

Upper Delaware Council
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Sept. 23, 2008

Committee Members Present: Bowers, Roeder, Richardson, Niflot, Fluhr, Wieland, Keesler
Committee Members Absent: Shafer
Partner: Martinez
Staff: Soete, Ramie
Guests: S. Schultz

The committee chairperson Alan Bowers called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. A motion by Richardson seconded by Fluhr to approve the Aug. 26 meeting minutes was carried. There was no public comment on the agenda.

PR/Fund Raising Specialist's Report: The final newsletter for 2008 under contract has been sent to the printers and will be mailed Oct. 10. In fiscal 2009, there will be two issues of the newsletter instead of four at 12 pages each. A grants update was provided and grant contracts countersigned from the State are pending.

Executive Director's Report: No report

Old Business

Request for Quotes Oil Burner Repair/Replace: Vendors were sent a packet involving a request for quotes to repair or possibly replace the oil burner. The state requires that the work be completed by Nov. 30. An immediate response was solicited.

Sen. Bonacic letter to Gov. Paterson, Upper Delaware River Greenway: The committee was provided with copy of letter dated Sept. 12 from NYS Senator Bonacic to NYS Governor Paterson regarding the vetoed Upper Delaware River Greenway legislation. Bonacic pointed out that the Niagara and Hudson Rivers have greenways and he was frustrated that the Delaware River has effectively been left out of the commitment our State has shown to other river communities. Bonacic requested that the Governor's office propose legislation, or even a plan, which would enhance the Upper Delaware River and put it on the same level with the Hudson and Niagara Rivers. After that plan is developed, Bonacic and Assemblywoman Gunther could make a judgment on whether or not local communities could benefit from the initiative. It was pointed out to the committee that the Governor vetoed the Upper Delaware River Greenway legislation as he sought more state administrative control over the Greenway Council membership since state monies would have been provided to initiate the Greenway set-up.

New Business

Summary of pending bills / financial statements: The committee reviewed the summary of pending bills for period ended 9-23-08. Ramie noted that the Council's 1099 accountant has now been employed by the accounting firm of Alfred D. Beck, CPA so the summary will now indicate the \$600 monthly fee for bookkeeping services would go to Beck. However, the current bookkeeper will still be handling the Council's account as usual but for the Beck entity. A motion by Wieland seconded by Fluhr to approve payment of the bills was carried. The financial statements for period ended 8-31-08 were handed out for review.

Increased funding for UDC discussion: Martinez briefed the committee about NPS-Upper Delaware pushing to get a base funding increase for UDC from Washington. The NPS regional officials may attend a UDC meeting to interview the board about accomplishments and needs. While the UDC has experienced increases in expenses over the years, its operating budget has remained static since its 20-year inception. There was also discussion that the Retrospective planned in November for this anniversaries' year would be a good place to hear about what UDC has been doing over the years. Following discussion, a motion by Richardson seconded by Roeder and carried to have staff send an invitation letter to the NPS Regional

Director and Deputy Regional Director to the Nov. 8 Retrospective at which they could hear about how the UDC operates and what it has accomplished under its legislative mandate.

Public Comment None

Adjourn A motion by Roeder seconded by Fluhr to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 p.m. was carried.

Carol Coney, Office Manager