

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

**Minutes of October 21, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting
Bridgestone Arena – Loyal Legion Room
10:30 a.m.**

Board Members: Cathy Bender (Chair), Frank Harrison (Vice-Chair), Emmett Wynn (Secretary/Treasurer), Kim Adkins, Don Deering, Jad Duncan, Glenn Farner, Melvin Gill, Jon Glassmeyer, Aaron McGee

Staff: Monica Fawknorton, Quinton Herring, Melissa Wells, Margaret Darby (Legal)

Titans/ Nissan Stadium: Bob Flynn, Adolpho Birch, Patrick Byrd, Shannon Myers, Shereme Siewnarine

Predators/ Ford Ice Center: Kyle Clayton, Keith Hegger, Sean Henry, Michelle Kennedy, David Kells, Bill Wickett

Sounds/ First Tennessee Park: Doug Scopel, Adam English

Nashville SC: Mary Cavarra, Ian Ayre

Visitors: Betty Wiseman (Belmont University), Renee Schultz (Belmont University), Erika Larsen (Rock 'n' Roll Marathon), Kellen DeCoursey and Nick Homrich (CAA/ICON), Ron Gobbell and Tim DeBuse (GPS, Inc.), Jeremy Mitchell (Bell and Associates Construction), Steve Jones, Carol Greenlee, and Tom Clark (Mortenson/Messer), Jim Pustejovsky and Cole Durio (Capital Project Solutions), Sandy Mazza (Tennessean)

Chairwoman Cathy Bender called the meeting of the Sports Authority Board of Directors Meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

Consider Approval of Minutes from October 21, 2021, Board Meeting

Upon a motion made by Director Emmett Wynn and seconded by Director Frank Harrison, the Board approved the minutes from the October 21, 2021, Board meeting.

Title IX Spotlight: Betty Wiseman

Chairwoman Bender recognized Monica Fawknorton to introduce the Title IX Spotlight. Ms. Fawknorton shared that this is month three of the Title IX spotlight series. This month's spotlight is Betty Wiseman who was the founder of the Women's Basketball program at Belmont University.

A video clip was shared of Coach Wiseman, and she was interviewed by Director Aaron McGee. During this interview she shared stories of her early life in Portland, Tennessee which centered around the three important locations of "Home, Church and School" - her roots of family, religion and education shaped the woman and leader she blossomed into. She also shared what Title IX means to her - "To sum up Title IX in one word is impossible. It is the most important piece of legislation that has ever been. A lot of words come to mind. Opportunity and equality to name a few but to sum it up I will just say YES!!!" She ended the interview with one last statement, "It's time for Nashville to have a professional women's basketball team!"

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Fawknorton began the Executive Director's Report by reporting that the Board would act on two Resolutions coming as recommendations from the Finance Committee- 1) Approving a resolution approving a Capital Improvement Request from MFP Baseball LLC for the Roof Repairs to First Horizon Park and 2) Approving a resolution approving a waiver of the 2020 Lease Year Rent Payment under the lease agreement by and among the Sports Authority of Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County and Tennessee State University and Cumberland Stadium, Inc. Ms. Fawknorton also provided an update on Sports Authority staff member Bob Lackey who came home from the hospital just in time for his birthday after a lengthy bout with COVID-19.

Women's Professional Sports Ad Hoc Committee Report

Chairwoman Bender recognized Director Kim Adkins who provided an overview of the Women's Professional Sports Ad Hoc Meeting which took place on October 6th, 2021. The meeting began with a report from consulting firm CAA Icon's Executive Vice President, Dan Barrett. Mr. Barrett's report included an overview and timeline of the plan to perform a marketing survey and economic analysis focusing on the appetite of the city's population to host a Women's Professional Sports Team.

At the request of the committee, Mr. Barrett also shared information on the City of Oakland, California's efforts to secure a WNBA franchise should the league choose to expand or relocate. He explained that the City of Oakland has entered a non-binding term sheet with the African American Sports and Entertainments Group for the land owned by the city.

Finance Committee Report

Chairwoman Bender recognized Finance Committee Chairman Jon Glassmeyer for his report. Committee Chairman Glassmeyer shared that the Committee met prior to the Board Meeting.

Resolution Approving a Capital Improvement Request from MFP Baseball, LLC, for the roof repairs to First Horizon Park

The first item in front of the committee was a Resolution approving a Capital Improvement Request from MFP Baseball LLC for roof Repairs to First Horizon Park. The roof at the ballpark sustained damage during the 2020 Tornado. During a roof assessment it was determined the roof had non-tornado related damage. The lease agreement for the ballpark requires the Authority to fund capital expenses at the facility. Jim Pustejovsky of Capitol Property Solutions reviewed the assessment and obtained an estimate of \$55,000 dollars for the work. Metro Budget Analyst, Greg McClarin, recommended the repairs be funded from the 4% funds as opposed to seeking funding from the Capital Improvement Budget (CIB). Sports Authority staff will seek further investigation into the original installation including engineering of the roof and quality of materials to determine whether any claims for reimbursement of repair cost should be pursued prior

to authoring the repairs. The Finance Committee recommended approval of a revised resolution presented by Margaret Darby at the end of the meeting.

Upon a motion made by Director Adkins and seconded by Director McGee, the Authority voted unanimously to approve the revised resolution.

Consider approval of a Resolution approving a waiver of the 2020 lease year rent payment under the lease agreement by and among the Sports Authority of Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County and Tennessee State University and Cumberland Stadium, Inc.

