

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

Minutes of the January 21, 2015 Meeting of the Board of Directors
St. Thomas Sports Park
8:30 a.m.

Board Members: Kim Adkins, Margaret Behm, Cathy Bender, J.D. Elliott, Bob Obrahta, Ralph Perrey, Ed Temple, Dudley West, Emmett Wynn

Staff: Toby Compton, Monica Fawknotson, Margaret Darby (Legal)

Titans/ LP Field: Walter Overton, Jenneen Kaufman, Don Maclachlan, Dempsey Henderson, Jeff Rhinehart

Predators/Powers Management: Sean Henry, Jeff Cogen, Kyle Clayton, Michelle Kennedy, Sean Marshall

Nashville Sounds: Doug Scopel

Visitors: Brasher Burbank (Stewart Logistics), Wilma Henderson

Chairman J.D. Elliott called the meeting of the Sports Authority to order at 8:30 a.m., thanked the Titans for hosting the meeting, and reminded all present that the appeals process for decisions by the Authority can be found both on the agenda and on the Authority's website. **Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Sports Authority unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2014 meeting.**

Executive Director's Report

Chairman Elliott recognized Mr. Toby Compton to give the Executive Director's Report. After thanking the Titans for their willingness to host the Authority, Mr. Compton gave a quick overview of the meeting agenda. Mr. Compton noted that Sports Authority staff, Metro Legal & Finance, and Titans/LP Field Staff recently met to review the Titans capital reimbursement requests. A Metro internal working group will further review and discuss the items presented for reimbursement.

With regards to baseball, Mr. Compton reported that progress at First TN Park can now be seen on a daily basis. With 85 days left until the Sounds home opener, 300 people per day in seven shifts are working hard to complete the ballpark. Mr. Compton introduced Mr. Doug Scopel, Sr. VP of Operations for the Sounds, noting that Mr. Scopel will serve as the team's liaison to the Authority.

Mr. Compton briefly acknowledged that the Sports Authority's departmental budget is right on track, with no issues, about halfway through Metro's Fiscal Year, before announcing that he, along with other members of a delegation from Nashville will be traveling to Ohio for the 2015 NHL All-Star Game with the goal of learning what it will take for the city to successfully host this event in 2016.

Bridgestone Arena Report & Ford Ice Center Update

Chairman Elliott recognized Mr. Sean Henry to give the Bridgestone Arena Report. Mr. Henry began by announcing that the Predators are off to their best start in franchise history and

currently have the best winning percentage in the NHL. The team anticipates a great season and, more importantly, is poised to be a very good team for a long time.

With regards to the budget, Mr. Henry reported that the arena is pacing ahead of the FY16 budget and that he has high hopes of catching last year's budget. Many scheduled shows are projected to be sell-outs including, Kenny Chesney, Jason Aldean, Stevie Wonder, The Who, and Maroon 5.

Mr. Henry turned his attention to Ford Ice Center, commenting on its success and how busy the facility is. Mr. Henry reported that just last weekend Ford Ice hosted over 1,000 kids, representing 40 teams in addition to the 2,000 kids that came for Open Skate. They continue to find ways to give more kids access to the ice, and it appears that the Predators pledge of \$50,000 toward that aim will likely result in double that amount.

Mr. Henry continued by reporting on the Capital Improvement Fund (CIF), noting that Bridgestone Arena has paid in approximately \$3 million in to the fund and has completed \$9.6 million worth of projects. One of the next major projects on deck is a \$6.1 million seat replacement project. The project will use multiple contractors and take approximately two years. The project is slated for the summer, and the Sports Authority will vote in February or March to allocate CIF Funds for the project.

LP Field Report

Chairman Elliott recognized Mr. Walter Overton to give the LP Field Report. Mr. Overton began by stating that after a disappointing season the Titans are looking forward to a new year and a new season. Already they have learned that they will host the Dolphins, Raiders, Falcons, Panthers, and Bills along with their traditional rivals during 2015.

Mr. Overton continued by reporting on the success of the 2015 Music City Bowl between LSU and Notre Dame, noting that 61,000 fans attended and that the game was recognized as the 6th best attended game for the bowl season.

With regards to LP Field itself, Mr. Overton reported that the Titans have had discussions with Piedmont Natural Gas and AIG and are considering tapping the existing gas line that lies within Cumberland Park for the purpose of extending a natural gas fuel line to a proposed emergency generator location at the stormwater pump station at LP Field. The gas line would provide natural gas to emergency generators that would power the stormwater pumps in the event of disruption to the normal electrical service.

After reviewing the ticket tax summaries, seat user fee summary, and the stadium capital fund summary as provided to the Authority in the Titans Periodic Report, Mr. Overton announced the retirement of Titans Facility Manager and friend, Mr. Dempsey Henderson. Mr. Overton acknowledged Mr. Henderson's role in teaching him everything he needed to know about LP Field when he came to the stadium nine years ago, and referred to him as the Titans "Most Valuable Person." Chairman Elliott presented Mr. Henderson with a Certificate of Recognition, signed by the Mayor, for his 16 years of dedication and service at LP Field. Mr. Henderson thanked the Sports Authority for the certificate and stated how much he has enjoyed his time managing both the LP Field and the Titans Facility. Mr. Ralph Perrey acknowledged that, from a maintenance perspective, the city has spent only a fraction of what it might otherwise have because of the knowledge and foresight of Mr. Henderson. The Sports Authority thanked and applauded Mr. Dempsey for a job well done.

Chairman Elliott reported that the Finance Department has allocated a 1% salary increase for Metro Employees across the board, and, upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Sports Authority voted to approve the 1% increase for Sports Authority staff. Following this action Mr. Compton addressed the 2015 Board Meeting Schedule, proposing that this year the Authority continue to meet on the third Wednesday of each month with the exception of April (due the activity around the opening of First Tennessee Park) and December. Meeting locations will move between the various facilities with Mr. Compton stating his anticipation of meeting at Ford Ice Center in the near future. **Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Sports Authority voted to accept the 2015 meeting schedule.**

2015 Sports Authority Officer Elections

Chairman Elliott entertained nominations for the 2015 slate of officers, before requesting that that Mr. Ralph Perrey preside over the elections. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Sports Authority voted to re-elect its current slate of officers: Mr. J.D. Elliott, Chair; Ms. Kim Adkins, Vice-Chair; and Ms. Cathy Bender, Secretary/Treasurer.

There being no other business, the Sports Authority Meeting adjourned.