

Minutes: Buildings and Facilities Committee

(former Civic Center Committee)

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

Alumni Hall

Attendees: Charlie Atwood; Burnie Allen; Jon Valsangiacomo; Rick Dente; Art Dessureau; Paula Dolan; Brent Gagne; Sue Higby

Absent: There were no committee member absences.

Others in Attendance: Jeff Bergeron; Jim McWilliams

Minutes for the September 13, 2023, meeting prepared by Sue Higby

The meeting was called to order at 8:04AM.

1. Minutes for the August 9, 2023 meeting were reviewed. Valsangiacomo made a motion to approve the minutes; Dolan seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.
2. Visitors and communications: Representatives from the Barre Fish & Game Club Kevin Sare; Brad Herring; Mike Squier
The discussion included:
Last year things worked well (internet and heating were fine). (Problem area: The downstairs wooden doors contributed significantly to cold air in space.) Keeping the dedicated parking is beneficial; however, their stated preference is to do this during the core hours of the event only. The new VT law concerning a 3-day waiting period will be in effect starting 2025. A 3-year contract was discussed briefly. Last year, under 3,000 persons attended the event, as compared to 3-4,000 pre-COVID.
3. Earmark Funds Planning
According to Jeff, Nicolas and Dawn are examining options for the city's share. The previous deadline for describing how Barre will cover the financial responsibility was listed as September 28th; because of the flood, there has been a handshake agreement to extend the deadline. No specifics on the new deadline were stated.
4. Facility Improvements:
See 9/7/23 Civic Center Auditorium Punch List provided by Jeff. In addition, future work on the ceiling tiles in the Connector Building and improved LED lighting at the entrance of the AUD were added to the to-do list.
5. BOR Turf
The committee discussed how this improvement would increase use of the facility. An update on the finances was discussed: \$15,000 recommended by the Barre Town Recreation Board; \$70,000 from BYSA/York. Higby made a motion to allocate funds from the Improvement Fund; this motion was withdrawn due to an interest in obtaining more information about the financial strategy.

6. Meeting Report - Jim

Pleased by the response to the email blast concerning the work at the AUD/BOR during the flood; responses to banner renewal requests positive; UVM men's basketball will not be coming this year; UVM women's basketball will be coming (Oct. 6); Norwich Hockey (women's team" will likely come back; High School Solstice event is moving forward; the Sponsor Appreciation Event was discussed briefly.

Sponsor Appreciation Event:

No date mentioned; would like to schedule this month; would like to provide refreshments. Valsangiacomo suggested including information about the Norwich University Senior Project (Sue will check on this when there is a specific event date).

Dessureau made a motion to allocate up to \$1,000 for food for the event. Dolan seconded the motion and the committee voted unanimously to support this.

7. Staff Report – Jeff

He is working extensively on flood repairs and responses. FEMA will likely cover administration/overhead costs associated with this managerial work.

8. Valsangiacomo made a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss an employee compensation issue; Dessureau seconded the motion.

9. Valsangiacomo made a motion to come out of Executive Session; Allen seconded the motion.

10. Valsangiacomo made a motion to recommend increasing the compensation of the Marketing Agent from \$25 to \$30 per hour. Dente seconded the motion; the committee voted unanimously to support the motion.

11. Dente made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30AM and the motion carried.