Finance Committee Chairman Glassmeyer shared that the second item taken up by the Finance Committee was the consideration of a Resolution approving a waiver of the 2020 Lease Year Rent Payment under the lease agreement by and among the Sports Authority of Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County and Tennessee State University and Cumberland Stadium, Inc. The lease agreement permits Tennessee State University to play home games at Nissan Stadium. This Agreement requires Tennessee State University to pay rent in the amount of \$131,522 in two equal installments payable on October 31 and December 31 for the lease year. In August of 2020, the Ohio Valley Conference (“OVC”) Board of Presidents postponed football and other fall sports due to concerns and uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 Pandemic and thus no TSU football games were played in 2020. In October of 2020, the OVC announced its regular football schedule would move to the spring beginning on February 21, 2021, and TSU hosted four home games on its campus. The Committee recommended waiving the 2020 lease payment for Tennessee State University.

Upon a motion made by Director Harrison and seconded by Director Wynn, the Authority voted unanimously to approve waiving the 2020 lease payment for Tennessee State University.

Consider Approval of a Resolution authorizing the Sports Authority to enter into a license agreement with Competitor Group, Inc., to use the stadium for its Rock 'N' Roll Marathon

Chairwoman Bender recognized Ms. Fawknorton to introduce the resolution authorizing the Sports Authority to enter into a license agreement with Competitor Group, Inc., to use the stadium for its Rock 'N' Roll Marathon. Mrs. Fawknorton shared that each year the marathon rents the stadium parking lots from the Sports Authority at a cost of \$10,000, this is not only for race day but also several days leading up to the race as the lots are used for an Operations Compound, storing water stations, parking, and other activities during the race expo which takes place along the concourse inside Nissan Stadium. This race was initially scheduled for April 2020 but was postponed due to COVID-19. The race was then rescheduled for the Fall of 2020, and then postponed again in the Spring of 2021. The Sports Authority received payment for the initial spring race in 2020 and will be applying that payment for the race in November 2021. Ms. Fawknorton recognized Race Director, Erika Larsen for questions. Being that the Board did not have questions, Chairwoman Bender made a motion for approval.

Upon a motion made by Director Adkins and seconded by Director Duncan, the Authority voted unanimously to approve a Resolution authorizing the Sports Authority to enter into a license agreement with Competitor Group, Inc., to use the stadium for its Rock 'N' Roll Marathon.

Facility Questions

Director McGee asked the Predators how the community has responded to the Bridgestone Arena's new COVID-19 protocols requiring a proof of vaccination or negative COVID-19 test to attend events. The question was answered by Predators CEO Sean Henry who said 70-75% of the community like the policy and 20-25% of the community enjoyed voicing their dislike for the new protocol.

Chairwoman Bender recognized Doug Scopel, Vice President of Operations, Nashville Sounds, to introduce Adam English as Nashville Sounds new General Manager and COO. Mr. English shared his background and his desire to work with the Board.

MLS Stadium Infrastructure Update

Chairwoman Bender recognized Ron Gobbell of Gobbell Hays Partners, Inc. (GHP) to discuss the MLS Stadium Infrastructure project- a separate project of the stadium funded by a \$25 million General Obligation bonds. Mr. Gobbell introduced Cole Durio of Capital Project Solutions who shared a video of drone footage of the MLS Stadium infrastructure site. Mr. Gobbell also introduced Tim DeBuse of GHP, Inc., who also shared information on the infrastructure project and invited the Board to the stadium site for a visit before May of 2022. Mr. Gobbell introduced Carol Greenlee of Mortenson Messer to provide the diversity update. She shared that DBE participation is currently at 41% to date.

Director McGee asked if the project still has a perfect record for safety has; Mr. Gobbell confirmed that the safety record is still intact.

Nashville SC/MLS Stadium Update

Chairwoman Bender recognized Ian Ayre, President & CEO of Nashville Soccer Club, for a Nashville SC update. Mr. Ayre kicked off his presentation by highlighting community initiatives, including a youth reading program and "Soccer for All" which includes new community pitches and 35+ youth scholarships. He additionally highlighted their Juneteenth Community Block Party and Nashville's first black-led supporters' group. Ayre also shared that the team's investment in partnership is focusing on five key categories: banking, healthcare, automotive, insurance and beer. Nashville SC already has thirty-two partners secured for 2022. Ian noted over half the stadium's tickets have already been sold for the 2022 season.

Chairwoman Bender recognized Kellen DeCoursey with CAA ICON. Mr. DeCoursey started his report noting the job site is 100% injury free. He reviewed a PowerPoint with the Board highlighting construction progress including locker rooms and concessions being nearly

completed. He also highlighted their community work- the stadium construction team recently improved the playground at Napier Elementary and held a fundraiser for Fall Hamilton Elementary and brought in over \$10,000 for the school.

Mr. DeCoursey recognized Carol Greenlee of Mortenson Messer to provide a diversity and workforce update on the stadium. The project is currently at sixty total DBE firms for a total awarded value of \$73 million dollars to date. Ms. Greenlee shared that the DBE Contractor Showcase for October was Kelsea Friend, the owner of One Erosion Control & Stabilization Inc from Murfreesboro, TN. When asked how she feels about working on the stadium, Ms. Friend was quoted saying “this project has meant the world to me as a business owner. I love what we do and being part of the stadium has really made working hard to build this business worth it.”

Chairwoman Bender recognized Margaret Darby of Metro Legal who announced she will be joining the Metro Council as Director of the Counsel Office in January and will be leaving the Sports Authority. Both Ms. Fawknottson and Chairwoman Bender thanked Ms. Darby for her many years of service to the Sports Authority.

There being no further business, Director Bender made a motion that the meeting be adjourned, it was seconded by Director Adkins, and unanimously approved.