

Minutes: Meeting of the Metropolitan Government Board of Fair Commissioners  
Date: November 27, 2018 9:00 a.m.

On the above referenced date the November meeting for the Board of Fair Commissioners was held at Wilson Hall at the Fairgrounds. Those in attendance were Chairman Ned Horton, Vice-Chairman Erin McAnally, Commissioner Caleb Hemmer, Commissioner Bonna Johnson and Commissioner Jason Bergeron. Also present were Fairgrounds Executive Director Laura Womack, Finance and Administrative Manager Felicia Bowman, and Metro Attorney Susan Jones. Ron Gobbell and Michelle Scopel with Gobbell Hays Partners (GHP) were both present as well. Ed Henley and Connell Anderson with Pillars Development were also in attendance.

Chairman Horton called the meeting to order at 9:05 and then read the appeal announcement. He then moved to the approval of the minutes of the October meeting. Vice-Chairman McAnally made a motion to approve, Commissioner Hemmer seconded, all were in favor and the minutes were passed.

Chairman Horton then moved to the Public Comment Time item on the agenda. There were no public comments so Chairman Horton then moved to the Financial Report with Ms. Felicia Bowman.

Ms. Bowman went over the sheets in the Board packets. There were a few questions. Commissioner Hemmer also asked about the surplus fund and Ms. Bowman stated that they were still working with downtown to get the correct amount. Director Womack stated that once they got the correct number, they would send it to the Board. Chairman Horton then moved to the Executive Director's Report.

Director Womack stated that both the October Flea Market and Christmas Village were very well attended and also thanked staff for their hard work. She thanked Skanska for their Food Drive for Fall Hamilton School. She reported that the concessions RFP was still in open procurement but that it was moving forward. Chairman Horton then moved to the Fairgrounds Improvement Project Update item on the agenda.

Ms. Scopel with GHP gave a quick update on the work that had been done and what was ahead for the Expo and the grandstands. Director Womack stated that they would continue to work with the proper Metro Departments and Stakeholders and Ms. Scopel added that they would be meeting monthly. Mr. Henley went over the budget updates and added that the bond release for the 25 million had been approved which would now bring the total to approximately 37 million (12 million plus the 25 million) for the improvement allocation. Mr. Gobbell with GHP also gave a quick report and Ms. Roxanne Bethune with Alliance Synergy explained about the Diversity Participation Program and gave the Board some of the numbers. Commissioner Hemmer stated that he would be interested in a breakdown of minorities, women, and small businesses and Ms. Bethune stated that she could do that and that she would keep the Board updated regularly. There were some questions about the Election Commission building, fencing, and phase 2 of Fair Park and the greenway. Chairman Horton then moved to the MLS Stadium Update item on the agenda.

Mr. Gobbell stated that they were working on designs, budgets and schedules now. Chairman Horton then moved to the 2019 Speedway Schedule item on the agenda.

Mr. Formosa wanted to let the Board know that, since the All-American 400 had been rained out, they would like to reschedule this race for April in 2019. Director Womack stated that they would continue to reach out to the neighborhood group and that Councilman Sledge was aware and added that no board action was needed. Mr. Formosa stated that he just wanted to know that it was okay to proceed. Vice-Chairman McAnally asked about Bristol and Director Womack stated that the conversations were ongoing. Mr. Formosa added that he hoped to have some big news at the next Board Meeting. Commissioner Johnson asked about an update on the World of Outlaws and Director Womack stated that they were working on this but that nothing formal had been presented yet.

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to adjourn and Commissioner Hemmer seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was dismissed.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Ned Horton, Chairman

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Laura Womack, Executive Director