

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

LEGISLATIVE GOVERNMENTAL MALL COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, September 15, 2004 – 3:30 PM

Senate Hearing Room 1

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tom Knapp, Chair	Representative Bob Robson
Senator Jim Waring	Joy Rich
Tom Smith (former State Senator)	LeRoy Brady
Roger Burna (for Betsey Bayless)	Heidi Birch
David Richert	

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Kevin DeMenna
Thomas Chapman
Donald Keuth, Jr.

STAFF PRESENT:

Courtney Riddle, House Majority Assistant Research Analyst
Nadine Sapien, Senate Government Committee Research Analyst

Chairman Knapp called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and attendance was noted. He stated that Mr. Keuth had a conflict, but will try to attend the meeting.

Status of Memorials in Wesley Bolin Plaza

Emerson Stiles, Arizona Department of Administration (DOA), gave a presentation on the status of memorials in Wesley Bolin Plaza. He distributed a handout outlining the 24 existing memorials and the 4 memorials in various stages being pursued (Attachment A). He noted there would be space to include additional memorials in the future, but there are no immediate plans at this time. He indicated that trees would need to be removed in some instances. Mr. Stiles remarked that there is an additional wall space that could accommodate a large number of small memorial plaques.

Senator Smith commented he has been working with Faye Myles of DOA to devise a plan to improve the appearance of Wesley Bolin Plaza. He said she is going to submit a plan and timeline to improve the appearance of the Plaza so it will be a “place of pride”. Chairman Knapp commented that it formerly was the policy of the Commission to adjourn a meeting to view the space prior to approving a memorial. He said although it is beneficial to view a site, it is not a policy requirement of the Commission to do so.

In response to Senator Smith, Mr. Stiles stated that the only memorial that has been approved to date is the Enduring Freedom memorial. He noted that the other memorials are in preliminary stages, and the sponsors are not quite prepared to present those memorials to the Commission.

Chairman Knapp referred to the Navajo Code Talkers memorial and indicated that he met with their legislative leader and attended some of their meetings. He said it is his recollection that the Navajo leaders are purchasing a piece that has already been cast for another location. He said they are still involved in fundraising. Mr. Stiles responded that he had a discussion with one of their representatives and there are two statutes. He said the statute that has already been cast is available for viewing in Window Rock.

Capitol Complex Parking Capacity

John Webster, DOA, gave a presentation on the Capitol Parking Summary proposal and distributed a handout including a diagram outlining the parking spaces (Attachment B). He explained the lots and parking spaces as outlined in the handout and said the diagram is available in email format by request. He noted that 113 new visitor spaces have been created in the surface level of the 151 North 18th Avenue garage that was built for the Department of Health Services employees.

Chairman Knapp wanted to know if there had been problems with parking. Mr. Webster said he had received an email requesting this information. Ms. Sapien responded that Mr. DeMenna had requested the information. Chairman Knapp asked whether there is a perception of a parking problem. Mr. Webster responded that parking problems sometimes occur during legislative sessions. Chairman Knapp noted the first sentence of the Capitol Parking Summary “to not overbuild parking,” and questioned the reason for additional parking spaces particularly when the focus has been on encouraging mass transit.

Representative Robson suggested that perhaps it could be noted when encountering a full parking lot that visitors have options to park in other lots nearby.

Capitol Complex Traffic and Security Modifications

Mr. Webster presented an update on security including the 18th Drive improvements. He said the major portion of the funds required for the project came from a risk management grant. He explained the changes involved with this project as outlined in the handout distributed (Attachment C). He said other improvements involved installing bollards, and rearranging of the striping in the parking lot to make it more user friendly.

Chairman Knapp wanted to know how the signage is controlled in the parking lots. Mr. Webster responded the parking lots are controlled by DOA. Mr. Webster said the suggestion by Representative Robson is a good one provided there are funds available to handle the appropriate signage.

Chairman Knapp commented that no action is required today by the Commission and thanked DOA staff for presenting the information.

Senator Smith suggested that when members want to go directly to an agency to make a request, the Chairman should be notified in advance of any such action as a matter of

courtesy. Ms. Sapien responded that the request was made for an August meeting agenda; however, the Commission did not meet in August so the item was placed on the September agenda.

Public Testimony

There was no public testimony.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy L. DeMichele
Committee Secretary

(Tapes and attachments on file in the Secretary of the Senate's Office/Resource Center, Room 115.)