



RTA ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
DECEMBER 29, 2020, 1:00 P.M.
ZOOM VIRTUAL MEETING

- 1) Welcome and Introductions
Economic Development Officer Bob Cope welcomed everyone to the meeting. Sherry Hoffman called the roll.
- 2) Call to Order – Roll Call

Richard Skorman – absent
Mark Waller – absent
Governor Dick Celeste - present
Venkat Reddy – absent. Charlie Sweet represented UCCS.
Colonel Houston – absent. Carlos Cruz-Gonzales represented USAFA.
Luke Travins – absent
Becky Medved – present
Dan Stuart – present
Doug Price – present
Doug Quimby – absent
Julian Flores – present
Lynne Telford – present
Marvin Strait – present
Mike Gould – present
Susan Edmondson – absent
Bob Cope – present
Amy Folsom – absent
Randy Case – present

Bob Cope called for a motion to excuse those unable to attend. Motion passed unanimously.
- 3) Approval of Minutes
Bob Cope called for an approval of the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.
- 4) Communications

None

5) Project Element Status Updates

a) USOPM – Chris Liedel presented the project element update. A new marketing video was played for the group. Chris discussed the opening on July 30, 2020. The time ticketing allowed for a safe Covid experience. Supportive of Young Champion Ambassadors, and development of curriculum of reliance, as well as teacher guides that allow the experience to be incorporated into class time for students. Doug Price asked if they were targeting a specific state for visitors. Chris explained that Colorado has the most visitors thus far, but Texas, Illinois and California are also participating in great numbers. The museum is working on developing programming to celebrate Colorado Springs' Sesquicentennial.

b) UCCS – Charlie Sweet, Bill Lueke, and Steve Johnson presented for the project element. The project was completed on time and on budget. UCCS and Centura created a joint venture to oversee the success and full potential of the building. Steve Johnson shared a video of updated information on the interior enhancements that are currently being utilized. Bill Lueke reported that they opened June 30, 2020, as well as discussed current and future activities and partnerships. Steve Johnson then discussed the academic side updates. Accommodations have been made for Covid, to include reducing in-person class attendee numbers. The classes that need in-person instruction are large enough to provide for adequate social distancing. Students return to campus on February 22, 2021.

c) USAFA - Eric Smith and Carlos Cruz-Gonzalez presented for the project element. Eric explained that they have been able to obtain timeline extensions for bonding. Air Force, OEDIT, and City of Colorado Springs have worked with them due to the timing of their bond issuance. They continue to work with Royal Bank of Canada, and the entire team is still involved and engaged in the completion of the project. Hope to be in the marketing process by January 2021. Carlos discussed the commitment of the Air Force through signing the lease documents to extend through December, 2021. He also discussed the involvement of the team working with the consultant on the design of the interior exhibits. Mr. Strait asked about bonding updates to the group, and Eric stated that could certainly be arranged. Shooting for financial closing for the first quarter, 2021. Bob mentioned when the team approached the OEDIT Board regarding extensions, the Board expressed nothing but their support for the project. Obtaining Commencement of Substantial Work in 2019 opened the door for discretion on extensions necessary to the success of the project.

d) CSEC

- i. Robson Arena – Lesley Irvine and Amber Brannigan gave an update on this project element. Lesley stated they are using a branding company to tell the story of Colorado College and Colorado Springs for interior designs and features. Amber states the building is ready to be closed in. Work continued throughout Covid as they

worked with the County to commit to transparency and safety for all workers in the space. The work remained on track. Excited about the open space, and the view from Dale Street will be a nice enhancement for the project.

- ii. Weidner Stadium – Nick Ragain provided an update on the project element. Some delays due to Covid have been experienced with the project construction. Main entrance sculpture will be assembled on site in February. The interiors are all closed in at this point, with a move-in date the first of April 2021. Art Walk is the first Friday of April. Sculpture ribbon cutting event in April, 2021. There will be a series of events for season ticket members and sponsors. Will be featured on ESPN 2. Two concerts planned - one in late May and one in August. NCAA final is still looking good, as well as Olympic celebration events with Sports Corp. The Switchbacks continue to evolve in their relationship with Colorado Rapids.
- iii. Bob Cope mentioned that The Colorado Spring Sports Authority is actively meeting to support both CSEC projects to attract out of state visitors.

6) Financing Entity Report

Randy Case and Jariah Walker provided the Financing Entity Report update, including current cash balance in each project fund account.

7) Applicant Update

Looking forward to more City for Champions developments next year, including opening of Weidner Stadium, Robson Arena, and bonding for the Air Force Academy visitor Center

10) Unfinished Business
None

11) New Business
None

12) Board Member Comments

Dan Stuart commented encouraged everyone to step outside on NYE and watched the AdAmAn Club fireworks at 2100.

13) Public Comment / Public Input
None

14) Adjourn