



Lowell City Council

Arts/Culture SC Meeting Minutes

Michael Q. Geary
City Clerk

Date: September 25, 2018
Time: 5:30 PM
Location: City Council Chamber
375 Merrimack Street, 2nd Floor, Lowell, MA

PRESENT:

Present on Roll Call were C. Cirillo, C. Mercier and C. Kennedy. Also present were Henri Marchand (Director Lowell Cultural Affairs), Peter Lally (President Lowell Management Group), Jack Lally (Partner), Andrew Holden (Partner), Chris Dick (Partner), and John Chemaly (Partner).

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

C. Cirillo noted meeting agenda and called meeting to order.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

C. Cirillo said the meeting has been called to present new management for the Lowell Memorial Auditorium. C. Mercier said she is familiar with this group and would like to say she has witnessed their expertise and it was unbelievable before and she is sure it will be revived. Peter Lally, President of the Lowell Management Group introduced himself and provided the committee with a brief introduction. Mr. Lally said he has always appreciated how much this building means to the community and he is glad to be back. Mr. Lally then provided the committee with an overview of the group with information on operations as well as some of the group's intentions with bookings and programming with the auditorium. Mr. Lally also touched on some outreach in the community with different organizations that they are doing for marketing and economic development. Mr. Lally wanted to bring the committees attention with respect to a piece of legislation that affects the auditorium that is presently in the Committee of the House H.4578-FY18 Final Deficiency Budget. Mr. Lally also provided the committee with a calendar of events booked October through December. Mr. Lally commented on renovations that will be done at the auditorium, additional handicapped bathrooms as well as fixing the back loading dock door. Mr. Lally said we are very excited about upcoming events planned for 2019 that will be announced later. C. Mercier would like to see the auditorium coordinate with the restaurants as to their schedules so that patrons could get a meal and enjoy a show afterwards or see a show and then enjoy a meal. C. Mercier also has concerns with loading dock doors being expanded to accommodate bigger venues. Mr. Lally explained



funding is available and design phase is ongoing for loading dock doors. Mr. Lally said the handicapped bathrooms are the next project but that the loading dock doors would be after that. Mr. Chemaly noted they are working with a limo company to come up with a package for dinner, theatre and limo to bring patrons from suburbs into downtown Lowell. C. Cirillo questioned if the auditorium was doing any kind of outreach. Mr. Lally said absolutely. C. Kennedy commented on the Legislation and how the money is dispersed. Mr. Lally said it has yet to be determined but it would be through a process that Mass Cultural Council would develop. C. Kennedy also commented on the renovations and timeline. Mr. Lally said that hopefully construction on bathrooms would be sometime in January or February and that construction would not hinder bookings throughout 2019. C. Kennedy said he is really excited about the team that has been put together and thanked everyone. Mr. Marchand noted that there is a weekly email that is sent out to downtown businesses as well as others of scheduling so that they may plan accordingly.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn by C. Cirillo, seconded by C. Mercier. So voted.

Meeting adjourned at 6:04 PM.

Angela Gitschier, Assistant City Clerk
