

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. D(3)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: October 20, 2009

TITLE: Transition Carrboro/Chapel Hill's Request For Waiver of Fees of the Century Center and Equipment on May 13 & 15, 2010

DEPARTMENT: Town Managers Office	PUBLIC HEARING: NO
ATTACHMENTS: A. Resolution B. 2009-10 Century Center Reservation Guide C. 2009-10 Century Center Reservation Fees and Charges	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Steve Stewart, 918-7315

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this agenda item is for the Board of Aldermen to consider a request from Transition Carrboro/Chapel Hill for waiver of fees of the Century Center and equipment for up to \$524. The request is for May 13, 2010 from 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. and May 15th from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The community-based meetings will include speakers and discussion designed to create an awareness and foster community spirit as we transition from the industrial era to a new era. The total anticipated cost of this request is \$931 which includes staffing. The Board voted to table this item until October 20, 2009 to allow for further discussion and review of current Century Center Guidelines.

INFORMATION:

Tim Peck of Transition Carrboro/Chapel Hill requested a waiver of fees for use of the Century Center at the September 1, 2009 Board of Aldermen meeting. At that time the Board requested that staff review the proposal and provide a response. On October 6, 2009 the Board briefly discussed this request. Alderman Gist requested to revisit the current facility guidelines. The Board voted to table this item until October 20th for additional discussion and review of current guidelines.

Transition Carrboro/Chapel Hill is a volunteer organization that is seeking to build community resilience in consideration of the global challenges of peak oil and climate change. The efforts of the organization represents a way of engaging people in the community against the effects of these challenges, resulting in a life that is more abundant, fulfilling, equitable and socially connected. They envision the outcome of this event being the emergence of awareness and a new direction, ideas and energy that will inspire the community to positively transition to a new era. The steering committee is still in the process of planning for this event. More about the organization and the transition movement is available using the following links:

<http://www.transitioncch.org/index.html>

<http://groups.google.com/group/transition-carrboro/about?hl=en>

http://groups.google.com/group/transition-carrboro/browse_frm/month/2009-09?hl=en

This request does not meet our current Fees and Charges Guidelines for Century Center Use. (see guideline below in italics) That is why the request is being considered by the Board of Aldermen. If the Board chooses to waive the fee, the approval is for up to \$524 for use and \$408 in staffing cost.

3. *Town Sponsored Events, Orange County local government boards and school boards' use and meetings of same are free. The Town manager or designee shall determine whether any event is a town sponsored event, considering all relevant factors related to the town's participation in or control over the event. However, the presence of one or more of the following factors shall generally lead to a determination that an event is town sponsored: a. The town expends town funds for the planning and/or staging of the event, or b. The town anticipates receiving revenue from the staging of the event, or c. The town makes a substantial in-kind contribution toward the planning and/or staging of the event, or d. The town exercises substantial managerial control over the planning and/or staging of the event.*

The current guidelines and fees evolved over time as a result of providing a variety of opportunities so that the community and organizations can reserve space at a free or reasonable rate. The basic guidelines and fees are attached.

On an average, the town staff receives requests for free space at the Century Center on a weekly basis.

FISCAL AND STAFF IMPACT

\$408 staffing, \$346 Century Center rental cost and \$177 potential costs involving equipment use = \$931.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Adopt the attached resolution or direct staff as to how to move forward with this request.