

SCFD BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

March 28, 2013

1:00 pm

Lakewood Cultural Center

Meeting Minutes

SCFD Board members present: Chair Kathryn Spuhler, Vice Chair Kathy Kucsan, Treasurer Dan Hopkins, Secretary Councilwoman Peggy Lehmann, Joseph Arcese, Bob Grant, Shepard Nevel, Kathleen Stapleton, Elaine D. Torres, Hal Logan and Damon O. Barry

SCFD staff present: Executive Director Peg Long, Program Manager Nancy McCamey, Program Manager Jessica Clare, Program Associate Erica Barclay, Office Systems Administrator Sheila Mieger

1. Introductions and Approval of Agenda

Kathryn Spuhler called the meeting to order at 1pm followed by introductions. A quorum was present, and the agenda was approved.

Diana Wilson, City of Lakewood Mayor pro tem, welcomed the Board to the Lakewood Cultural Center. The Center is a regional hub for local artists and touring acts. It is a venue for many SCFD funded organizations. SCFD dollars are vital to the Lakewood community stated Diana. Kathy Hodgson, Lakewood City Manager, thanked the SCFD for helping bring culture and arts to the citizens. Both officials thanked Kathleen Stapleton for the contributions she has made to the City and the County.

2. Oath of Office

Kathy Kucsan swore in Kathryn Spuhler, Douglas County appointee for a second term. Kathryn Spuhler swore in, Kathy Kucsan, Boulder County appointee for a second term. Kathryn Spuhler swore in, Elaine D. Torres, gubernatorial appointee. Elaine made a short introduction, sharing that she is the director of community affairs at News4, lives in Lowry and has a young son.

3. Approval of February 28, 2013 Board Minutes

Hal Logan motioned to approve the minutes. Kathleen Stapleton seconded. Motion to accept the minutes passed.

4. Reports

4.1 Treasurer

Dan Hopkins reported the January 2013 SCFD sales and use tax revenue was \$3,298,645.83. This compares to January 2012 tax revenue of \$3,387,812.08. The variance is (\$89,166.25). This is a 2.63% decrease in 2013 over month-to-date (MTD) and year-to-date (YTD) 2012.

4.2 Chairman

Kathryn Spuhler reported that the SCFD Taskforce for Education Programs and Services (STEPS) committee met with Gully Stanford regarding possible community partnerships. Emily Hall, former SCFD intern, will be presenting on behalf of STEPS at the Scientific and Cultural Collaborative Inter-tier Arts Education Summit on April 4.

4.3 Executive Director

Peg Long reported the following.

- 2013 ACH distribution dates are: March 15 (Tiers I & II), June 14 (Tier I), September 16 (Tiers I & II), December 16 (Tiers I & II).
- Banking requests for submissions went out to eight PDPA-qualified banks last week. The deadline for submissions is April 19th.
- Peg gave each Board member an updated Budget Projection handout. Without an increase in interest rates or the .75% administrative allocation SCFD will deplete its reserves prior to 2016. The interest rates are not likely to go up before that time, and if they do, they are not likely to go up by much. Dan Hopkins asked each Board member to consider ways for SCFD to acquire the administrative funds needed to continue. One option is to go to the

legislature in 2015 asking for the administrative percentage to increase at the time of signing the bill; but still maintaining the public vote in 2016. This topic will be on the April 11 planning session agenda.

- New website and social media update – Since the launch of the new website on Feb. 1, the site has had 26,308 visits. The “Free Days” page is the most visited. 28% of visitors are using mobile devices including tablets. The average time spent on the website is 1.25 minutes, which is an increase over the old website. The site has seen high referral traffic from Facebook, Denver Botanic Gardens and Denver March Powwow. Most of the visitors are from Denver. SCFD currently has 1,808 friends on Facebook and 647 people following on Twitter.
- Peg attended a hearing on House Bill 13-1272.
 1. Multiplier used by the fiscal analyst is .6% increase, or the equivalent of about \$252,000 on \$42 million
 2. Amended effective date of January 1, 2014 instead of July 1 to eliminate \$90,000 DOR fiscal note for printing and mailing coupon books mid-year
 3. Some TABOR concerns expressed re: “new” taxes on soft drinks, candy & cigarettes (also food in containers)
 4. Bill drafter said Mesa County Supreme Court opinion deemed tax increases that are less than the cost of a TABOR election would be considered *de minimis* and not in violation of TABOR
 5. Majority of committee questions addressed to RTD
 6. Lobbyist will request that bill sponsor obtain written confirmation from DOR that SCFD will not be charged fees for software revisions to align SCFD taxes with the state’s

