne Bigelow

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no citizens present who wished to address the Board.

NEW BUSINESS

1. [18716](#) Wisconsin DOT High Speed Rail Project - DOT Representatives

The purpose in coming to the meeting was to introduce the project and the vision for high speed rail in Wisconsin, and to receive input from the community and stakeholders like Monona Terrace Board members who share an interest in the success of the project. A handout was distributed containing the location decision timeline:

June 2010: Identical workshops will be held in Madison on June 22 and June 23 from 4:30pm – 7:30pm. Presentations on the high speed rail project will be given on the hour to inform the public about the project and solicit input. The WisDOT and the Federal Railroad Administration will make the decision on the location of the rail station by July 1; team members will then make a return visit to the Monona Terrace Board meeting to present the design information and station location update.

July 2010: Environmental assessment begins July 1; Purpose and Need finalized with the Federal Railroad Administration around July 16; proposed site layouts will be presented regarding the station boundary, parking train platforms, canopy, access for vehicles to the station using the local street network, storm water management, lighting, walkways, and a cost estimate for the station, as well as connections for other modes of transportation.

September 2010: Refined site layouts will be presented for further public comment which will lead to a preferred alternative for the Monona Terrace station.

February 2011: The preferred alternative will be included in the Environmental Assessment scheduled to be published in early February 2011. A public hearing regarding Environmental Assessment will be held, the results of which will be included in the Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). If a problem area is discovered during the FONSI process, a full environmental impact study will be done.

April 2011: FONSI to be released which is the final decision document for the site layout of the Monona Terrace Station.

The station is scheduled to be built before the start of High Speed Rail service between Madison and Milwaukee which is expected to begin in 2013.

Board members expressed their expectation that Monona Terrace parking needs will be factored into the planning for the rail station, as well as the necessity of no physical changes to the building to construct the station and additional parking.

Top speed for the rail lines will be 79 MPH until 2016 when “positive train control” will be in effect to allow for higher speeds up to 110 MPH.

A gubernatorial election will be held in November 2010; if the new Governor does not support the high speed rail project, any monies already spent will have to be paid back to the federal government.

2. [18715](#) Introduction of New Board Member, Dianne Hesselbein - Mona Adams Winston, Chair

Chair Winston welcomed new County appointee, Dianne Hesselbein, to the Monona Terrace Board. Ms. Hesselbein was born in Madison, and received her BS from UW-Oshkosh and her Masters from Edgewood. She served on the Middleton-Cross Plains school board for three years, and was recently elected to her second term on the Dane County Board where she serves as Chairwoman of the Personnel and Finance Committee. She is a big supporter of Monona Terrace, and looks forward to serving on the Board.

3. [17798](#) Support Services Committee Report - Bill DiCarlo, Committee Member

The Support Services Committee met on Tuesday, June 15; members in attendance included Chair Tom Ziarnik, Bill DiCarlo and Judy Sidran. The rail station is a fast moving project, and it is important to Monona Terrace that the best location is chosen during the process. The two sites in contention are 1 West Wilson Street, and 101 East Wilson Street; the East Wilson Street is the preferred site for Monona Terrace because of easy access to parking. The State plans to rebuild and enlarge the parking ramp directly across the street from 101 East Wilson Street which would ensure that Monona Terrace will still have adequate parking its events. It is possible that the parking ramp may have underground parking with access to the train station from the ramp.

A draft letter to Secretary of Transportation Frank Busalacchi was reviewed. Tom Ziarnik suggested that language should be included to provide adequate space for taxis.

Mr. Lufler was unable to attend the Board meeting, and emailed some suggested language to add to the letter regarding the importance for Monona Terrace to have adequate, reliable parking for its events. Ms. Kovich made a motion to approve the letter to Secretary Busalacchi with the suggested language changes; the motion was seconded by Ms. Sidran, and approved by voice vote / other.

4. [18717](#) 2011 Capital Budget - Jim Hess, Director

Normally the capital budget would be presented to the Finance Committee, and the Chair would make a recommendation to the full Board. However, a quorum of Finance Committee members was not available. The 2011 capital budget request is straightforward. Agencies were asked to reduce their request by 10%. Staff had already taken action by reducing the projected 2011 capital budget request from \$780,000 to \$595,000 which is well below the requested limits. Staff proposed going forward with all projects which includes:

- technology upgrade (current equipment is aging and needs to be replaced)
- roof light fixtures (current fixtures have become brittle from exposure to the elements; staff will look for replacements that are more weather resistant)
- finish carpentry
- fire / life safety upgrade
- air wall resurfacing
- chiller overhaul

Ms. Kovich made a motion to approve the budget as presented, seconded by Mr. Glen. The motion was approved by voice vote / other.

5. [14291](#) Finance Report - Kathi Hurtgen, Director of Finance

Sixty events were held during the month of May versus the budgeted 70 events. Revenues were -19% for the month, and -4% year-to-date; expenses were -6% for the month, and -8% year-to-date. The revenue over expenses total is \$133,000. Event averages were less than budgeted for the month of May which is a reflection of the national downturn in the economy.

6. [17074](#) 2010 Booking Pace Update - Bill Zeinemann, Director of Marketing and Events

Mr. Hess gave the update because Mr. Zeinemann was not able to attend the Board meeting. No events were cancelled during the month of May and event totals are on pace (603). Staff is projecting revenue totals of \$4,000,000+ for the year, so it may not be necessary to use contingency funds.

7. [11917](#) Director's Report - Jim Hess, Director

There were no questions about the Board report. The State has had the parking ramp power washed, and new plantings were added near the entrance to Monona Terrace.

During the Mayor's recent State of the City report, he discussed the possibility of a public market area that may include a convention hotel. Mr. Hess said he would forward the speech to any interested Board members.

Mr. Hess announced that he plans to retire on December 10 when his contract with the City expires. Board members congratulated him and wished him well in his retirement. Mr. Hess reminded everyone that there are specific steps in the By-Laws regarding Board participation in the hiring process. The City will most likely do a national search for his replacement, and there are also excellent internal candidates. A meeting will be scheduled in the near future with Janet Piraino, the Mayor's Chief-of-Staff, to discuss the process to find his replacement.

8. [18300](#) Announcements from the Chair - Mona Adams Winston, Chair

The July 15, 2010 Board meeting has been cancelled.

Chair Winston acknowledged both Warren Onken and Wayne Bigelow for their many contributions and leadership as Monona Terrace Board members. Mr. Onken served on the Board from 1997 – 2010; Mr. Bigelow served on the Board from 1995 – 2010.

Chair Winston invited all the members to attend the 21st annual Juneteenth celebration to be held at Penn Park from 10am – 6pm on Saturday, June 19.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Kovich, seconded by Hesselbein, to Adjourn. The motion passed by voice vote/other.