

MEETING MINUTES OF THE  
**PALMER CITIZEN CASINO IMPACT STUDY COMMITTEE**  
GENERAL GROUP MEETING 26  
PALMER TOWN BUILDING, MEETING ROOM I  
FEBRUARY 18, 2009 – 6:30 PM

Meeting opened at 6:40 pm by Gerald Chudy, Chair.

**ATTENDANCE**

PRESENT Rocqueline Blazejowski, Gerald Chudy, CathyAnn Gehlhausen, Joseph Mastalerz, Carol Sugrue, Michael Swiatlowski

ABSENT Charlotte Burns, Anthony Dimitropolis, Mickey Ghosh, George Roy, Stephen Sears, Paul Wisnewski

OTHERS PRESENT Ken Somerville

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

*Meeting minutes are not available for review.*

**GENERAL DISCUSSION**

It is noted that there are only six members of the committee in attendance. The original quorum called for seven members. The members discuss that the original quorum was set when the committee had 18 members and we currently have 12 members.

It is discussed that C. Burns wrote a letter to the editor of the Republican. The committee members express disappointment as we have agreed in earlier meetings to not provide individual opinions regarding a casino in Palmer to media outlets while the committee is conducting business. This was agreed upon in order to remain as neutral as possible during our research. No action will be taken as we are nearing completion of our report to the Town Council.

It is also discussed that the scoping report from Jim Ammann will be included with the committee's report and that any costs reported from department heads will also remain in the report.

**REVIEW OF REPORT ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

M. Swiatlowski suggests that the last pages which provide a summary be moved to the beginning of the report. J. Mastalerz agrees.

M. Swiatlowski asks that each title page marked with "What He Needs" be changed to "Department Needs".

M. Swiatlowski, regarding the section on traffic, asks that the word "visitors" be changed to "vehicles" based on Mohegan Sun's estimate of 9,500 cars per day on weekdays and 13,500 cars per day on weekends. This number does not take into consideration commercial vehicles, buses, and employee vehicles.

M. Swiatlowski, regarding the Police Department section, asks that the word "man" be changed to "officer".

M. Swiatlowski, regarding the Three Rivers Fire Department section, asks for clarification on Chief O'Connor's need for 2 fire stations in town. J. Mastalerz will check

with the Chief to find out if he meant otherwise.

C. Gehlhausen asks if the longer reports on crime will be included with the final report? J. Mastalerz replies yes and that it wasn't included here because it had already been shared with the committee.

A motion was made by R. Blazejowski to accept the report with notes.

C. Sugrue seconded. The vote passed (6:0).

#### REVIEW OF REPORT ON SOCIAL AND CULTURAL IMPACTS

M. Swiatlowski states that the A, B, and C appendixes will be included with the final report just as the crime stats will be included with the Infrastructure report.

There are two typos noticed in the Environment section.

C. Gelhausen asks that the second sentence of the last paragraph in the Environment be put in italics to express its importance.

G. Chudy adds that another suggestion for the Environment section could be to stagger employee shifts.

G. Chudy asks that another request to preserve town character be added to note: an area set aside within the casino to promote area activities or a visitor information center.

M. Swiatlowski will email the committee the reports on the Library and Top Floor Learning. These sections will be included within the Social and Cultural Impacts.

A motion was made by C. Gelhausen to accept the report with notes.

R. Blazejowski seconded. The vote passed (6:0).

#### GENERAL DISCUSSION

The Impacts on Housing Report was passed around to the committee members. Each absent committee member should receive a copy for review as well.

The Impacts on Education should be delivered to all committee members for review before our next meeting.

A cover letter for the report is discussed. G. Chudy has drafted a letter which will be reviewed at our next meeting.

#### UPCOMING MEETING SCHEDULE

March 11       – review Housing Impacts Report  
                  – review Education Impacts Report  
                  – review cover letter

March 25       – consolidate all reports and final report preparation  
                  – review all remaining meeting minutes

#### ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by J. Mastalerz to adjourn meeting at 8:00 pm.

R. Blazejowski seconded. The vote passed (6:0).

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY MICHAEL SWIATLOWSKI.

APPROVED – DRAFT