

Minutes: Special Meeting of the Metropolitan Government Board of Fair Commissioners
Location: Fairgrounds – Creative Arts Building
Date: October 5, 2017 6:00 p.m.

Board of Fair Commissioners Present

Ned Horton, Chair
Erin McAnally, Vice-Chair
Caleb Hemmer
Bonna Johnson
Jason Bergeron

Fairgrounds Staff Present

Laura Schloesser, Executive Director

Metro Legal

Susan Jones

Mayor's Office

Lonnell Matthews

Metro Council Members Present

John Cooper
Colby Sledge
Russ Pulley
Brett Withers
Tanaka Vercher
Fabian Bedne

Presenters and Guests Present

Nathan Oliver – Hawkins Partners
Mary Cavarra – MLS2Nashville Committee

Comments from Citizens

Melissa Smithson
Neil Chaffin
Ken Erberle
Mark Deutschmann
Ricky McIlwain
Carolyn Armour
Amy Crownover
Rick Williams

Jia Roberts
Marty Lewis
Kent Campbell
John Rose
Lewis Laska

Tony Tenpenny
Peggie Sides
Shane Smiley
Duane Dominy
Bob Blair
Brett Withers and Tanaka Vercher
Heidi Basgall Favorite
Ricky Hailey
Steven Wright
Kristen Heggie
George Gruhn
Jason Howes
Michael Sullivan
Dana Terebessy
Lin Tacker
Tim Lewis
Jerry Coble
Tony Watson
Steve Reiter
Danny Ferrell

On the above referenced date the October Special Meeting for the Board of Fair Commissioners was held in the Creative Arts Building at the Fairgrounds. Chairman Horton welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for coming. He reminded the audience that the regular board meetings were on the second Tuesday of every month in Wilson Hall at 8:00 a.m. and that there was public comment time at these meetings as well. He then gave the floor to Executive Director, Laura Schloesser. Director Schloesser thanked everyone for coming as well and then introduced Mr. Nathan Oliver with Hawkins Partners who had been assisting on the green space project.

Mr. Oliver gave a quick overview and update of the green space in the south portion of the Fairgrounds property which included a PowerPoints drawing for the audience to see. He went over the potential new uses and explained that the Fairgrounds would still be able to use this space as well for parking or events. Director Schloesser pointed out that the pit with the tunnel access for the racetrack would remain. She then introduced Mary Cavarra, CFO of Ingram Industries and also MLS2Nashville Committee project leader.

Ms. Cavarra thanked everyone for coming and started her presentation by giving some statistics about soccer and Nashville. She went over the PowerPoints presentation and explained why the MLS2Nashville Committee felt that soccer would be good for Nashville. She explained that a stadium plan was essential in getting a team to Nashville and that this was why they had been so focused on this. She stated that all of the current uses of the Fairgrounds would remain and that they were committed to working together on

the scheduling for these events. She also suggested some new uses that could be added to compliment the stadium and Fairgrounds. She briefly went over the details of the stadium. She reported that the stadium would cover just under eight acres and would seat about 27,500 people. She went over the location of the stadium site on the property and the design of some of the areas immediately surrounding the stadium as well. She stated that the cost would be approximately \$250 million and that \$25 million of that would be from Metro to cover the public infrastructure. The remaining \$225 million would come from the team in two sources. She continued to go over some of the details of the design of the stadium and mentioned that this should help to keep some of the noise inside. She went over the economic impact both while the stadium was being built and also the long term impact after the stadium was completed. She then went over time lines and explained that the league would be selecting two cities for the franchises in mid-December. She stated that if Nashville were to be awarded a team, play would not begin until 2020 so the team would need a temporary place to play for one year and the new stadium would open in March of 2021. She finished by stating that the ten acres of development land would need to go through a separate process with the city requirements, Metro Council, rezoning, etc.

Director Schloesser reminded everyone that the intent of the meeting was to hear from the public. She added that the Administration had agreed that a substantial portion of any taxes that were generated from the ten acres of development would come back to the Fair Board for support of the Fairgrounds facility. She then recognized the members of the Metro Council that were present and thanked them for coming. She also recognized Lonnell Matthews from the Mayor's Office.

Chairman Horton asked each person to limit their comments to three minutes. He then proceeded with the names of people that had requested to speak and each person spoke in their turn.

At some point in the meeting Council Lady Vercher announced that there would be a public hearing with the Metro Council the week of October 23rd where they would be seeking public input on this issue. She also announced that Council Member Fabian Bedne was present at the meeting as well.

Chairman Horton thanked everyone for coming and for their comments. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ned Horton, Chairman

Laura Schloesser, Executive Director