



## AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, April 24, 2019; 12:00 p.m.

**Location:** BMO Harris Bank Center (Board Room – Lower Level)  
300 Elm Street, Rockford, IL 61101

### MINUTES

**Board Members Present:** Craig Thomas                      Martesha Brown  
John Phelps    Michael Schirger  
Sunil Puri    Rudy Valdez  
Mike Dunn    Tom Walsh

**Board Members Absent:** Fred Wescott                      Howie Heaton

**Others Present:** Alderman, Frank Beach  
Alderman, Chad Tuneberg  
Attorney, Tim Rollins

**Staff Present:** Troy Flynn; Executive Director, BMO Harris Bank Center  
Lauren Hurt; RAVE Secretary/Staff Accountant, BMO Harris Bank Center  
Kristen O’Halloran; Booking Manager, BMO Harris Bank Center  
Jena Keith; Director of Ticketing Services, BMO Harris Bank Center  
Julie McIntyre; Purchasing/Office Manager, BMO Harris Bank Center  
Gretchen Gilmore; Director of Finance, BMO Harris Bank Center

**Chairman Craig Thomas called the meeting to order at 12:02 PM.**

Craig Thomas introduces Martesha Brown as a new member of the Board.

**MINUTES** – The minutes from the February 27, 2019 meeting were reviewed and approved.

**MOTION: Motion to approve February 27, 2019 minutes made by Rudy Valdez, second by Sunil Puri. Motion passes unanimously.**

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Finance** **Mr. Sunil Puri, Chair**

Defers to treasurer's report.

- **Executive** **Mr. Craig Thomas, Chair**

Craig Thomas reminds the board to file their Statement of Economic Interest before May 1, 2019. Craig Thomas informs the Board of a meeting he and Troy Flynn had with Mark Robinson on behalf of Peter Provenzano regarding the Times Theater. Craig Thomas states he does not recommend taking on the theater and has informed Mark Robinson of this decision but would be willing to put him in touch with SMG.

- **Davis Park** **Mr. Tom Walsh, Chair**

Tom Walsh informs the Board the report is out regarding the possibilities at Davis Park. The report states that although ticketed events could be held, it will be operated at a loss. The types of events to be held have not been decided on and any type of ticketed events will be ran through RAVE. Sunil Puri recommends looking into a lollapalooza type event. Troy Flynn informs the Board of a possible ice cream social that is being coordinated for next year.

- **Coronado** **Mr. Craig Thomas, Chair**

Craig Thomas states the MOU is still out for approval by the City and Friends of the Coronado. Craig Thomas informs the Board that there is an issue with the amount of rent free days the City would like to have and the use Friends would have of these days.

- **Governance** **Attorney, Mr. Tim Rollins**

None at this time.

- **Program Advisory Group** **Mr. Michael Schirger, Chair**

Michael Schirger congratulates the marketing team and their efforts with regard to the artist gift Iliza Shlesinger received. Michael Schirger defers to the General Manager's report.

- **Capital Improvement** **Mr. John Phelps, Chair**

None at this time.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

### **Mr. Sunil Puri, Treasurer**

Gretchen Gilmore states March was a good month event wise. The IceHogs were down compared to last year. Gretchen Gilmore directs the Board to a financial report that states although March was a decent month we will begin to decline over the next few months. Comparatively on the budget we will be significantly below budget. Sunil Puri states the numbers are not good for this fiscal year and he attributes this to a decrease in population and the remaining population's disposable income. Sunil Puri points out to the Board, this year's deficit is more than the City subsidy will cover. Sunil Puri asks the Board to begin looking for a different managing company because he feels there is a lack of support. Gretchen Gilmore states the IceHogs had a significant decrease in ticket sales this year and would be considered the IceHogs second worst year but with

the increase in concession sales, we made a slight profit. Mike Dunn states he believes it is a revenue problem and would like to see more large shows brought to the BMO. Sunil Puri asks for a break down on who is the most influential management companies compared to SMG. Troy Flynn gives a breakdown of the top competitors in event management. Craig Thomas recommends that a phone meeting be arranged between Sunil Puri, Thierry Gray, Troy Flynn and himself to discuss the concerns of the Board. Craig Thomas concludes the discussion stating the IceHogs need more improvement, the Coronado needs to be maximized, and the BMO needs to be managed better.

***MOTION: Motion to approve March 2019 financials made by Michael Schirger, second by Mike Dunn. Motion passes unanimously.***

**GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT**

**Mr. Troy Flynn, Executive Director**

Troy Flynn states most of his report has been covered throughout the meeting. Chad Tuneberg asks if Troy Flynn believes the weather hindered some of the ticket sales throughout the winter. Troy Flynn responds that he does believe that was a factor. Troy Flynn asks the board to allow sponsorship of the Coronado. Sunil Puri asks Troy Flynn if he believes the hotel will bring any more business to the organization or will it hurt us. Troy Flynn believes the two organizations will be connected.

**COUNSEL'S REPORT – Attorney Tim Rollins**

None at this time.

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Mr. Craig Thomas**

None at this time.

**CLOSED SESSION**

None at this time.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Craig Thomas informs the Board of a press conference in May 2019 to announce the Olympic Table Tennis competition.

**ADJOURNMENT** – The Authority Board adjourned at 1:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren Hurt, RAVE Secretary/FOIA Officer