

SPORTS AUTHORITY OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE & DAVIDSON COUNTY
Minutes of October 21st, 2015 Meeting of the Board of Directors
First Tennessee Ballpark
8:30 a.m.

Board Members: Kim Adkins, Margaret Behm, Cathy Bender, Marcus Currie, Chuck Meriwether, Bob Obrahta, Ralph Perrey, Rip Ryman, Ed Temple, Dudley West, David Wicker, Emmett Wynn,
Staff: Monica Fawknottson, Ilesha Montesrin (Sports Authority temp), Margaret Darby (Legal)
Titans/ Nissan Stadium: Jenneen Kaufman, Bob Flynn, Walter Overton, Stuart Spears, Steve Underwood
Predators: Sean Henry, Danny Butler, Sean Marshall, Gerry Helper, Kyle Clayton, Michelle Kennedy
First Tennessee Park: Doug Scopel (Senior Vice President)
Nashville Sports Council: Scott Ramsey (President and CEO)
Visitors: Jane Madden (Metro HR), Tom Eddlemon (Treasurer), Briona Arradondo (WSMV Channel 4)

Chairwoman Kim Adkins called the meeting of the Sports Authority to order at 8:30 a.m. and welcomed all in attendance. Ms. Adkins reminded everyone that the appeals process for decisions by the Authority could be found on the top of the agenda. Ms. Adkins asked if there were changes to the minutes. Ms. Margaret Behm stated that a summary of the chart for the bond financing should be added. **Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Sports Authority unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2015 meeting with the requested addition.**

Search Committee Report

Chairwoman Adkins recognized Ms. Cathy Bender, Search Committee Chair, to give an update on the search for the Authority's Executive Director. Ms. Bender stated that the open announcement was posted from September 28th to October 4th, and that a total of 90 applications were received. Metro Human Resources reviewed all of the applications and narrowed it down to ten preferred candidates. These applicants all received a phone interview, but only a handful will be selected for an in-person interview. Metro Human Resources will notify candidates selected for an interview before they make a public announcement. A public notice containing interview information will be distributed so the board, and the public, may attend. Once the interviews are complete, the committee will make a recommendation to the board. The committee is moving quickly with the hope that they will name the new Director at the November board meeting.

Executive Director's Report

Chairwoman Adkins recognized Ms. Monica Fawknottson to give the Executive Director's Report. Ms. Fawknottson thanked the Sounds for hosting the board meeting and invited the board to take a tour of the ballpark once the meeting adjourned. She then gave an overview of the meeting's agenda, followed by an announcement of the Sports Authority's new committees and their members. Standing Committees are:

Finance and Audit Review Committee- Margaret Behm (Chair), Ralph Perrey, and Dudley West
Personnel (Executive) Committee- Kim Adkins (Chair), Margaret Behm, Cathy Bender and Ed Temple

Ad Hoc committees will be formed as needed. The current Ad Hoc committee, the Search Committee, is comprised of Cathy Bender (Chair), David Wicker, and Emmett Wynn. Ms. Fawknorton noted that the Finance and Audit Review Committee has already scheduled its first meeting for November 4th, 2015 at 8:30 a.m.

Ms. Fawknorton concluded her report with the announcement of Mayor Megan Barry's appointment of Talia Lomax- O'dneal as Metro's Finance Director. Ms. Lomax-O'dneal was appointed as acting Director of Finance last month and previously served as the Deputy Finance Director. She has been with Metro Finance for fifteen years with her primary responsibility being the preparation and monitoring of Metro's Operating Budget.

First Tennessee Park Update

Chairwoman Adkins recognized Mr. Doug Scopel to give the First Tennessee Park Report. Mr. Scopel began his report by stating that even though the season is over, the ballpark is still receiving recognition and awards. The Nashville Downtown Partnership honored First Tennessee Park with one of its "Play" awards for being a place people come to have a good time. Construction and engineering firms are now beginning to submit their ballpark work to their trade associations, and First Tennessee Park recently received an award from Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) of Tennessee. Mr. Scopel continued by reporting that the 2016 Nashville Sounds schedule has been set, and that opening day is April 7th. First Tennessee Park will also host the first non-Sounds baseball game between Vanderbilt and Belmont, one week before the Sounds' opening day.

Next, Mr. Scopel touched on the Sounds Community Relations report, which details events that take place at the ballpark and benefit the community. The Nashville Sounds Foundation raised over \$89,000 last season and has contributed over \$65,000 to help support Nashville communities. In addition to hosting an Open House Day, the Sounds have hosted Charity of the Game, concession fundraisers, and events for the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts. They have also made several visits to Vanderbilt Children's Hospital, and at the end of the month will host the "Suites and Treats Event" for underprivileged children who do not have the chance to go trick or treating. Suite holders and the Sounds will set up the suites with treats for the children to have a trick- or- treating experience.

Nissan Stadium Report

Chairwoman Adkins next recognized Mr. Bob Flynn to give the Nissan Stadium report. Mr. Flynn reported that in the past month Nissan Stadium has hosted three Titans games as well as Tennessee State University's Homecoming game. In regards to building enhancements, Mr. Flynn reported that eight of nine gates gate entries have been remodeled, each with a Nissan car/ truck on top and larger numbers that light up in the evenings. The light rakers and the west side of the stadium, including the ramps, are in the process of being painted a bright Nissan red, and the bollards that surround the stadium are in the process of being cleaned out and re-planted. Mr. Flynn also stated that the Titans have purchased four new video walls for the Club and expect to have one running at the next game.

