



QUALCOMM STADIUM ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of Regular Scheduled Meeting

APPROVED MINUTES

Thursday, May 14, 2009

STADIUM ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Acting Chairman Ben Clay called the meeting to order at 8:15 am.

Board Present:

Chairman	Rudy Castruita	Absent
Member	Jeff Jeffery	Present
Member	Si Coleman	Present
Member	Ben Clay	Present
Member	David Baron	Present
Member	Kim Folsom	Present
Member	Carlos Vasquez	Present
Member	Michael Simonsen	Present
Member	Les Williamson	Absent

Staff Present: Lauren Griffin, Clerical Assistant II

Others Present: Archie Neilson – San Diego Auto Connection, Bill Nelson – Ace Parking, and Scott Marshall - Centerplate.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES April 9, 2009

Approved. Unanimous.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ben clarified for the record that under public comment they cannot take action, but can receive information, refer it to staff, and get back to the public on issues they would like the board to address. No public comments were raised.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS

No Report

V. CHAIRPERSON REPORT

Per Rudy’s request, Ben briefed the board on the meeting relating to the ticket policy that was being developed with city attorney Jan Goldsmith. He had a good meeting with Jan and his staff. Jan very clearly sees the role of these sorts of boards, their advisory position, and the need to have them. Discussed issues of the oversight that a board such as this one needs to have. They are looking at the language it will need to have. It has not been docketed to go to council yet. As soon as they hear, they will let the board know. Acknowledged the city and attorneys office have a huge process they must work through. They hope to get a look at some of the language soon. They were well received, Jan understood the issues, and it was a very nice meeting.

Ben expressed the board’s condolences to Mike McSweeney and his family for their loss. Mike is due back on Monday, May 18th.

VI. BUSINESS PARTNER REPORTS

A. CHARGERS

No Report

B. AZTECS

Attorney Debra Bevier verified that the Aztecs agreement is not signed and inked yet. Ben requested we add the status and update of where that is to the agenda for next month. It was later added that they should have the draft agreement by the end of next week. They have gotten their comments, but they had to postpone due to Mike being out. Should be able to finalize the contract, bring it to the next Stadium Advisory Board meeting, and then to council. He is sensitive to getting it done.

C. HOLIDAY BOWL & POINSETTIA BOWL

Bruce had surgery for a medical issue a week or so ago. He is probably still tied up with that.

D. OMBAC

Working with Mike on next agreement.

E. ACE PARKING

Gearing up for Chargers season. There are some changes to the parking but he prefers to let them speak on that. LSU Crawfish Bowl Cookoff Fundraiser Festival for Louisiana State University is Sunday the 31st on the practice field. No charge for parking. If there will be changes to parking, the board needs to be aware of that before the season starts. Hopes Mike can give them a briefing on that.

F. CENTERPLATE

Centerplate is reorganizing, re-engineering, and reconditioning all areas in preparation for the season. The first event will be the upcoming soccer match. Ben asked if they are feeling pressures like other stadiums from around the country to lower rates and prices. They are looking at that. They and the Chargers went to Petco last week to see how it is going with the new value meals. They are feeling the pressure, and will be addressing that over the next few months. They will bring their results to the board. They are trying to get all info from their baseball stadiums to see what is working and what is not before they apply it to the NFL. It was requested that maybe at next meeting they can discuss what kind of recyclable products Centerplate are using, what they do regarding recycling, and what their plans are. Scott responded that the city handles the recycling, but that they also have a great recyclable product initiative they are working on, that they can discuss with the board next time.

G. SAN DIEGO AUTO CONNECTION

They are preparing for back to back events, having auto sale Memorial Day weekend. They are working on getting as many contract dealers as possible for Memorial weekend. There will be a second RV super sale of the year the following week. Some RV dealers from outside the area will bring their product down. Challenges make it difficult to have many dealers participate in an offsite sale right now. Problem is not with the City, Mike doing a wonderful job. Ben asked if sales of used cars are off the same level as new cars. Answer is about 45%. Will definitely be challenges with their Chrysler stores.

Ben mentioned that they are watching Sacramento sales tax receipts, and that they are way off. They could be off 20-22 billion dollars. Tax receipts are not coming in, car sales statewide going through the floor. There is a small uptick, but it won't help much. Monies will be rescinded from cities, counties, and road funds due to California's cash flow problem. He can see the pressures Auto Connection must be facing.

VII. STAFF REPORT

- A. Stadium Manager Mike McSweeney
Mike was unable to attend this months meeting.

- B. Deputy City Attorney
No Report

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Ben has asked that the audit report be sent to each board member. He hopes they can get a briefing from Mike next month. The Elite issue was in the newspaper. Si wanted to know what the process was and who was responsible for responding to the audit? The audit was performed by Paul Alberga from the auditing office. They sent a draft report. Mike, Gene, and Dave Jarroll made comments. They met with auditors twice regarding the comments. Report was then redrafted. They then asked for comments only on the recommendations in the report, and this was done. Response was from the staff chain of Mike, Gene, Dave Jarroll, and the COO. Submitted to auditor and attached to report.

Si Coleman noted many compelling points in the audit report, many specific references to the board, and the inclusion of the audit team's expectations of the board. He made the suggestion that Rudy consider a subcommittee meeting of not more than 4 members to review the audit report, specifically where the board is mentioned, and evaluate management's response to the recommendations. The subcommittee could decide if they feel specific responses were appropriate, then bring to the full board to determine a constructive next step. This would also tie into helping to determine the continuing question of what is a proper, meaningful role, if any, for the board. Ben acknowledged the suggestion to make observations and suggestions in a subcommittee. Ben noted that he has not read the audit yet. He would like to get it out to board members and will get with Rudy and talk about a process, get Mike involved and hopefully move forward. Si asked that if Rudy determines he wants to follow the suggestion, that he consider the meeting be held solely with board members. Ben responded that he would like to see the materials and consider them before they start getting much further into discussions about them, pointing out that Rudy probably has not read it yet either. So far all Ben has seen is what was in the paper.

David Baron remarked that it would have nice to have been given a copy of audit report before they had to read it in the paper. Gene responded that he agrees they should get a copy, but that the report was issued late Friday afternoon, Saturday the article came out. David's point was acknowledged. They will make sure he gets a copy.

IX. OLD BUSINESS

Stadium staff not here to address, but stadium water issues, usage, and what we can do is still a hot topic. Staff has met, but pot of money they had hoped to use to make some changes from MWD is gone. Mentioned amount of water flowing down the creek and that the local company Kinder Morgan cleans up water they use that is discharged into the river. With a little more treatment, this could be used to hose down and clean the stadium. There are interesting water things that can go on. The stadium is already configured on toilets, urinals, etc. He hopes Centerplate is also considering their facilities, equipment, and processes. Wants to be sure we don't get accused of not using Best Management Practices to conserve water. Acknowledged that reclaimed can't be used on grass, high salt kills it. Just wants to make sure we are doing everything we can.

Meeting with City Attorney has been covered – good meeting.

X. COMMENTS BY BOARD MEMBERS

There is notification on both scoreboards that you can text the police from your seat if there are problems with people getting out of hand. There has been thought of putting notification in the parking lot also. Season ticket holders get Charger magazine that informs them they can also text for assistance with illegal activities from the parking lot. Does not think general public is aware of that. Text keeps anonymity. Ben affirmed that this could be a good idea.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:42 am.
The next Regular meeting will be Thursday June 11, at 8:15 am.