

CUMBERLAND COUNTY FACILITIES COMMITTEE
NEW COURTHOUSE, 117 DICK STREET, 5TH FLOOR, ROOM 564
MAY 5, 2011 – 8:30 AM
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioner Jimmy Keefe, Chair
 Commissioner Marshall Faircloth
 Commissioner Jeannette Council

OTHER COMMISSIONERS

PRESENT: Commissioner Kenneth Edge
 Commissioner Ed Melvin
 Commissioner Charles Evans

OTHERS PRESENT:

James Martin, County Manager
James Lawson, Assistant County Manager
Howard Abner, Assistant Finance Director
Sally Shutt, Communications and Strategic Initiatives
 Manager
Rick Moorefield, County Attorney
Robert N. Stanger, County Engineer
Thomas Lloyd, Planning and Inspections Director
Al Brunson, Facilities Maintenance Manager
Candice H. White, Deputy Clerk to the Board
Press

Commissioner Keefe called the meeting to order.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – APRIL 7, 2011 REGULAR MEETING

MOTION: Commissioner Faircloth moved to approve the minutes.
SECOND: Commissioner Council
VOTE: UNANIMOUS

2. CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FROM CAPE FEAR REGIONAL
THEATRE (CFRT) TO USE HISTORIC COURTHOUSE FOR PRODUCTION
OF A PLAY

Rick Moorefield, County Attorney, advised the Board's adopted policy prohibits the use of county owned property for commercial or profit-making purposes and therefore the request by CFRT violates that policy. Mr. Moorefield stated allowing the use of county owned properties for commercial purposes should be approached very cautiously because it would subject the county to a lot of issues that could otherwise be avoided. Mr. Moorefield further stated he is comfortable should the Board decide to approve this particular use due to the fact that the CFRT used the Historic Courthouse for the same

play production fifty years ago at a time when the Historic Courthouse was the county's only courthouse. Mr. Moorefield also stated the CFRT's use in this situation emphasizes the historic, cultural and architectural significance of this public asset.

Commissioner Keefe asked whether approval of this request would open the county up for future requests or give the appearance of favoritism. Mr. Moorefield advised should a similar request arise, the Board should consider it as well; however, he could not imagine that there would be another request like the one received from the CFRT.

MOTION: Commissioner Council moved that the Facilities Committee approve the request.

SECOND: Commissioner Faircloth

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

Mr. Moorefield assured the committee that the appropriate safeguards would be in place to cover any kind of liability issues.

Commissioner Keefe asked if there would be any stipulation regarding the charging of admission and distribution or use of alcohol beverages. Mr. Moorefield stated although he has not spoken directly with individuals associated with the CFRT, he is reasonably sure they will want to charge admission. Mr. Moorefield further stated he feels they should avoid any use of alcohol. Thomas Lloyd, Planning and Inspections Director, stated during his conversation with CFRT individuals, they indicated they would either make do without the use of alcohol or would make arrangements for the use of alcohol off of county property. A brief discussion ensued as to whether to include these provisions in the form of an amended motion. Consensus was not to amend the motion.

3. OTHER MATTERS OF BUSINESS

There were no other matters of business.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:40 AM.