



**REGULAR MEETING OF FLORENCE CIVIC CENTER COMMISSION
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2026 – 5:30 PM
FLORENCE CENTER
3300 WEST RADIO DRIVE
FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chairman Julie Maxham
Linda Free
Robbie Norris
Clara Brockington
Ron Roberts (via phone)
Ann Scott
William Schofield
David Wimberly
Michael Page
Victor Webster

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mayor Lethonia Barnes
Desmond Garner

ALSO PRESENT

Rex Berman
Vince Thomas
Tim Carter
Tony Rogers
Chiquita Dubose
Grei Eaddy

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Maxham called the August 18, 2026, meeting of the Florence Center Commission to order at 5:33PM. Mr. Page and Ms. Free in favor of moving forward with the board discussion.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was no meeting conducted in July to review minutes.

DISCUSSION

Mr. Berman announced the hiring of a new Catering Manager. Mr. Carter informed the Board that the new Catering Manager began employment the previous day and expressed enthusiasm about the position. Mr. Berman provided the Board with an update on events that had taken place at the Civic Center since the previous meeting, noting that there was no Board meeting held in July.

Mr. Berman opened the floor for questions regarding the recent events. No questions or concerns were presented.

Mr. Thomas reported that the Civic Center remained busy with public ice skating, which was open to the community. The Civic Center also hosted a youth hockey camp in partnership with the hockey team. The camp provided children with instruction on various hockey techniques. Additionally, the Men's Hockey League was held and was considered successful overall. Mr. Thomas noted that the timing of the ice events also provided an opportunity to obtain updated measurements for the dasher wall system.

Mr. Berman informed the Board that the Civic Center will undergo a sustainability assessment. The assessment will examine opportunities to improve efficiency and identify ways to reduce costs and save finances. Mr. Berman also discussed upcoming capital expenses, including the addition of a new dasher wall system. The new system will utilize more durable material in preparation for the upcoming hockey season. The system will also include features designed to make the conversion process more efficient and reduce the time required to transition into the ice area.

Mr. Carter reported that the Civic Center is moving forward with a pergola rather than a bar structure to provide a more permanent facility improvement. Mr. Carter also discussed implementing online ordering for the suites. This system would allow customers to place orders and make payments online, reducing the need for staff to follow up with customers regarding outstanding payments.

Mr. Rogers reported that additional rails have been installed for the e-sports area to improve safety. Mr. Rogers also provided an update regarding restroom maintenance. Previous issues involving continuously running water in the restrooms have been addressed and resolved.

Mr. Thomas, representing Events and Operations, reported that staff are preparing for an upcoming security audit. A third-party organization will conduct an audit to review the Civic Center's processes, policies, and procedures related to event days and non-event ("dark") days.

Mr. Thomas also provided an update regarding his recent attendance at the IAVM conference. He noted that the conference provided an opportunity to connect with other venue managers, discuss current challenges within the industry, and share ideas for enhancing venue operations. Mr. Thomas further noted that the conference included a discussion regarding artificial intelligence, including how AI is currently being used and how it should appropriately be used within the industry.

Ms. Dubose provided the Board with a financial update and reported that the Civic Center was in the process of undergoing its financial audit as of the date of the meeting. The Board was given an opportunity to ask questions regarding the financial update. No questions were presented.

Mr. Berman informed the Board that quarterly connects will be conducted to provide ongoing reviews and updates.

Chairman Maxham introduced David Wimberly, the Civic Center's new county appointee. Mr. Berman also recognized Victor Webster for his continued efforts in securing sponsorship opportunities for the Civic Center and thanked him for his assistance in making connections with potential sponsors.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:01 PM.

Dated 15th September 2026

Julie Maxham, Commission Chairman

Rex Berman, General Manager

Grei Eaddy, HR/Executive Assistant