Minutes of the Patriots Point Development Authority 496th Board Meeting, 9:00 AM, Friday, September 20, 2019, Leadership Training Facility, Patriots Point Naval and Maritime Museum, Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ray Chandler, *Chairman*

Wayne Adams, *Vice Chairman*

Susan Marlowe

Eddie Taylor

Pat Waters

Zeb Williams

Will Haynie

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Larry Murray, *Executive Director*

Royce Breland, *Chief Financial Officer*

Bob Howard, *Property Manager*

Robert Simmons, *Museum Services*

Mike Hastings, *Operations Director*

Cole Futch, *IT Director*

David Clark, *Director Museum Services*

Jessica Steinberg, *Executive Assistant*

Chris Hauff, *Marketing*

Rob Clark, *Marketing*

Brooke Griffin, *Marketing*

OTHERS PRESENT: Bill Craver, *Legal Counsel*

Phil Wagoner, *Legal Counsel*

Emily Williams, *Post & Courier*

Brandon Dermody, *Southern Solutions*

Allison Hunt, *Yorktown Foundation*

Shamira McCray, *Charleston Business Journal*

Mr. Ray Chandler called the meeting of the Board to order at 9:06 A.M.

Prior to the meeting, a copy of the proposed agenda was distributed via electronic mail to the Board members, media, and designated guests.

**A. ADOPTION OF PROPOSED AGENDA**

Mr. Chandler asked for any changes to the proposed agenda. The agenda was approved unanimously as presented.

**B. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Mr. Chandler asked for any changes to the minutes of the July 26, 2019 meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously as presented.

**C. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**1. Development Committee-** Mr. Wayne Adams reported that most items will be discussed in executive session. The committee voted to recommend to the Board a discounted ticket price for first responders of $21. Mr. Chandler commented that friends of his visiting from Melbourne, Australia noticed the first responders reacted positively.

**2. Museum, Education and Overnight Camping Committee-** Ms. Susan Marlowe reported that work on the B-25 continues, along with multiple other projects to upgrade the museum. The B-25 project will be opening October 4 for first the education groups. Access is limited to schools and not the public at the moment. Keith is currently attending the HNSA conference. The tank that was coming has been put on hold. It is a Cold War tank and therefore it is not a fit for any of the museum’s current exhibits. The SC National Guard demilitarized the tank and inquired whether PPDA wanted it, but more analysis is needed before PPDA can accept it. Ms. Marlowe asked if PPDA had communicated with the Adjutant General’s office concerning the issue and Larry replied that he would. The EIA application has been turned in early; the request is for the same amount as last year. The goal is to serve 12,000 students with contact in every county. The State Department of Education will use the Harbor Room for nine teacher trainings. PPDA’s science books will go out to 56,000 students statewide. The Flight Academy has 15 new computers and other upgrades, and has expanded into new room. ROTC, Title I, and Military Magnate Academy students attend the Flight Academy through scholarships.

**3. Operations and Facilities Committee-** Mr. Eddie Taylor reported on the damage and repairs from Hurricane Dorian. Patriots Point dodged a bullet and it was good training for staff. The island superstructure repairs are complete, and cost $7,800. The conversion to LED is ongoing, Board members may have noticed the brightness in the main hanger bay. The Clamagore defueling is in progress, and waiting on the Coast Guard inspection. The gangway restoration ($4,100) and Flight Deck water intrusion projects are coming up. Other projects planned for the year include roofing replacement on the flight deck, repairs to the bomb elevator ($42,000), construction of the portable cofferdam (7 weeks and about $14,500), Hangar Bay power upgrades, and AC replacements. The IT- colocation site testing is in the works.

**4. Finance Committee-** Mr. Pat Waters reported that the committee did not have a quorum. Cash and cash equivalents are $5,272,000. Cash from operations is $720,000 for the fiscal year, with the cash reserve is at $4.569 million. Operating revenue is $2.4 million, which is up $578,000. There has been a great commitment by staff to bring down the overhead costs. Mr. Waters noted that the PPDA gift shop brings in significant revenue, and that needs to be focused on as PPDA moves forward with the Bennett lease. The financial impacts of Hurricane Dorian will be seen in next month’s report. Attendance through the end of August is up over last fiscal year.

**D. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Mr. Larry Murray reported that:

* Patriots Point came through Dorian with only minor issues. PPDA’s great partnership with Mt. Pleasant continues, as first responders were out at Patriots Point during the storm aftermath keeping an eye on things. The storm was a good opportunity for PPDA to exercise its preparation plans and identify any weaknesses. Power was down, and how quickly Patriots Point can reopen is contingent on power and when it is safe for staff to return. It also depends on the timing of the storm and State HR policies. Mike Hastings reported that 12 trees were down and are being addressed. Mr. Chandler asked about damages to the tenant’s marina. Mr. Murray said that the tenant is still repairing their docks, and that some boats in the marina broke away. One boat broke away and was banging up against the side of the Clamagore.
* A meeting with all of PPDA’s tenants is schedule for October 1.
* Mayor Haynie said there is a meeting planned for September 30 between the Town and Dominion Energy to discuss why so many people in Mt. Pleasant lost power and why it took so long to restore power.
* The Patriots Point generator turned on, but there is a question as to whether it is powering the right systems, and staff will examine that.
* Mr. Murray, Mr. Waters and Mr. Taylor visited the Intrepid in New York. In comparison, it is clear that Patriots Point has some older exhibits that need to be updated.
* Mr. Murray handed out an update on the 7-year strategic plan. The plan is to bring the strategic plan to the Board through the Development Committee.

**E. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

**F. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS CONTRACTUAL AND LEGAL MATTERS PERTAINING TO PROPERTY MANAGEMENT.**

Mr. Chandler asked that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss contractual and legal matters pertaining to property management after a 5 minute recess. The Board unanimously approved entering Executive Session. The Board moved into Executive Session at 9:39 A.M.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 10:41 A.M. No motions were made and no votes were taken in Executive Session.

There is a motion from the Development Committee to approve the $3 discount and $21 ticket price for first responders to be effective immediately. Mr. Haynie seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Murray reminded the Board that there would be a special presentation in Hangar Bay 3 on Monday at 10:00 A.M. Also, next month’s Board meeting will be at 10:00 A.M. because the Yorktown Association reunion is at 9:00 A.M.

**G. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jessica Steinberg, *Recording Secretary* Larry Murray, *Executive Director*

*and Secretary*