

**SPORTS AUTHORITY OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE
& DAVIDSON COUNTY**

Minutes of the March 17, 2011 Meeting of the Board of Directors
LP Field- Media Room
8:00 a.m.

Board Members: Alfonzo D. Alexander, Margaret Behm, J.D. Elliott, Forrest Harris, Cathy Bender Jackson, Steve North, Ralph Perrey, Edward Temple, Nancy Vincent
Staff: Emmett Edwards (Sports Authority), Theresa Costonis (Metro Legal) **Predators/Powers Management:** Jeff Cogen, Sean Henry, Beth Snider, Michelle Kennedy
Titans/ LP Field: Steve Underwood, Don Maclachlan, Walter Overton

Mr. J.D. Elliott called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m., noted a quorum and recognized Ms. Terri Costonis to read the Metro Code of Laws (Ordinance No. BL2006-1050). **Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Sports Authority unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the January board meeting.**

Executive Director's Report

Mr. J.D. Elliott recognized Mr. Emmett Edwards to give the Executive Director's Report. Mr. Edwards began by reporting that Civic Event Applications for use of LP Field had been received for the East Nashville Beer Festival, the MNPD/ Shoney's 5k Family Fun Run, and the Metro Health Department's H.E.A.L Event. **After hearing that all required documentation had been provided and there were no scheduling conflicts, the Sports Authority, upon a motion duly made and seconded, voted to approve all three Civic Events.**

Mr. Edwards continued by reporting that the redevelopment of the river front is moving along according to schedule and that the contractors will finish their work and be off sites by the start of the football season. He additionally reported that Metro Legal is following the project that could bring a solar-assisted electric vehicle charging station to LP Field. Mr. Edwards stated that any paper work/contracts needed to move forward will come before the board for approval.

LP Field Report

After offering the Sports Authority's condolences to Mr. Steve Underwood and his family upon the loss of his son, Mr. Elliott recognized Mr. Steve Underwood to give the LP Field Report. Mr. Underwood began by reporting that LP Field was preparing to host a soccer match between the USA and Paraguay. He noted that approximately 30,000 are expected to attend the match.

Mr. Underwood additionally reported that most of the concrete repairs have been completed and that the repairs may be covered by insurance. It is likely that expenses not covered by insurance will be paid for out of the capital stadium fund.

Mr. Underwood continued by reporting that seat user fee collections currently stand at \$1.6 million, but are expected to easily pass the \$2.1 million by the year's end. This time next year Mr. Underwood estimates collections will have reached over \$4 million.

With regards to capital expenses, Mr. Underwood reported that after receiving a reimbursement check from Metro for \$975,000, the balance of expenses currently being carried by the Titans is approximately \$1.3 million. Mr. Underwood noted that the periodic report contains a recapitulation of every expense associated with the May 2010 flood. Expenses for which the Titans construction manager was reimbursed total \$3.4 million.

With respect to sub-surface settlement, Mr. Underwood stated that there has been no additional settlement since the contractors poured the last grout.

In response to a question about the NFL Lockout and its effect on Metro Government and the Sports Authority, Mr. Underwood stated that during a lockout/ work stoppage players are not permitted in either of the Titans' facilities, including LP Field. He reiterated that there are no other major changes. The staff will continue to work, rent is still paid, and the facility will be maintained. Mr. Underwood stated that the Titans will deal fairly and reasonably with season ticket holders and that should there be no football the PSL holders will promptly refunded.

Following Mr. Underwood's report, Mr. J.D. Elliott read a resolution acknowledging the Sports Authority's commendation of Mr. Underwood for his dedication to the Tennessee Titans and to the city of Nashville. **Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Sports Authority voted to adopt the resolution.**

Bridgestone Arena Report

Mr. Elliott recognized Mr. Sean Henry to give the Bridgestone Arena Report. Mr. Henry began by recognizing a donation by Sports Service, the arena's concessionaire, in the amount of \$150k for flood relief efforts. He also reported that the Predators have also made a donation for flood relief, in the amount of \$300k.

Mr. Henry turned his attention to the arena's financials. He stated that year to date numbers through the end of January show that revenues are up over 30% and that net income is 15% higher than planned. Parking, seat user, box office, and food & beverage revenues have all either surpassed or are nearing the budgeted full year plan. Mr. Henry stated his excitement not only over the arena's fiscal progress but over some upcoming acts such as Jimmy Buffett that the arena will soon host.

Mr. Henry stated that he and his team have been looking at past approved, unfunded capital budgets and evaluating the current priorities and costs. The top 3 capital projects that need to be addressed are:

1. Dashboard replacement- An NHL mandate that will decrease the potential for head injuries to the athletes and also decrease the number of man hours needed to move from hockey to other shows. The new board system should cost approximately \$325k,
2. Replacement of Phone system- The system fails from time to time and a failing system would likely prohibit major acts from coming to the Arena. Total cost is approximately \$300k.
3. Energy Management- Bridgestone Arena has received bids from 4 different energy companies. The project will be an arena expense of approximately \$45k. The energy audit will make recommendations and show what the payback will be.

Finally, Mr. Henry stated he and his team are exploring other possible ways to fund capital projects and will continue to look for ways to meet the financial needs of the arena.

There being no other business, the March 17th meeting of the Sports Authority adjourned.