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LETTER: Was Willow Valley Hotel first victim of Convention Center Marriott project?

"I would say yes. The CC has hurt Willow Valley more than any other property except for the Host, which obviously is not doing well either.

"I wonder if Marlon Thomas regrets serving as a witness for the defense at the hotel tax trial? Nothing like local politics to make you do things that you don't believe in."

Republican AG Candidate changes tune on investigating Sandusky case

...Republican candidate for Pennsylvania Attorney General David Freed for months has been nothing but complementary and supportive of Gov. Tom Corbett's role in the long-running Jerry Sandusky case...

In an August 30 article titled, *"State attorney general candidates want to review Sandusky case,"* Freed now tells the *Patriot's* editorial board something apparently was lacking in the AG's office, and he now wants to *"take a closer look"* at the Sandusky case...

One imagines how this *"talk,"* and the intensive questioning between AG Freed and Gov. Corbett, will go:

"You did a great and commendable job with Sandusky, didn't you, Tom?"

"That's right, I did."

Case closed.

Penn State University faculty flunks Freeh Report in first Faculty Senate meeting since NCAA sanctions

"...Senate members applauded two motions Tuesday containing withering criticism of the public condemnations Penn State received this summer from former FBI Director Louis Freeh and NCAA President Mark Emmert..."

"On a foundation of scant evidence, the report adds layers of conjecture and supposition to create a portrait of fault, complicity, and malfeasance that could well be at odds with the truth. We make no judgment of the culpability of those individuals directly surrounding the Sandusky crimes. We lack sufficient knowledge to do so, and we are content to wait until guilt or innocence is adjudicated by the courts. But as scientists and scholars, we can say

with conviction that the Freeh Report fails on its own merits as the indictment of the University that *some have taken it to be. Evidence that would compel such an indictment is simply not there...."*

EDITOR: *Finally Penn State is coming to its senses!*

INTELLIGENCER JOURNAL:

Concerning *"Statement by a Group of Past Chairs of The Pennsylvania State University Faculty Senate Regarding the Freeh Report..."*:

(Nothing)

WATCHDOG:

Either the news editor is on vacation or perhaps 'smoking' something.

LETTER: Convention Center Authority itself is starved of funds

"...When former LCCCA chair Ted Darcus (vocally supported by former board member Joe Morales) loudly discouraged other board members from even reading what they were voting on, and giving them no time to study or question it, they were able to slip through iron-clad one-sided 'agreements' which not only tie the hands of the current LCCCA, they also for all intents and purposes starve the LCCCA for operating funds (the convention center is a separate entity).

"The current LCCCA doesn't even have the funds for paying a lawyer to perform an adequate study of the agreements, definitely not enough to question them in court.

"Without dozens of unpaid hours every month by LCCCA Executive Director Kevin Molloy, office manager Mary Ellen Davis, and LCCCA board members like Kevin Fry, Larry Hinnenkamp, and R.B. Campbell, the LCCCA would simply not be able to function."

LETTER: I realize Scott Martin's proposal is not the Marshall Plan but...

"...Over the past few weeks, we have seen huge, front page stories on the County's civil actions against local hotels. The purpose of these stories is to detract away from the failure of their public-private partnership. These stories and the bogus attempt to have the hotels reveal their tax returns insinuate that the CC would have no problems if all taxes were collected. The problem is that the sum total of the civil actions will yield less than \$100K, which won't even pay LCCCA director Kevin Molloy's salary for a year.

hotels to build the CC, against their will, because backers said they would see a huge influx of new business. Has this happened? NO! Not only is this project doing little to help generate incremental occupancy, it has stressed the limited resources available to market the County to any visitor...

"A few more people may be downtown these days, that is a result of the CC's only success...stealing business. This is not hard to accomplish when you have a brand-new, taxpayer-subsidized facility competing against the private sector.

"Under the Martin Plan, Penn Square Partners would be forced to more than double the royalty payments they make on the food and beverage revenue they generate at the CC. Mind you, even after more than DOUBLING the royalty, PSP will still pay at levels WELL BELOW industry norms.

"On March 1, 2013, unless alternative arrangements are made in the meantime, their interest rate will jump so high that a full increase in the hotel tax (to 5%) would not begin to cover the expense; that's right, raising the tax is not really a solution. The Martin Plan, while not perfect, provides a common sense, shared sacrifice plan and a short-term bridge that includes the lender in hopes of crafting a long-term solution."

What does PSP want to do...they simply want to raise the hotel tax. ...This tax was imposed on local

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