
SNOHOMISH COUNTY PUBLIC FACILITIES DISTRICT
PUBLIC FACILITY DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES
WILLIS TUCKER CONFERENCE ROOM
APRIL 29, 2002
3:00 P.M.

Roll Call:

Board:

Steve Juntwait, District # 2
Liz Loomis, District #5
Boyd McPherson, District #1
Erik Nelson #3
Travis Snider, District #4

Staff

Doug Ferguson, Anderson Hunter
Dan Clements, Finance Director
Connie Mennie, Executive Office

Interested Parties:

Ruth Arista
Frances Chapin, City of Edmonds
Stephen Clifton, City of
Edmonds
Cindi Cruz, City of Edmonds
Frank DeMiero, Edmonds
Dave Earling, Edmonds City
Council
Mike Echelbarger, Snohomish
County PFD
Bill Evans, South Snohomish
County PFD
Barbara Fahey
Gary Haakenson, City of
Edmonds Mayor
Roberta McBride, Edmonds
John McGibbon, Edmonds PFD
Darlene McLellan, Edmonds Arts
Festival Foundation President
James Monroe, Edmonds PFD
JoAnne Nelson
Arvilla Ohede, City of Edmonds
Park Director
Scott Snyder, City of Edmonds
Susan Southwick, Edmonds Art
Festival Association President
Louise Stanton-Masten, South
Snohomish County PFD
Terry Vehrs, Edmonds PFD
Sandy Ward, Snohomish County
Tourism Bureau
Rich White, Boeing

Call to Order:

Travis Snider, President, called the meeting to order at 3:04 P.M. The meeting was continued from April 25, 2002.

Travis noted that this meeting is reconvened to continue discussion of the viability of a proposed Edmonds special events center. Three board members toured the Puget Sound Christian College on Saturday and found

it valuable in better understanding the facility's characteristics and potential. This Board's report is due for submission to Council tomorrow.

Edmonds Project:

The Board reviewed the Edmonds PFD Contingent Viability Plan as drafted. Discussion followed regarding changing the verbiage in Phase 1 of Section 1, Project Definition, from "may be" to "shall." The Board is looking for a degree of certainty that approved projects are regional in nature and that this proposal has the demonstrated ability to meet that test. It was noted that specifics to be accomplished and the phasing of those tasks would be more fully outlined in the required detailed business plan. Language in Phase 2 of that section was changed from "may be" to "including, but not limited to, renovations in accordance with architectural plans to be submitted by the Edmonds PFD and approved by the County PFD."

Under Section 3, Business Plan Completion, Board members asked for inclusion of the parking and traffic concerns that have been raised by nearby citizens. The city agrees to a public process as required in the permitting process. Language to that effect was drafted by Scott Snyder and approved by the Board.

Mike Echelbarger introduced Bill Evans, the new Executive Director of the South Snohomish County PFD, who is on his first day on the job. Echelbarger said he supports the concept of this project, but that the South County and County PFD's need more time to discuss the proposed conference space and whether the Edmonds and Lynnwood projects would directly compete for conference contracts. The County PFD board has repeatedly stressed the importance that approved projects not compete, but rather compliment, each other. A copy of a letter to Terry Vehrs from Gregory Easton of Property Counselors asserts that the Edmonds project "should not be viewed as competition to the Lynnwood facility." Mr. Echelbarger said the South County PFD needs time to evaluate the potential impact of the Edmonds project upon the Lynnwood project's feasibility.

The Board discussed excess unallocated funds after Terry Vehrs requested that the Edmonds project be specifically awarded all funds that have not already been allocated. Board members Travis Snyder and Boyd McPherson said that they want to maintain a specific allocation of \$2.7 million for the Edmonds project, and maintain for this Board the right to determine how to allocate the remaining funds. Liz Loomis said she is concerned that that will create another situation with entities fighting over the same money again. The Board noted that that is likely to happen, but it is preferable to the alternative, which is relinquishing the authority over those unallocated funds.

Travis Snyder opened the meeting for public testimony. Barbara Fahey said that the area needs an auditorium created that will serve the greatest number of organizations and user groups while serving the public well and responsibly. The design components and specific improvements will be dependent upon the facility's marketing plan and its intended users.

Ms. Fahey's second point was that this is an economic development opportunity for the City of Edmonds, as it will create a reason for visitors to come there, and then they are likely to return. She stated the need to preserve this auditorium, which has been "an anchor for the cultural arts center of South Snohomish County."

Frank DeMiero said that the facility is greatly needed. It meets the regionality test, because it is one of only two auditoriums north of Seattle that can seat up to 800. It needs improvements, but the acoustics are very good, and it deserves the enhancements required to make it a desirable facility again. Please support the arts and South County community with this great opportunity.

Ruth Arista said that retail business receipts are softening. This project is a good use of available resources, and it makes a lot of sense to enhance an existing cultural resource. The facility would not be competition, but rather a community amenity, making the area a better place to live, work and play.

The Board discussed the Edmonds project's viability, both current and potential. The Board agreed that the project is not viable at this time. Erik Nelson moved for language in Option 1, finding the project "contingently viable, if proponents are able to meet the work plan elements and timelines presented in Appendix 1." Liz Loomis seconded with the addition of specific \$2.69 million allocation language. The motion passed unanimously. The Board then specifically approved language in Appendix 1 as amended.

Lynnwood Interlocal:

Doug Ferguson presented for consideration proposed indemnification language. This is being reviewed by Hugh Spitzer, who will forward it to the Lynnwood City Council. Loomis moved to adopt the language as presented. Erik Nelson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Dan Clements said that he will work with County Council staff to get a date for presentation there.

Closing Comments:

Barry Smith, representing of the Museum of Flight thanked the Board for a good process. He said that the Board is keeping apprised of actions here. He appreciates that this Board maintained control over excess funds and flexibility for future allocations.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM.

Future Meetings:

Friday, May 31, 2002 at 3:00 P.M.

A future meeting schedule will be discussed then.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Gude". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "T" and a long, horizontal flourish extending to the right.