

MINUTES
STAFFORD CENTRE COMMITTEE MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 08, 2022

On the 8th day of August 2022, at 12:00 p.m., the Stafford Centre Committee of Stafford, Texas met in regular session at the Stafford Centre in said City. The following members of the Committee were present: Committee Members Wen Guerra, Don Jones, and Alice Chen. Absent: none. The following City staff were present: Director of Recreation Susan Ricks, Assistant General Manager Rebecca Hathorn, FMSquared President Bryan Blaum, City Secretary Roxanne Benitez, Assistant City Secretary Shandra Phillips, Assistant Chief of Police Glyn Horn, and Administrative Assistant of Recreation Stefanie Plata.

1. Call meeting to order.

Committee Member Wen Guerra called the meeting to order at 12:01 P.M.

2. Approval of minutes for Stafford Centre Committee Meeting held on June 14, 2022.

Committee Member Chen made a motion to approve the minutes for the Stafford Centre Committee meeting held on June 14, 2022, and Committee Member Jones seconded the motion. Committee Members Guerra, Jones, and Chen voted "Aye"; "Nay" – none. Motion carried 3-0.

3. Discussion and Consideration regarding the Election of a Chairperson for the Committee.

Committee Member Don Jones made a motion to appoint himself as Chairperson, and motion was not seconded. Motion failed.

Committee Member Wen Guerra made a motion to appoint himself as Chairperson, and Committee Member Chen seconded. Committee Members Guerra and Chen voted "Aye"; "Nay" – Committee Member Jones. Motion carried 2-1.

4. Discussion and Consideration regarding the Election of a Vice-Chair for the Committee.

Chairperson Wen Guerra made a motion to appoint Committee Member Alice Chen for Vice-Chair, and Committee Member Chen seconded. Chairperson Guerra and Committee Member Chen voted "Aye"; "Nay" – Committee Member Jones. Motion carried 2-1.

5. Discussion and Consideration regarding setting a regular schedule for Stafford Centre Committee Meetings.

Chairperson Guerra suggested that the committee meetings be moved to after 5:00 p.m.

Committee Member Jones disagreed and asked if all members could continue to attend the afternoon meetings. All members responded with a “Yes”.

Director of Recreation Susan Ricks advised that the meetings had always been on the same schedule on the 2nd Monday at 12:00 p.m. since the implementation of the Stafford Centre Committee and requested it remain.

Vice-Chair Chen suggested the committee meetings remain in the afternoon due to Staff being at work all day.

After discussion, Chairperson Guerra made a motion to approve setting a regular schedule for Stafford Centre Committee Meetings, and Vice-Chair Chen seconded the motion. Chairperson Guerra, Vice-Chair Chen, and Committee Member Jones voted “Aye”; “Nay” – none. Motion carried 3-0.

6. Discussion and Consideration regarding a request by Stafford Police Department’s for increase in hourly pay for direct pay jobs at Stafford Civic Center and Stafford Centre.

Assistant Chief Horn advised that he coordinated the jobs for approximately 40-65 officers but was unable to successfully fill the jobs due to the rate being \$35 an hour. He stated that City Police Staff should be securing the buildings during events and not outsourcing. He also stated even with the requested increase the new hourly rate would still be less than surrounding areas.

Chairperson Guerra advised the new hourly rate increase would go into effect August 08, 2022 in the amounts of \$40 an hour for indoor, \$45 an hour for outdoor, an overtime rate of \$60 an hour for indoor, and \$65 an hour for outdoor. Overtime hours would begin after scheduled event hours had ended.

After discussion, Vice-Chair Chen made a motion to approve the Stafford Police Department’s increase in hourly pay for direct pay jobs at the Stafford Civic Center and Stafford Centre, and Chairperson Guerra seconded the motion. Chairperson Guerra, Vice-Chair Chen, and Committee Member Jones voted “Aye”; “Nay” – none. Motion carried 3-0.

7. Discussion and Consideration regarding a request by the SMSD Band Booster Club for the City to co-sponsor their concerts on December 06, 2022 and May 16, 2023 at Stafford Centre.

After a brief discussion, Chairperson Guerra made a motion to approve the request by the SMSD Band Booster Club for the City to co-sponsor their concerts on December 06, 2022 and May 16, 2023 at Stafford Centre, and Vice-Chair Chen seconded the motion. Chairperson Guerra, Vice-Chair Chen, and Committee Member Jones voted “Aye”; “Nay” – none. Motion carried 3-0.

8. Discussion and Consideration regarding the City’s co-sponsorship of Disney’s DCappella Concert scheduled on November 25, 2022 at Stafford Centre.

FMSquared President Bryan Blaum stated this was the first time Disney would be coming to the City and it would take place the Friday after Thanksgiving. He also suggested charging the non-holiday rental rate to offset costs including overtime pay.

Chairperson Guerra thought this would be a great event during the Thanksgiving holiday as it would attract outsiders to the City.

Vice-Chair Chen agreed with Mr. Blaum's suggestion of charging the non-holiday rental rate versus the holiday rental rate to offset the costs for overtime pay due to the event being held during a holiday.

After a brief discussion, Chairperson Guerra made a motion to approve the City's co-sponsorship of Disney's DCappella Concert at the non-holiday rental rate scheduled on November 25, 2022 at Stafford Centre, and Vice-Chair Chen seconded the motion. Chairperson Guerra, Vice-Chair Chen, and Committee Member Jones voted "Aye"; "Nay" – none. Motion carried 3-0.

9. Discussion and Consideration regarding the replacement of the carpet at Stafford Civic Center.

Director of Recreation Susan Ricks advised that the Civic Center had foundation issues and the flooring was cracked in several places. Ms. Ricks requested to table the item until she received a recommendation from Jones Engineering.

After discussion, the consensus from the Committee was to table the item until the recommendation had been received from Jones Engineering.

No action was taken.

10. Discussion and Consideration regarding the Fort Bend Music Festival.

FMSquared President Bryan Blaum advised that the festival had been canceled at the Stafford Centre and moved to the Arena Theatre. Mr. Blaum stated ticket sales were very low and the promotor decided to move the event to an indoor location. He also stated that all funds had been refunded except for the non-refundable \$5,000 deposit.

No action was taken.

11. Discussion and Consideration regarding the expansion of Stafford Centre.

Chairperson Guerra stated the SEDC Board had previously discussed and asked how many studies were done in the past for an expansion.

FMSquared President Bryan Blaum advised the last study was completed October 17, 2016. Mr. Blaum suggested a new study be conducted as the previous study would not be sufficient for the new expansion.


Committee Member Jones asked if there was an estimated cost for the expansion. Mr. Blaum advised that the cost was unknown until a new study was conducted.

No action was taken.

12. Adjournment.

Vice-Chair Chen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:47 p.m., and Committee Member Jones seconded the motion. Chairperson Guerra, Vice-Chair Chen, and Committee Member Jones voted "Aye"; "Nay" – none. Motion carried 3-0.

ATTEST:



Shandra Phillips
Assistant City Secretary



Wen Guerra
Committee Chairperson