

Minutes: Meeting of the Metropolitan Government Board of Fair Commissioners
Date: February 12, 2019 8:00 a.m.

On the above referenced date the February 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 and Ed Henley and Connell Anderson with Pillars Development were also in attendance.

Chairman Horton called the meeting to order at 8:02 and read the Appeal Announcement. He then moved to the approval of the minutes of the January meeting. Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve, Commissioner Bergeron seconded, all were in favor and the minutes were passed.

There were no public comments so Chairman Horton moved to the Financial Report. Ms. Felicia Bowman stated that the books were not officially closed yet for January so the numbers given that day were not the final numbers. She reported that they did receive a check from the State Fair for the balance of \$79,684 (in addition to the \$50,000 up front) which was not included in the numbers given at the meeting because it was still being processed. She stated that they were on track for January and February. She added that it was budget time and that they had submitted a preliminary budget for FY19/20 the week before to Finance and that they were relatively flat from last year on revenue. She reported that Finance would be helping them restructure from eight buildings down to one. She stated that if there were any changes on the budget, they would let the Board know. Chairman Horton then moved to the Executive Director's Report.

Director Womack stated that most of her comments were pertaining to items later on in the agenda so she would just make her comments then. Chairman Horton then moved to the Fairgrounds Improvement Project Update item on the agenda.

Mr. Ed Henley went over the sheets in the board packets and he also gave some procurement updates. He added that Minority Business Now had their complete package with 7 minority businesses, 15 women owned businesses and 3 small businesses. He stated that he believed that they would make their target at 30% and that Ms. Roxianne Bethune would present them with a formal report soon. Ms. Michelle Scopel gave an update on the grandstands, the expo site and Fair Park. There were a few questions from the Board about the budget, when Fair Park would open, the dog park opening, the square footages of the expo buildings, the election building move out, how the site was holding up with all of the rain, solar features, and the project with the Metro Arts Commission. Director Womack stated that Board Members Bergeron and McAnally would be helping with the Metro Arts Commission at some point for the public art project. Director Womack stated that they would be having a ribbon cutting ceremony for Fair Park sometime in mid-April. Chairman Horton then moved to the MLS Stadium Update item on the agenda.

Mr. Gobbell gave a quick update on the stadium and stated that they would be hearing more in the near future. Again, there were a couple of questions from the Board. Chairman Horton then moved to the Update on Discussions with Formosa Productions and Speedway Motorsports Inc.

Director Womack stated that there was no update on this item at the time and that they were still working on a proposal to the city. He then moved to the Update from Formosa Productions, Inc. on 2019 World of Outlaws Event item.

Mr. Tony Formosa stated that they had not heard anything from the World of Outlaws and that they had reached out several times to them. He reported that the Outlaws Group did send some people to come out and look at the track. There was a brief discussion and Mr. Formosa added that they had given them a March 1st deadline or the offer would become void so they should know something by the next board meeting. Chairman Horton then moved to New Business and the Presentation: Duane Dominy Representing the Flea Market Vendors item on the agenda.

Mr. Dominy with the Nashville Flea Market Vendors Association stated that they had 3 issues: 1) a request that an indoor and outdoor vendor from this group be represented on the User Advisory Committee 2) address rumors that the Flea Market advertising budget had been cut and they asked specifically that more social media be included 3) Parking. He presented 547 signatures to be entered into the record for membership for this association as of December 1, 2018. Vice-Chairman McAnally asked if this association was a party to the lawsuit that was just dismissed and Metro Attorney Susan Jones answered, "Yes." Commissioner Hemmer asked Flea Market Manager, Mary Ann Smith, about how many vendors there were (high and low range) and she stated that there were anywhere from 400-700 depending on the month. Ms. Smith stated that she didn't get involved with the associations. Chairman Horton pointed out that if they had signed this list, how would they know which association they were signing for-would they know the difference?

Commissioner Bergeron then made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hemmer seconded the motion, all were in favor and the meeting was dismissed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ned Horton, Chairman

Laura Womack, Executive Director