

Five Flags Commission Meeting Monday February 22, 2010

Present: Bryce Parks, Sue Balsamo, Rod Bakke, Cindy Fuller, Barb Kurt, Pat Prevanas, Don Howes and Ali Levasseur

Absent: Joyce White

Commissioner Parks called meeting to order

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Bakke motioned to approve minutes of January 25, 2010 meeting. Commissioner Kurt seconded the motion, all approved.

Old Business:

- Commissioner Balsamo reported the Theater Lobby Committee was still working on project proposal. Committee will meet March 2, 2010 to compile costs of project components including the historical display, coat rack / storage, new concessions area, and other cosmetic changes. Ali reported the committee will be applying for the Old House Enthusiasts Preservation Grant. Committee requested a cover letter from Pat Prevanas reflecting City Support for the project. Ali and Pat will collaborate to compose the letter. The Committee's goal is to have the project completed by October 16, 2010, to coincide with the Michael Feldman Show.
- Commissioners discussed the unresolved issues of losing ice. Commissioner Fuller inquired as to "the purpose" of the Commission; as they were neither consulted nor informed regarding discontinuing ice production and the resulting financial impact on Five Flags.

New Business:

- None reported at this time

Don Howes Delivered following reports:

Operations Department:

- Correction to last month's Manager's Report which indicated funding to repurchase the dashers from DICE was to come from the City's General Fund. The \$26,750 was a FY'10 CIP purchase for Five Flags.
- All chairs in permanent seating area were inspected and repaired prior to the sell out performance of CATS.

Marketing, Promotions, and Events Interests:

- Promoter was happy with ticket sales for CATS; therefore, increasing the likelihood that other Broadway show will play Dubuque. The Roberts Group indicated they would bring the Broadway Series back to Five Flags - it is a matter of the routing. Collaborative efforts of staff members, Dubuque Fire Department, and the theatrical road manager resulted in the creation of additional seating capacity and a sell out for the promoter.
- Prepared a bid to join Loras College to host NCAA DIV III Wrestling for 2012 and 2013. Bid efforts will be determined in June, 2010.
- Prudential has booked three meeting spaces from Five Flags.

January Events:

- Bull Ride – January 8 and 9
- Iowa Special Olympics – January 11 and 12
- Thunderbird Hockey – January 16, 17, 22, and 23
- Iowa Winter Games – January 29, 30, and 31
- FBN “Miss Witherspoon” – January 29, 30, 31 and February 5, 6, and 7
- City Management Meeting – January 12
- DHYA Board – January 12
- Public Skate – January 3, 18, and 24

February Events:

- Illinois Special Olympics – February 2, 3, 4
- T-Birds – February 5, 6, 13, 14, 26
- City Management Meeting – February 9
- Bixby’s Rainforest Rescue – February 5
- BN “Miss Witherspoon – February 5, 6, 7
- Prudential “All Associates Meeting “ – February 9
- CATS – February 11
- DSO – February 13, 14
- Playhouse Disney Live – February 19
- Prudential “Individual Solutions Department” – (Majestic Room) – February 26
- All Iowa Open (dance and cheer competition) – February 28
- Public Skate – February 3, 12, 15, and 21

Financial, HR, Accounting Reports:

- The City has slashed a number of items in the CIP FY’ 11, 12, and 13 budget; items eliminated which will have a severe impact were new chairs to replace the 30 year old concert chairs. Pat Prevanas reported all Leisure Services CIP items were cut drastically.
- January 2010 Event Total Net Income \$57,689.87.
- Income Statement YTD Actual Net Income (loss) (\$437,532); budgeted (\$469,796)
- Rolling Forecast Projected Net Income (loss) (\$728,399); budgeted (\$781,087); City Benchmark (\$781,087)
- Commissioner Fuller asked about the progress on indoor Soccer or Softball practice in the Arena. Don Reported Joyce was still working on it and he could not report.

Current Box Office “On-Sales”:

- DSO
- T-Birds
- Disney Playhouse Live
- All Iowa Open (Cheer and Dance Competition)
- Thunderslam – Monster Trucks

F&B Department:

- To provide additional incentive to attend a T-Bird game on Valentine’s Day and the opening of NASCAR season, the Department Manager created a “Daytona 500 Pit Party” in Gate G. Doors opened early to encourage people to come to Five Flags for free snacks and drink special and watch the race and the hockey game.

Staff Development:

- Alyson Tasker and Jenni Welsh have attended their second of seven sessions of NICC's Leadership Institute. Bob Richardson requested to drop out of the program due to health reasons.
- Don is part of the Leadership Development Alumni and will be working on the Days Of Caring project again this year.

Other: (No report)

Adjournment of Monthly Commission Meeting:

Commissioner Kurt motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Balsamo seconded. All Approved.

Next meeting: in the General Manager's Office on Monday March 22, 2010 at 4:00PM. Five Flags staff will place a call "Thursday before" and a "Monday of" email to remind commissioners of the meeting.