

**CITY OF COLUMBIA  
CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES  
JANUARY 18, 2006  
4:00 PM – COLUMBIA OWENS DOWNTOWN AIRPORT  
1400 JIM HAMILTON BOULEVARD**

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The City of Columbia City Council met for a Work Session on Wednesday, January 18, 2006 at the Columbia Owens Downtown Airport located at 1400 Jim Hamilton Boulevard, Columbia, South Carolina. The Honorable Mayor Robert D. Coble called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. The following members of City Council were present: The Honorable Anne M. Sinclair, The Honorable Sam Davis and The Honorable Tameika Isaac Devine. The Honorable Hamilton Osborne, Jr. and The Honorable E.W. Cromartie, II arrived at 4:15 p.m. The Honorable Daniel J. Rickenmann was absent. Also present were Mr. Charles P. Austin, Sr., City Manager and Ms. Erika D. Salley, City Clerk.

\*\*Mayor Coble recognized the Greater Columbia Community Relations Council's Youth Leadership Council members that were in attendance.

**PRESENTATIONS**

- A. Columbia Festival of the Arts – Mr. Marvin Chernoff, Chairman of the Columbia Festival of Arts

Mr. Marvin Chernoff, Chairman of the Columbia Festival of Arts, stated that we are fortunate in Columbia to have a treasure of cultural activities. He said that they are planning the "This is Columbia Festival of the Arts" for 2007. It will be ten (10) days of outstanding performances by six (6) dance companies, exhibit openings at three (3) museums, openings at private galleries and colleges, theatre and musical performances, special events and tours. He said that it's the opposite of the Spoledo Festival because we will celebrate what's here in Columbia all year round. He noted that the event would be promoted heavily with Time Warner Cable being the presenting sponsor. Mr. Chernoff stated that he personally met with each member of the Hospitality Tax and Accommodations Tax Committees and they were all dramatically excited about this. He stated that he feels comfortable that the committees will fund the requested \$250,000 during fiscal year 2006 / 2007. He stated that they would work this year without any City money. He did request an indication of City Council's support of this program.

Upon motion by Mayor Coble, seconded by Mr. Cromartie, Council voted unanimously to endorse the Columbia Festival of the Arts scheduled for April 27, 2007 until May 6, 2007 and to encourage private sector support of the arts.

B. Fast Forward Quarterly Update – Ms. Dee Albritton, Director / Fast Forward

Ms. Dee Albritton, Director of Fast Forward, announced that Mr. James Nixon, a Fast Forward Volunteer placed second in the City's Martin Luther King Dream Keeper Essay Contest. She stated that the University of South Carolina has received a grant to continue the Science Quest Program at Martin Luther King Park and Hampton Park. She further announced that two (2) more graduate students would begin working with six graders and the Science Quest Program. She encouraged adults to attend the upcoming Internet Safety Seminars due to the increase in Internet scams. Ms. Albritton warned the youth about the material they place on the Internet and the negative impact it could have on their future. She announced collaboration with local bands to sponsor this summer's music video camp. The local bands have given Fast Forward songs to use that won't violate any copyright laws and will also put compact discs together as a fundraiser for Fast Forward. She noted that all song lyrics would be checked prior to use. Summer Camps serve rising first graders to rising eighth graders.

C. Reverse 911 Demonstration – Ms. Sara Dejarnette, Territory Manager for Reverse 911

Ms. Sara Dejarnette, Territory Manager for Reverse 911, stated that Reverse 911 is a Community Notification System that allows you to use phone lines to send recorded messages out to the community. It allows remote accessibility so that a number of emergency management departments can work together from the same system. She stated that the company is based in Indianapolis with seven (7) regional offices. She noted that they invented the technology for Reserve 911, so they develop and support the system in house. She said that they also offer a hybrid solution, which allows you to have an on site system, which is hardware on a computer sitting in a facility, but can be accessed from other areas. Ms. Dejarnette explained that the mass call feature is an off site solution that could make up to 100,000 in 10 minutes. She noted that this is a turnkey solution with installation and on site training for all users. An Emergency 911 database must be purchased from BellSouth prior to installation. She further described such features as Reverse911.NET, Line Grabber, Mobilization Plus, HazMat, Event Tracker, Bulletin Board and Guardian Calling. They offer live customer support, 24 hours a day and seven days per week and public relations assistance.

Upon motion by Mayor Coble, seconded by Mr. Cromartie, Council voted unanimously to endorse the procurement of a Reverse 911 System for the City of Columbia.

### **APPOINTMENTS**

D. Columbia Museum of Art Commission

Upon motion by Mayor Coble, seconded by Mr. Cromartie, Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Mr. L. Arlen Cotter to the Columbia Museum of Art Commission for a five-year term expiring on January 1, 2011.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Upon motion by Mr. Cromartie, seconded by Ms. Sinclair, Council voted unanimously to go into Executive Session at 5:15 p.m. to discuss **Items E. and F.** as amended.

- E. Discussion of negotiations incident to proposed contractual arrangements
- CanalSide and the Esplanade – Mr. Steven Gantt, Sr. Assistant City Manager for Operations
  - Animal Services – Mr. S. Allison Baker, Assistant City Manager for Public Services
  - Detention Center – Mr. Charles P. Austin, Sr., City Manager
  - \*\*Richland School District One and the Drew Wellness Center – Mr. Allison Baker, Assistant City Manager for Public Services
  - \*\*Benedict College and the Drew Wellness Center - Mr. Allison Baker, Assistant City Manager for Public Services

These items were discussed in Executive Session. No action was taken.

- F. Receipt of legal advice, which relates to a matter covered by attorney-client privilege
- \*\*Code Enforcement

This item was discussed in Executive Session. No action was taken.

- **Councilman Davis left the meeting at 5:47 p.m.**
- **Council adjourned the Executive Session discussion at 6:00 p.m. to convene the Evening Meeting.**

Respectfully submitted by:

Erika D. Salley  
City Clerk