



# Hotel Motel Tax Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

6/12/2019

3:00 - 4:30 PM

SeaTac City Hall Council Chamber

**Members Present:** Councilmember Stanley Tombs; Brandi Mitchell; Jeff Bauknecht; Wendy Morgan

**Members Absent:** Cathy Heiberg; Richard Scherzinger

**Staff Present:** Aleksandr Yeremeyev, Economic Development Strategist; Steve Pilcher, CED Director; Jon Mattsen, Police Captain; Scott Dery, Detective Sergeant

**Commence: 3:05 PM**

**Adjourn: 4:30 PM**

1. Introductions – All	Councilmember Stanley Tombs, Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM
2. Review and Approve Minutes of May 8, 2019	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved as Written <input type="checkbox"/> Approved with Modifications <input type="checkbox"/> Recommended for Approval
3. SeaTac Police Department Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informational Update Captain Jon Mattsen noted there were no significant spikes in activity.  He encouraged reporting of fraudulent activity and clarified that police cannot enforce hotel policies.  Committee members expressed concerns regarding the need for the Port of Seattle to take steps in preventing auto theft activity at the Port owned facilities.
4. Sound Transit Airport Station elevator	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informational Update  Alex Ko of Sound Transit, advised the Committee that the Airport Station elevator will be closed for two months starting June 17 <sup>th</sup> . The stairs will still be accessible and free shuttle services will be provided. Free shuttle operator contact info: 360-543-9380. Alex Ko, <a href="mailto:alex.ko@soundtransit.org">alex.ko@soundtransit.org</a> or 206.903.7269.
5. Highline SeaTac Botanical Garden Learning Center Funding Request	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action  Katherine Kertzman of Seattle Southside RTA presented information regarding the Highline SeaTac Botanical Garden. She noted the

<p>Feasibility Study</p>	<p>presentation is not the funding request, but a request will come at a later date.</p> <p>The Garden is on Port owned land leased to the City. An extension of the lease would be necessary. Any capital project would need to be a municipally owned facility.</p> <p>The City's Parks &amp; Recreation Committee supported this. Will be presenting to the Port to explore the concept.</p> <p>Create and build on experiences: this is a priority for the SSRTA board.</p> <p>Building on the existing master plan, the RTA is helping support the south most portion of the garden and the learning center of about 6,240 SF. The building complex would be multipurpose with varied functionality.</p> <p>The RTA would help shape the programming and attract visitors, gardening societies, and other related travelers/tourists groups.</p> <p>Estimated cost is \$9.5 million dollars – Siteworks put together a brief estimate for a higher end product that would serve as a true tourist attraction for deliberate visitors.</p> <p>Ms. Kertzman proposed a motion</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The City of SeaTac Hotel Motel Advisory Committee supports the modification of the Highline SeaTac Botanical Garden Master Plan by enhancing the originally proposed Visitor Center with a Learning &amp; Event Center which will aide in increased garden awareness and attendance as a tourist attraction.</li> <li>2. As is required in the current land lease agreement between the Port of Seattle and City, the Hotel Motel Advisory Committee further recommends Council direct City staff to work in partnership with the Garden Taskforce and seek written consent from the Port of Seattle to the extend the current lease terms to 2070.</li> </ol> <p>Aleksandr Yeremeyev read Rich Scherzinger's and Cathy Heiberg's written comments to the committee.</p> <p>Moved and seconded to present to City Council for recommendation:  <b>Passed 4-0.</b></p>
<p>6. Seattle Southside Regional Tourism</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informational Update</p> <p>Meagan McGuire of the SSRTA provided an update on the Korean Sports Festival, which had estimated about 4,000 rooms, but pickups of the rooms was significantly lower. The funding presentation included</p>

	<p>statistics from previous events in 2017. The Committee discussed ideas on how to verify probability of success in funded.</p> <p>New applicants should be required to demonstrate successes from previous events and [provide the necessary data points to verify/make sure/ due diligence.</p> <p>The Committee also noted the process needs to provide time to think, evaluate and perform due diligence between a presentation/request for funding and the formal decision making. Reporting should include post event presentations for results analysis and provide feedback for potential funding.</p> <p>The application process should also have a question regarding collaboration within the region: RTA or other partners.</p>
<p>7. Smith Travel Report / WA Department of Revenue Statistics</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informational Update</p> <p>The statistics from the report were reviewed.</p>
<p>8. City Updates</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informational Update / Discussion</p> <p>The size of the committee has been reduced to 7 members by a recent action of the City Council.</p> <p>Staff also noted that the USA Baseball event has been canceled for this year.</p> <p>Staff also noted that for the opportunity bucket, funding application recommendations must go to Council for final approval. For bigger asks that require a budget amendment, the process is the same and follows the budget amendment cycles/process.</p>
<p>9. Other Business</p>	<p>Various activities were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Destination Seattle – DMO workshop on Challenges of Tourism Attraction to the region.</li> <li>• 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary moon walk celebration at the Museum of Flight</li> <li>• Seattle Business Magazine. Sting City</li> </ul>
<p>10. Adjourn</p>	<p>The meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM.</p> <p><i>The next regular meeting will be held on 7/10/2019 in the City Hall Council Chamber</i></p>