

READING PARKING AUTHORITY (RPA)

MINUTES

From meeting held on February 28, 2017 at 5:30 PM at City Council Chambers, City Hall

Board Members Present

Nelson E. Espinal

Delphin Vazquez, Vice-chair

Cindy Catsner

Pastor Felipe Fana

OTHERS PRESENT

Reimundo Encarnacion, Executive Director

Felix Freytiz, PEO Supervisor

David Sobotka, Solicitor

GUESTS

Manny Molina

Frank Gilfert

Lucine Sihelnik

Kathleen Stone

Rosa Marin

Fabio Fabre

Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Public comments

My name is Lucine am here representing Redesign Reading. There have been some concerns with the agreement between our organization and the Reading Parking Authority, there are two invoices now outstanding so I wanted to come in personally and also if there is questions and comments or to give a presentation to the board at any time. Also, we have had a partnership between the Penn St Market and Reading Parking Authority that has been invaluable based on the vouchers used, 600 last year alone.

Guest

Berks Connection/Pretrial Services Michelle Tomczak and Rosa Marin

Rosa: So we are here from BCPS, that's berks connection pretrial services and we wanted to tell you and everyone that participates in this meeting what we do and how we can reach out to the community I will present to you Cathleen and Michelle so they can tell you a little bit more.

Michelle: just to share a little of BCPS, we have been around for about 40 years. Our office is located in the courthouse building. We have gotten extremely busy lately in addition to working with individuals coming out of the County Jail whom require a lot of reentering support. We have triple our numbers over the last year, anyone coming out of any community corrections center and on parole can receive services when they are refer to our agency. Our goal as a life improvement service agency is to try to improve people's life that are trying to turn their life around. We have staff that provide helping them prepare to enter the work force and again just to give them tools to become successful out of the community. We also work with employers in the community because if we are going to prepare folks and get them more prepare to work we are looking for employers that are willing to hire individuals that have records and have gone through these programs. These individuals can be very good workers they just need a second opportunity provided to them. We have two events coming up and I wanted to provide you some information on it. Kathleen will also talk about it. The event is actually this Friday, any employer that is willing to give second chances is free to come. Is going to be held this Friday from 10am-2pm at the Doubletree Hotel. We also have an event coming up this April and is our April life improvement awards breakfast and this is our opportunity to show what our agency is about with improvements.

Cathleen: We have about 26 businesses in the community attending this fair and we have a handful of services agency who come to promote their services and help educators in the area. Alvernia College, RACC will be there. This is the second job fair we are doing this year. Our last job fair saw over 300 job seekers. That is the number of people out there with records that can be a very valuable employee. Going back to the employers there are some employers in this county that are willing to give second chances considering the individual and not what has been done or look beyond what they have done but if you know of any employers that we might benefit from we would be glad to have them. thank you.

Reading and Approval of Minutes

- Motion 2017-03 to approve minutes by Nelson E. Espinal and seconded by Cindy Castner. All in favor, Motion passed.

Correspondence

None

Reports

Rei: sent electronically. Enforcement hours have been extended till 8pm, excluding the meters, which is still from 8am-6pm. Just wanted to inform you that we are now part of the National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance and Co-Stars, which offer great discount when purchasing any item that they have available and that we need. The Baker Tilly forensic is still in progress. We are also now working with Rahl & Associates, P.C., CPA's, a certified public accounting firm that provides broad-based expertise in all phases of accounting, tax, budgets, financial analysis and planning. They are helping us with the general ledger, 7 month of documentation that needs to be updated and getting the RPA ready for our yearly audit.

- Motion 2017-04 to have a contract for 3 months with the Accounting firm made by Cindy Castner and seconded by Pastor Felipe Fana. All in favor, Motion passed.
- Motion 2017-05 Motion to approve the new contract for parking with RACC made by Pastor Felipe Fana and seconded by Cindy Castner. All in favor, Motion passed.
- Motion 2017-06 to sign the Commercial Energy Agreement with Champion Energy Services through our broker Direct energy made by Pastor Felipe Fana and seconded by Cindy Castner. All in favor, Motion passed.
- Motion 2017-07 Motion to accept the payments of the accounts payable made by Pastor Felipe Fana and seconded by Delphin Vazquez.

Solicitor's Report:

None

Old Business:

The board should discuss how much the Authority is going to be contributing for the city for 2017 and for 2016. The plan is to contribute 800,000 dollars for 2017.

- Motion 2017-08 Motion to transfer 800,000 dollars into the city as our contribution made by Cindy Castner and seconded by Pastor Felipe Fana.

New Business:

Sustainable Energy & Lighting Solutions (SELS)

The RPA is testing the T8 LED samples. These lamps will save the RPA half of the cost of what we use per lamp. The lamps may cost between \$11.50 and \$12.00 depending on the quantity purchased. There is also a rebate per lamp replace of approximately \$3.00. SELS provides kilowatt reduction and utility cost suppression solution for homeowners and commercial properties for non-profits, government entities and businesses. SELS do this through energy-efficient power upgrades, power conditioning device distribution and installation, and innovative energy lighting solutions. SELS also help customers to qualify for electric rebates and incentives.

Old Business:

- Motion 2017-09 Motion for a request for proposal for Banking Services to search for better services made by Cindy Castner and seconded by Pastor Felipe Fana.
- Motion 2017-10 Motion to start towing made by Cindy Castner and seconded by Delphin Vazquez.
- Motion 2017-11 Motion to renew membership with the National parking Association (NPA) in the amount of \$595.00 made by Cindy Castner and seconded by Pastor Felipe Fana.

Executive Session:

6:10 p.m. till 6:50 p.m. To discuss personnel matters.

Motion 2017-12 to adjourned by Pastor Felipe Fana, seconded by Delphin Vazquez at 7:15 p.m.

Motions

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