

ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY MEETING

January 22, 2009

A meeting of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority was held on January, 2009 in the Erie County Council Caucus Room. The meeting was called to order by Ronald Cleaver, Chairman, at 11:31 a.m. Other board members present were Kathleen DeSanti, Stephanie Freeman, Mike Paris, Dave Sample, Art Smaltz, and Jennifer Dobbs-Woods. Mr. Bruno was absent. Mr. Smith, Ms. Gold, Mr. Giles, Mr. Spaulding, Attorney Talarico, and several members of the public were also present.

Chairman Cleaver welcomed the new members; Mr. Paris and Mr. Smaltz and introduced them to the group. A motion to approve the minutes of November 21st and December 1, 2008 was made by Ms. Dobbs-Woods and seconded by Ms. DeSanti. The motion passed unanimously. Chairman Cleaver called for the group to go into executive session to discuss elements of the Authority's legal case in the action filed by Summit Township et al; the group approved a motion at 11:35 a.m. The executive session ended at 12:00 p.m. The need to create an Authority bank account for administrative funds was discussed. Mr. Cleaver indicated that he would be meeting with the County Finance Department to finalize the details.

The effects of the PA 'right to know' law were discussed thereafter and Ms. Dobbs-Woods made a motion to appoint Carolyn Gold Open Records Officer for the Authority. It was seconded by Ms. DeSanti and passed unanimously.

Mr. Sample made a motion to re-examine the criteria for evaluating 2007 restricted funds grant applications; it was seconded by Jennifer Dobbs-Woods and unanimously approved. Ms. Gold then reviewed the current criteria document line by line. Attorney Talarico suggested that the phrase "real and substantial connection to the casino" be added to the language. Discussion followed regarding gaming issues. Mr. Smaltz and Mr. Paris believe that gaming funds should be used for tax relief. Ms. Freeman pointed out that tax relief measures were in the statute, but that the Authority had to follow its legal mission for distributing unrestricted gaming funds for municipal grants. Members then re-examined the criteria document and Mr. Talarico suggested several other changes. Members then debated the base factors for rating applications and the appropriate number of points for each of those factors. It was generally agreed that the ability of a project to demonstrate a connection to the effects of the casino should be the worth the highest number of points. A 100 point scoring system was finalized for rating projects: 15 points for achieving multiple objectives; 30 points for importance to the community; 15 points for risk and reward; 40 points for the project demonstrating a connection to the casino and its activities. Ms. Freeman moved to amend the changes; it was seconded by Mr. Sample and approved unanimously. Several more changes were suggested, and they were officially adopted by unanimous vote.

Ms. Gold indicated she would send the revised document to all members in time for the next meeting. Chairman Cleaver then assigned members to the 25 projects that had been submitted to the Authority for gaming funds. Mrs. Freeman and Mr. Paris were given Projects 1, 4, 7, 14, 16,

18, 19, 23, and 24. Ms. Dobbs-Woods and Mr. Sample were given Projects 2, 3, 6, 8, 10, 21, 22, and 25. Ms. DeSanti and Mr. Smaltz were given Projects 5, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 17, and 20.

Mr. Cleaver asked that the teams begin reviewing the assigned projects immediately and the meeting was adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

NOTE: These minutes were approved at the January 29, 2009, meeting of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority. s/Carolyn E. Gold, Esquire; October 16, 2009.