

WILL COUNTY METROPOLITAN EXPOSITION AND AUDITORIUM AUTHORITY

Date: February 22, 2023

Authority Memo Number **007-2023 February 22, 2023 Regular Meeting**

The February 22, 2023 regular meeting of the Will County Metropolitan Exposition and Auditorium Authority Board was held at 15 E. Van Buren Street, Joliet, Illinois 60432. Chairman Bob Filotto called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm with a quorum present. Board members and staff were invited to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Present: Bob Filotto, Tim Broderick, Donnie Chestnutt, Jane Condon, Jeff Pierson

Staff: Wade Welsh, Julie Quigley, Rafael Ramirez, Leann Hoffrogge, Kelly Urquidi, Christine Sturm

Absent: Bill Kent (excused), Kathy Trizna (excused)

Others: Ava & Carmon Paris, Tim & Marilou Shanahan, Dale Evans, Steve Randich, Kate Meehan, Carol Mulvihill

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Authority Memo Number **004-2022 January 25, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Discussion:

The Chairman asked if there were any changes to be made to the January 25, 2023 minutes. The Chair requested that one change be made. On page two of four, memo number 003-2023, he asked that the sentence "Filotto agreed to get a quote from Bully & Andrews and to also seek other bids." be changed to "The Board agreed to get a quote from Bully & Andrews and to also seek other bids."

The Chair invited further discussion and, hearing none, he called for a voice vote. No opposing votes were expressed. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: J. Pierson moved T. Broderick seconded approval of the January 25, 2023 minutes.

AYES: Members Filotto, Broderick, Chestnutt, Condon and Pierson

Absent: Kent, Trizna

Nays: None

Public to be Heard Re: Agenda Items – No response.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Authority Memo Number **005-2023 January 2023 Operational Bills Paid, Payable and Payable Age Listing**

Discussion and Vote:

The Chair noted on the checks paid register that there were several large amounts paid out: \$134,000 to JLK architects; \$153,000 to AEG for settlement on the Nikki Glaser shows; \$30,375 for the computers; and \$35,000 to TicketMaster for annual fees.

Filotto said that the credit card statement was included with the financials for the first time. He asked about the charges made to Shaw Media, Effect TV, Facebook and Yeti. Welsh said the first three were charges for advertising and the charge to Yeti was for the holiday gifts to sponsors and board members. Condon asked about the charges to Amazon Marketplace. Welsh said it was for office supplies.

Accounts Payable by Vendor totaled a little over \$95,000. The two major expenses were NiteLite Promotions for \$46,000 and VenuWorks for \$43,000. The Accounts Receivable Aging Report shows a total of \$81,000. The two largest amounts are \$20,000 from Adler Roofing for stage naming rights and \$51,000 from the Rialto Square Foundation. Quigley said that she did receive a check for Adler Roofing for the \$20,000.

Chestnutt asked about the -\$1843 due to NiteLite Promotions for the Miranda Sings show. Welsh was not certain and said he will look into it.

The Chair invited further discussion and, hearing none, he directed roll to be called. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: J. Condon moved and T. Broderick seconded approval of the January 2023 Operational Bills Paid, Payable and Payable Age Listing.

AYES: Members Filotto, Broderick, Chestnutt, Condon and Pierson

Absent: Kent, Trizna

Nays: None

Authority Memo Number **006-2023 January 2023 Financial Statements**

Discussion and Vote:

The Chair said that in the first seven months of operations for the fiscal year, we continue to exceed the budgeted total income. Figures show that we are \$200,000 over budget. We continue to benefit from the 7500 account repair/custodial where we are \$105,000 below budget. Net ordinary income is -\$75,000 but was projected to be -\$442,000. Part of this is due to the 8200 account between the Authority and the Foundation for \$357,000 . We continue to be in a strong position fiscally.

The Chair invited further discussion and, hearing none, he directed roll to be called. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: J. Condon moved and T. Broderick seconded approval of accepting the January 2023 Financial Statements into the minutes.

AYES: Members Filotto, Broderick, Chestnutt, Condon and Pierson

Absent: Kent, Trizna

Nays: None

OLD BUSINESS

Authority Memo Number **001-2023 December 2022 Operational Bills Paid, Payable and Payable Age Listing**

Discussion and Vote:

The Chair said that Welsh asked that the approval of the December financials be put off until some issues were addressed. Since then, those issues were addressed. The reports were discussed in detail last month. Filotto asked if there was anything else that Board members needed to discuss.

The Chair invited further discussion and, hearing none, he directed roll to be called. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: J. Pierson moved and D. Chestnutt seconded approval of the December 2022 Operational Bills Paid, Payable and Payable Age Listing.

AYES: Members Filotto, Broderick, Chestnutt, Condon and Pierson

Absent: Kent, Trizna

Nays: None

Authority Memo Number **002-2023 December 2022 Financial Reports**

Discussion and Vote:

The Chair asked if there was any further discussion to be had on the December 2022 Financial Reports. Hearing none, he directed roll to be called. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion: J. Pierson moved and D. Chestnutt seconded approval of the December 2022 Financial Reports.

