

**CRDA Venue Committee Meeting
Meeting / Conference Call Minutes
Connecticut Convention Center
100 Columbus Boulevard, 5th Floor
Hartford, CT 06103
February 7, 2020
2:00 PM**

Members Present: Committee Chair Andy Bessette, Board Chair Suzanne Hopgood (via phone), David Jorgensen (via phone) and David Robinson (via phone)

Staff: Mike Freimuth, Anthony Lazzaro and Kim Hart

Guests Present: Ben Weiss (Spectra Venue Management)

Guests Via Phone: Adam Kerns (CSL), Paige Robinett (CSL), Cole Ernst (CSL)

The meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m. The minutes of the October 3, 2019 meeting were approved on a voice vote.

1. **XL**

Adams Kerns, Director at CSL International, walked Committee members through a working draft of the Executive Summary of their ongoing Market Demand and Financial Feasibility Study for the XL Center. Committee members expressed satisfaction with the content and format of the draft report and a brief discussion followed the presentation, with questions of CSL staff. CSL representatives will make a formal presentation in person at the February Board meeting.

2. **Pratt & Whitney Stadium**

Ms. Hart reported that the Stadium is actively pursuing two large soccer events for this summer, which may or may not fall into the current fiscal year. Mr. Freimuth noted that OPM has been made aware of the need for additional funding to cover a \$750k deficit expected at the end of this fiscal year. CRDA and Spectra have been meeting with UConn to look at operational efficiencies, including consolidation of parking lots during the 2020 football season.

3. CT Convention Center

Mr. Freimuth reported that the Convention Center has been performing ahead of budget projections in terms of both number of events and attendees per event.

4. Dillon Stadium

A number of punch list items remain and CRDA staff is working with the City of Hartford and Hartford Athletic to complete those, including certain items required by the City before a certificate of occupancy is issued.

The City is also working with Spectra and Hartford Athletic to update the event-booking process to address issues that arose during the renovated Stadium's inaugural season.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

The next Venue Committee meeting / conference call is scheduled for **March 6, 2020.**