

meeting. At least two of the members shall be either residents or owners of real property within the corporate limits of Ocean City. The presence of three members at any meeting shall be a quorum.

(c) The Commission shall be exempt from taxation by the State and local governments.

(d) The Commission shall acquire AT NO COST TO THE STATE OR THE COMMISSION necessary land from the Mayor and Council of Ocean City and arrange for having a suitable structure erected thereon for housing religious, business and professional conventions, cultural conferences, industrial exhibits, trade shows, such other events that might further stimulate the tourist trade and the economy of the State of Maryland. The structure shall be known as "Ocean City Convention Hall." After completion of the structure, the Commission shall establish policy and adopt rules and regulations as necessary to assure successful operation thereof.

(e) Members of the Commission shall receive no salary, but may be paid such expenses as they deem reasonable and just by adopting for the record an order or regulation setting forth the procedure and method for payment of such expenses.

(f) The Commission in addition to the powers which are normally possessed by a commission of this type shall have the following express powers:

1. To accept from the Mayor and Council of Ocean City an appropriate site for the structure and adjacent parking facilities, said site to be approved by the Director of the State Planning Department.

2. To negotiate and ~~contact~~ CONTRACT for necessary planning, architectural AND engineering services.

3. To negotiate and contract for construction of the building and necessary equipment therefor; provided, however, that the location and building plans shall first be approved by the Planning Director of the State of Maryland and the Mayor and City Council of Ocean City.

4. To employ a manager or executive director, a secretary and such other necessary personnel, whose salaries shall be as set by the Commission.

5. To employ such counsel as necessary in conducting the affairs of the Commission.

6. To accept donations and grants for the construction or maintenance of the convention hall and to receive any aid from the Federal Government or any State or local governmental units.

(g) It is legislative intent in this section that the building be of such size as to seat approximately 3500 persons for conventions, provide space and facilities for a minimum of 1500 for banquets, and contain from four to six executive committee rooms. In addition thereto, there shall be such office space provided as necessary for the use of the Chief Executive of the State of Maryland while visiting the resort, and suitable rooms available for use of the Legislative Council when it may desire to conduct meetings at this location.

(h) The Commission shall keep such records as are consistent with sound business practice, cause an audit to be made of its ac-