

Minutes: Meeting of the Metropolitan Government Board of Fair Commissioners

Date: June 14, 2022 4:00 p.m.

On the above referenced date, the June meeting for the Board of Fair Commissioners was held in Expo 2 at the Fairgrounds. Those in attendance were Chair Sheri Weiner, Vice-Chair Jasper Hendricks, Commissioner Mario Avila and Commissioner Todd Hartley. Also, present was Fairgrounds Executive Director Laura Womack. Metro Attorney Ashely Brown was in attendance. Ed Henley with Pillars Development was present, as well as Ron Gobbell with GHP and Roxianne Bethune with Alliance Synergy. Mary Cavarra with Nashville Soccer Club (and the Ownership Group) was also in attendance. And Jason Bergeron with the Neighborhood Impact Advisory Committee (NIAC) was also present.

Chair Weiner read the legal notice and called the meeting to order. She then moved to the approval of the May meeting minutes. Commissioner Hartley made a motion to approve, and Vice-Chair Hendricks seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were passed. She then moved to Public Comment Time.

There was one public comment from Shane Smiley. There was no financial report this month and Director Womack stated that they would “double up” on the report at next month’s meeting. Chair Weiner then moved to the Events Update item on the agenda.

Director Womack reported that they were very busy, and they had been trying to recruit some national shows. She added that they were working on the schedule along with the 2023 soccer schedule and had just completed a combo weekend that went well. Chair Weiner then moved to the Executive Director’s Report.

Director Womack announced that a new commissioner, Anthony Owens, was scheduled to be nominated on June 21st to fill the last Fair Board Commissioner vacancy. She talked about the SRX Race weekend and also mentioned some masonry repairs that needed to be made to the grandstands. Chair Weiner then moved to Old Business and the Fairgrounds Improvement Project, Stadium, Mixed Use, and Infrastructure Update item on the agenda.

Mr. Henley gave a quick financial update on each outstanding project at the Fairgrounds. Commissioner Hartley asked when they would be moving forward on the Fair Park Phase 2 project and Mr. Gobbell stated that they were chasing inflation and that, because of higher costs for construction, the needs had outgrown the money available. He stated they were trying to resolve this issue and added that, hopefully, they could start soon. He then gave the floor to Roxianne Bethune. Ms. Bethune gave a quick report on the Diversity Program and participation. Mr. Gobbell reported that they were busy with some emergency repairs to the grandstands and expanding the maintenance building and that also a tour had taken place with Ms. Andal from the previous board meeting along with ADA and many others concerning ADA issues around the campus. He stated that they would work on better signage and markings until the Infrastructure Project was completed which would then tie everything together on the ADA issues permanently. He finished by stating that he would be glad to sit down with each/any Board Member to let them know where each project stood.

Ms. Cavarra gave a final recap on the stadium construction and then gave a brief report about the Mixed Use Project. Vice-Chair Hendricks asked about the internet strength problem at the games and Ms. Cavarra stated that they had already corrected the internet receiver issue and were working on getting a better antenna system. Chair Weiner then moved to the Bristol Update item on the agenda.

Chair Weiner reported that all was still pending. She then moved to the Community Impact/Speedway Policy Discussion and Consideration item on the agenda.

Mr. Bergeron stated that Shay Sapp from NIAC was also present. He thanked Ms. Cavarra for her attentiveness and availability as each game brought improvement on parking and traffic. He stated his frustrations over the Bristol

deal and encouraged the Board to start community dialogue themselves. Chair Weiner then moved to New Business and the Consideration of Fair Board Bylaw Updates item on the agenda.

Chair Weiner explained that this was brought to the Board by Metro Legal and named the sections where the changes would occur. She then called for a motion for the approval of an update to the bylaws. Commissioner Hartley stated, *"So moved,"* and Vice-Chair Hendricks seconded the motion. Chair Weiner then read the changes to sections 3c, 3e, 4a and some annual performance review additions and then opened the floor for discussion on the amendments. Commissioner Hartley asked if the bylaw amendments had been reviewed by Metro Legal and Ms. Brown stated that they had reviewed these, and Chair Weiner added that Ms. Lora Fox had reviewed the performance review info as well. There was a discussion among The Board and Commissioner Hartley then made an amendment to the motion stating that the following be added in section 4a, *"...if the Executive Director or his or her designee determine that an agreement to be entered into by the delegate of the Executive Director shall have a significant impact on the community then before signing the agreement the delegate shall inform the Chairperson of the Fair Board."* Commissioner Avila seconded the amendment. Commissioner Hartley asked that Metro Legal review the language and if there was a problem, he asked that Metro Legal give them a recommendation. Chair Weiner then asked for a vote for the amendment. All were in favor and the amendment was passed. She then asked for a vote for the motion on the bylaws as amended. All were in favor and the amended motion was passed. Chair Weiner then moved to the Nominations and Election of Officers item on the agenda.

Vice-Chair Hendricks made a motion stating, *"I would like to nominate Chairwoman Sheri Weiner as Chair."* All were in favor and the motion was passed. Commissioner Avila then made a motion to nominate Jasper Hendricks as Vice-Chair. Chair Weiner asked Commissioner Hendricks if he accepted the nomination and he stated that he did. All were in favor and the motion was approved. Chair Weiner then moved to the Open Range Increase for Executive Director item on the agenda.

Chair Weiner recommended that Executive Director Womack receive an Open Range increase of 15% (per Council approval of the proposed budget and available funding) and then asked for a motion. Vice-Chair Hendricks made a motion stating, *"I move we consider a 15% Open Range increase for Executive Director Womack."* Commissioner Hartley seconded the motion. There were several comments and each Board Member stated in favor of the increase and Chair Weiner then called the question. All were in favor and the motion was passed.

Vice-Chair Hendricks then made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Avila seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was dismissed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chair, Sheri Weiner

Executive Director, Laura Womack