Melanie Layton, SCFD lobbyist, reported North Metro Chamber, Denver Chamber and C3 supported the bill. Colorado beverage association was against it. The bill will go to appropriations next. There is not a fiscal note attached so it should move through quickly. The amount of money SCFD would net is not and cannot be certain. Melanie feels the bill will pass regardless of our support, but SCFD’s support would be appreciated. Peggy Lehmann sees SCFD supporting the bill as good government. It makes tax collection easier to understand and facilitate.

Bob Grant motioned to support and endorse House Bill 13-1272 and direct SCFD lobbyist, Melanie Layton, to act accordingly at her discretion to communicate the Board’s support. Peggy seconded. The Board asked Melanie if the advantages outweigh the risks. It is not without risk, replied Melanie, but she felt the benefits do outweigh the risk. Melanie will focus on the new legislators and use this as an opportunity to educate them about what the SCFD is and its benefits. Peg Long was asked her opinion. She thinks the Board should support it. Dan Hopkins offered an amendment to Bob’s motion – in order to facilitate and simplify tax collection and to insure better accuracy of tax collection. Bob accepted the amendment. All voted in favor.

5. Other Matters

The Board thanked Kathleen Stapleton for six years of service. Kathryn Spuhler read a proclamation honoring Kathleen.

6. Public Comment

Steve Wilson, co-chair of the SCC asked the Board if a bill was brought to the legislature in 2015 would it include all proposed changes to the statute or just the administrative share. Dan Hopkins replied that he feels the whole bill would have to be presented but only the administrative change would take place immediately. Steve also asked how the election cost recovery of \$100,000 would be handled. Peg Long said each year’s recovery from Tier I and II organizations would occur proportionally over the September, December and March distributions. The funds would be recovered from Tier III prior to the county allocations in the following year, i.e., 2014. Steve reported Citizens for Arts to Zoo (CATZ) presented at the last SCC meeting. Kathryn Spuhler asked Steve if this was the first year all Tier Is have been members of the SCC. Yes, said Steve, although the DCPA has always been a member. Kathryn asked if having them part of the SCC has changed the organization’s budget. He said that currently their budget is set up such that any “extra money” goes into the pathways program. Additional funds have allowed for the existence of a marketing budget. Steve said there could be further changes to the budget structure in the future including some administrative help for Charlotte D’Armond Talbert, coordinator of the SCC.

Kathy Spuhler reported she attended Colorado Ballet’s dress rehearsal of Light. She strongly recommended people attend the performance. Marie Belew Whitley, Executive Director of the Colorado Ballet said there were four performances left. She offered Board discounted tickets.

Malik Robinson and Cleo Parker Robinson of New Dance Theatre dba Cleo Parker Robinson Dance asked the Board if they could and would be willing to reverse SCFD staff's decision not to accept their Tier III multi-county grant due to it being incomplete. New Dance had all the information required but, due to an error on the organization's part, the application did not include all of the required information. After a lengthy discussion, including hearing comments from County Cultural Council members, the Board thanked Malik and Cleo for all that their organization does for the public. The board took no action on the request on the grounds that the Board does not have jurisdiction to do so. A determination of whether a grant application is complete or submitted by the deadline is based on agreed upon county criteria and is a County Cultural Council decision. All seven councils have formally assigned their authority to enforce grant application compliance requirements to SCFD Staff. It was confirmed that the organization could still move forward with its grant application to Denver County. Cleo thanked the Board for considering the request.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 pm.


Secretary