Chairwoman Adkins recognized Ms. Jenneen Kaufman to continue with the Nissan Stadium report. Ms. Kaufman began her presentation with the Titans' community involvement, noting that the Titans theme for Breast Cancer Awareness month is "A Crucial Catch: Annual Screening Saves Lives." The purpose of this campaign is to remind women of the importance of having annual screenings and doing self-exams. At the October 11th game the Titans hosted a number of breast cancer survivors who shared their stories at halftime. All fans who attended the game received pink ribbons and pink sunglasses to support the survivors. The Titans have also had several players and cheerleaders travel to different high schools wearing pink uniforms, to remind students of breast cancer awareness. Ms. Kaufman shared that it is also domestic violence month and that the Titans have been named Community Partner of the year at the Pearls and Pinstripes Gala. At the home game on October 18th, the Titans hosted 75 domestic violence survivors whose tickets were purchased by the players on the team. They were treated to brunch at the game and they also lined the inside of the tunnel as the Titans took the field. At that game the Titans donated \$60,000 to their domestic violence partners across Tennessee and hosted their first annual blood drive, partnering with Saint Thomas Health and the American Cancer Society.

Ms. Kaufman next moved into the financial portion of her presentation, noting that the ticket tax for the \$2.00 Fund is sitting at \$417,599.68, while the \$1.00 Fund is at \$2,543,287.19. Ms. Kaufman explained that it may appear that less tax has been paid due to Metro Finance's request that seat user fee revenue remitted to Metro be done in such a way as to level out the monthly payments. Ms. Kaufman reported that the number of tickets subject to the user fee for the September 27th and October 11th games were 63,597 and 63,686 respectively. From 2010 to the present, there has been \$13,125,760 paid in to ticket tax. She stated that the Capital Fund currently has a balance of \$1,211,047.21 which includes the \$1 million annual contribution from Metro. The Titans' unfiled reimbursement receivable is at \$2,479,026.16 and the casualty receivables are at \$23,405.63.

Stadium Refurbishment Project Update

Chairwoman Adkins recognized Monica Fawknottson to give an update on the stadium's refurbishment project. Ms. Fawknottson announced that the loan closed on Monday. Pinnacle Bank, First Tennessee, and Fifth Third Bank are the lenders who have each purchased \$5 million of the bonds. The Sports Authority will keep one year of cash reserves and the interest rate will be 4.5% for the first five years. The Sports Authority will pay for the debt with the \$1.00 portion of the ticket tax and their portion of the CMA concession sales. When a loan is closed and bonds are issued, the state requires that CT Forms be presented. A CT Form is a report on the debt obligation and includes all of the information about the project and the cost of issuance which is \$94,000. This serves as a notice to the state that the loans have closed, and it must be filed by the chair. The Sports Authority is working closely with Commonwealth Development Group, Inc. (project managers) and the Titans to create a bid package to determine who will install the seats. The bids have all been received and are being analyzed in hope that they will have a final answer within the next ten days. Ms. Fawknottson also stated that the management team and the Titans have reviewed the specifications and engineering of the expansion joints, which run 2 miles through the stadium. The target date for an expansion joint contractor is mid-

November. Common Wealth Development Group will be at the next board meeting to give full details and to answer any questions.

Bridgestone Arena/ Ford Ice Center Report

Chairwoman Adkins recognized Mr. Sean Henry, President of the Nashville Predators, to give the Bridgestone Arena and Ford Ice Center Report. Mr. Henry started by stating that this summer was Bridgestone Arena's busiest one. In addition to hosting more shows than ever, they were in the midst of renovations which included new seats, expansion joints, walk-through metal detectors, refaced concession stands, renovated bathrooms, sports lighting, and more.

Mr. Henry stated that for three quarters of this year, Bridgestone Arena has been the second busiest building in North America. Bridgestone Arena is currently only 70,000 tickets behind Madison Square Garden in New York and was recently named arena of the year by IEBA (International Entertainment Buyer's Association). On December 12th, Bridgestone Winter Park will open in Walk of Fame Park in anticipation of the 2016 NHL All-Star Game and Weekend. Also, on this day, the arena will hold its first multi-sport double header which will consist of an Auburn vs. MTSU basketball game early in the day followed by the Predators game that evening.

Nashville Sports Council/ Music City Bowl Report

Finally, Chairwoman Adkins recognized Mr. Scott Ramsey, President and CEO of the Nashville Sports Council. The Sports Council's mission is to positively impact the economy and quality of life of the Greater Nashville area. This is done by attracting and promoting professional and amateur sports. Mr. Ramsey began by discussing the Council's two non-profit organizations: The Nashville Sports Council, a 501(c) (6) membership-based organization, and the Franklin American Mortgage Music City Bowl, a 501(c) (3) organization whose mission is to stimulate a positive impact on the Nashville economy. Both of these organizations have an agreement to share staff and this makes them very efficient. These organizations recruit events that bring economic impact and great visibility to Nashville. The Franklin American Mortgage Music City Bowl is heading into its 18th year and is in year two of twelve with ESPN to broadcast the event. The event will be broadcasted on December 30th during prime time. Mr. Ramsey also touched on the 2016 NHL All-Star Game and Weekend and Bridgestone Winter Park, stating that it is designated for the public and will serve as a free activity in Nashville. It will include free skate, hockey games, concerts, and more, and will showcase the city of Nashville. Additionally, Nashville will host the Men's SEC Basketball Tournament in 2016-2017, 2019-2021 and 2023-2025. The SEC Women's Basketball Tournaments will be held here in 2018, 2022 and 2025. The Rock N Roll Nashville Marathon and Half Marathon will also be coming to Nashville in April. St. Jude's is the partner for this event and last year, they raised almost \$2-million in just one day. In the past five years the Sports Council has provided a direct economic impact of over \$200 million. They have brought approximately 1.3 million spectators to events and involved over 14,000 volunteers.

Mr. Ramsey thanked the Sports Authority for its support and, there being no other business, the Sports Authority Meeting was adjourned.

