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January 24, 2018

Mac Burdette, Executive Director
Patriots Point Development Authority
40 Patriots Road
Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina 29464

Dear Executive Director Burdette:

On behalf of the Education and Cultural Subcommittee, thank you for your recent presentation to the Subcommittee relating to Patriots Point's performance measurement process. In preparation for our next meeting, please respond to the following by February 6, 2018:

Performance

- Please provide an electronic version of the five-year performance trends chart, provided to the Subcommittee as a hard copy on January 11, 2018.
- Has Patriots Point ever engaged an external evaluator to measure its performance? If so, please provide the evaluation reports and any additional information that would indicate how the board used the report.
- For merchandise sales, are the reported figures gross revenue? If so, please provide net sales revenue.
- How does Patriots Point compare to its business or government peers in other states? Does Patriots Point benchmark itself against any other museum or military attraction?
- Has Patriots Point calculated a cost to the agency per visitor? If so, please provide the factors included in the calculation and the cost per visitor, by visitor type (overnight campers, general day visitors, student with school group, etc).

Education Programming

- During the January 11, 2018, meeting, you testified that with a \$350,000 appropriation, Patriots Point would not “have to change any school a penny to come to Patriots Point.” Does that \$350,000 represent all of the fees paid by schools to Patriots Point for their visits? What is included in those fees?
- What percentage of the school children visiting with schools, are visiting with South Carolina public schools?
- If JROTC programs have indicated what their transportation costs are, please provide the range and median.
- For the education programs, both onsite and distance, please provide any evaluation or survey data from students, educators, parents, or external evaluators that demonstrate the program’s efficacy in meeting Patriots Points’ education goals.

Procurement

- What is the Patriots Point policy governing the decision to purchase artifacts for exhibits?
- Has Patriots Point ever requested a procurement exemption similar to the State Museum’s exemption? If so, when was the request made? If not, why not?
- If Patriots Point were to receive a procurement exemption, similar to the State Museum’s exemption, how would it impact the Patriots Point purchasing policy?

Fundraising

- Has Patriots Point ever sought to be included in the list of entities that can receive funds from voluntary contributions designated on income tax returns pursuant to SC Code §12-6-5060? If so, when?

If these questions would yield responses that are not an accurate reflection of the agency or if additional time is needed to respond, please contact Committee staff. The Subcommittee looks forward to our next meeting, at which we intend to discuss this Subcommittee’s recommendations. Thank you for your service to the citizens of South Carolina and for your continued cooperation with the legislative oversight process.

Sincerely,



Joseph H. Jefferson
Subcommittee Chair

cc: The Honorable Chandra E. Dillard
The Honorable Tommy M. Stringer
The Honorable John (Jay) T. West, IV