AYES: Members Filotto, Broderick, Chestnutt, Condon and Pierson

Absent: Kent, Trizna

Nays: None

Renovation Project Update: Welsh received the edits for the construction manager RFQ from JLK. They are requesting more knowledge and experience with historical buildings. The RFQ was originally asking for 5-10 years of experience with historical buildings. JLK recommended to ask for 10-15+ years of experience. The RFQ was given to David Silverman for approval. JLK also sent Welsh their proposal for the next step of the project. Once he reviews it, he will send it to board members. Filotto asked if the roof project is still on schedule. Welsh said yes, it is to start mid to late summer and finish in November.

Filotto said that he had someone call him to ask about putting a cell tower on the Rialto to generate income. His initial reaction was “No” but he said he would present it to the Board for consideration. He knows it could be lucrative for the theatre but did not know how it would affect the building’s appearance and historical designation. Condon and Pierson thought it was worth gathering more information on the subject. Filotto said to ask JLK about it.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS

RSTF Report: Condon said that things are coming together well for the Shamrockin’ Good Time event. She will need only three more volunteers. Harrah’s has donated all the snacks, the charcuterie boards for the whiskey tasting as well as some signage. There will be a live painting artist from Chicago in the building to do a painting of the event. She is looking to put the painting up for bid in hopes of generating several hundred more dollars. The planning committee will meet again on March 1 finalize details for the event.

The Foundation is planning a sponsor and donor event for June 8th which will include a dinner on the theatre stage.

RSTF Board President, Steve Randich, said the Twin Centennial mural is finished. It will be delivered on the morning of February 27th. Ninety-five people have responded that they will be attending the mural unveiling. Randich said that guests will enter the building from the Van Buren Street entrance. The mural will be on display in the Esplanade. The Chicago Street doors and the east side of the Esplanade will have curtains across them so guests cannot see the murals. There will be comments from Wade Welsh, Lauren Las from the Heritage Corridor Visitor’s Bureau, Steve Randich and Dante DiBartolo. Guests will be let into the Esplanade to see the mural after the speakers have finished. Cocktails and hors d’oeuvres will be provided by the Foundation. Randich said he hopes to have the mural installed before the Shamrockin’ Good Time event on March 16th, weather permitting.

Executive Director's Report: Welsh told Board members that 18 out of 30 days have been booked in September 2023 for either a wedding or a show. All announced shows are selling very well. Home for the Holidays has 4-5 days on hold for shows. Welsh said it looks to be a very big holiday season.

Welsh will be moving forward with a contract with Comcast for new phones and higher speed internet. The new POS system and bars have been installed. There is a new deal with Coca-Cola. The bars will now only carry bottles and cans instead of fountain drinks. There was a lot of waste with the CO₂ canisters and mixes. A higher price point can be gotten with the cans and bottles. Condon asked if a recycling program for the bottles and cans could be set up. Welsh said he could do that.

Welsh said that a security system will be installed on all exterior doors. It will be a web-based system that will track who unarms the system, who is here in the building and who is the last one here. The next step will be to get a closed loop security system. There will now be a JFD EMT on site during all larger events. The costs will be passed on to promoters. There will be no cost to the theatre. Chestnutt asked if staff and volunteers are CPR trained. Welsh said that all but one house manager is trained. He is working on getting that person certified also. Pierson asked if there are AED's on site. Welsh said there is one in the Rotunda and another one is going to be purchased for backstage. The EMT on site also has one in a locker in the building where they store all of their equipment.

Welsh also told Board members that some of the banking will be transitioned to Old National Bank. Mike Piehl and Julie Quigley were able to get a more aggressive rate. Piehl and Quigley are considering opening a CD to take advantage of the SVOG money in the Rialto accounts.

Filotto asked if the switch to LED lights has been made on the marquee. Ramirez said he is waiting to get the equipment and he is talking to Greene Electric to get rebates.

Chestnutt said she would like to commend Welsh and Ramirez for the great work they are doing with the theatre. They are setting the Rialto up for long term success in the short time they have been here.

Chairman's Report: Filotto asked Dale Evans if he has started planning for the 100 year anniversary events. Evans said he will be starting in the Spring.

Filotto thanked those who came to support him at the awards banquet. He said it was an unexpected honor. He said one of the benefits of community service is all the great people you meet along the journey.

Committee Reports: No reports.

City of Joliet Liaison's Report: No Report

Lobbyists' Report: Welsh said the lobbyists, Shannon Bellini and Jake Miller, are still trying to get the County Board to come for a tour. Bellini and Miller will be here on February 27th for the tour and mural reveal. They confirmed that Jennifer Bertino-Tarrant and Natalie Manley will be here for the tour. Condon asked if an invitation has been extended to Rachel Ventura to tour the building. Welsh said he reached out to Bellini to invite Ventura. Welsh said the lobbyists are focused on getting the needs of the Rialto before everyone they possibly can for the HVAC and sprinkler projects.

PUBLIC TO BE HEARD: Tim Shanahan made the comment that things have improved with the Authority Board and everyone is doing a fantastic job. He agreed that Welsh and Ramirez are also doing a great job.

Motion: The Chairman requested a motion to adjourn the regular meeting. T. Broderick moved and J. Condon seconded the motion.

AYES: Members Filotto, Broderick, Chestnutt, Condon and Pierson

Absent: Kent, Trizna

Nays: None

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 P.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Christine Sturm, Recording Secretary.

Kathy Trizna, Board Secretary

*Unapproved minutes distributed in Board Packets are subject to change.
Approved minutes shall be posted on www.rialtosquare.com /Public Information/Approved Minutes.*