Minutes: Meeting of the Metropolitan Government Board of Fair Commissioners

Date: December 13, 2022 4:00 p.m.

On the above referenced date, the December meeting for the Board of Fair Commissioners was held at the Fairgrounds in Expo 2. Those in attendance were Chair Sheri Weiner, Vice-Chair Jasper Hendricks, Commissioner Mario Avila and Commissioner Anthony Owens. Commissioner Todd Hartley was not present. Also, in attendance were Executive Director Laura Womack and Finance and Administrative Manager Satrice Allen. Metro Attorney Ann Mikkelsen was present. Ed Henley with Pillars Development and Katy Sheesley with GHP were in attendance. Dirk Melton with MarketStreet Enterprises was present. And Jason Bergeron with the Neighborhood Impact Advisory Committee (NIAC) was also in attendance.

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

There were several comments in support of the Bristol Proposal. Chair Weiner then moved to the Financial Report.

Ms. Allen gave a brief financial report. Chair Weiner then moved to the Events Update item on the agenda.

Director Womack stated that they had a busy first quarter ahead. She then moved to the Executive Director's Report. She announced that NDOT (Nashville Dept of Transportation) would be starting the sidewalks on Craighead that week. She also reported that there were a couple of items before Metro Council concerning the Mixed-Use Participation Agreement and the contract extension for GHP with Metro. Chair Weiner then moved to Old Business and the Fairgrounds Improvement Project, Mixed Use, and Infrastructure Update item on the agenda.

Mr. Henley gave a quick report and stated that there was no movement on funds on Fair Park Phase 1 and very little movement on Fair Park Phase 2. Mr. Melton stated that the Mixed-Use Project was coming along and on schedule and gave a quick update. Ms. Sheesley reported that the Infrastructure Project was complete and that they were in the design stage of Fair Park Phase 2. Chair Weiner then moved to the Bristol Update item on the agenda.

Director Womack stated that all of the documents pertaining to Bristol so far had been listed on the Fair Board website and also on the Fairgrounds website. She then went over the next few work sessions and public hearings that were scheduled. Vice-Chair Hendricks asked if they could get the word out and educate the public that Metro/the Fair Board was not allowed to be involved in a community benefits agreement. And, it would be helpful if the public could view the benefits agreement that was being offered. Chair Weiner stated that she would try to do that. Chair Weiner then moved to the Community Impact/Speedway Policy Discussion and Consideration item on the agenda.

Mr. Bergeron asked the Board to make sure a definition of a "race car" was in the new lease agreement. He also stated that NIAC was requesting an actual dialogue and exchange with the Fair Board and also that Bristol attend a NIAC meeting. He finished by stating that while Metro could not be involved with a community benefits agreement, they could make sure that it got done, like soccer. Chair Weiner then moved to New Business and the Consideration of an Amendment to the Contract with Track Enterprises item on the agenda.

Director Womack stated that the Board had approved in October an amendment to the contract with Track Enterprises for the 2023 season which allowed Chair Weiner and Director Womack to meet with Bob Sargent on some changes. She reported that there were 2 minor changes since the October meeting 1) some flexibility in regard to the food and beverage services for the 2023 season and they had also been working with Procurement to adjust DD's contract in consideration of this. 2) to approve 8 months of office rent instead of 9 months since the speedway had moved out on November 1st due to the lack of utilities being on. Chair Weiner then asked for a motion. Vice-Chair Hendricks made a motion stating, "I move that we approve these amendments as presented and be able to change the dates per Metro Legal." Commissioner Owens seconded the motion. There was a brief discussion about whether or not others had the same option to contract with someone else (for food & beverage). Director Womack stated that there was a buyout option for other promoters and that compensation would need to be considered for that but that this motion was only pertaining to Track Enterprises. She added that the Fairgrounds would not lose any revenue because of this change. Chair Weiner then asked for a vote. All were in favor and the motion was passed.

Chair Weiner asked for a motion to adjourn. Vice-Chair Henricks then made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Owens seconded the motion, all were in favor and the meeting was dismissed.

Respectfully Submitted,	
Chair, Sheri Weiner	Executive Director, Laura Womack