

Minutes: Meeting of the Metropolitan Government Board of Fair Commissioners

Date: October 10, 2023 4:00 p.m.

On the above referenced date, the October meeting for the Board of Fair Commissioners was held at the Fairgrounds in Expo 3. Those in attendance were Chair Jasper Hendricks, Vice-Chair Todd Hartley, Commissioner Anthony Owens and Commissioner Diego Eguiarte who arrived later. Also, in attendance from the Fairgrounds were Executive Director Laura Womack, Finance and Administrative Manager Satrice Allen, and Fair Manager Scott Jones. Metro Attorney Erica Haber was present. Ron Gobbell from GHP was in attendance as well as Lindsey Paola with the Nashville Soccer Club. Dirk Melton with Market Street Enterprises and Bob Sargent with Track Enterprises were also present. Councilwoman Terry Vo was in attendance as well.

Chair Hendricks called the meeting to order and read the legal notice. He then called for a motion to approve the September meeting minutes. Vice-Chair Hartley stated, "*So moved*". Commissioner Owens seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were passed. Chair Hendricks then moved to Public Comment Time.

After a brief discussion and checking with the bylaws, it was decided to suspend the public comment time rules and Chair Hendricks made a motion stating, "*I would like to suspend the rules to allow public comment period for 2 minutes per individual with a maximum of 16 minutes total.*" Vice-Chair Hartley seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was passed. There was one public comment. Chair Hendricks then moved to the Financial Report.

Ms. Allen gave a brief financial report. There were no questions, so Chair Hendricks then moved to the *Events update to include campus partners* item on the agenda starting with a soccer update.

Ms. Paola gave a brief report. There was a short discussion and several questions about parking. Director Womack went over the events calendar. Mr. Jones gave a brief fair update. He reported that attendance, paid parking, and the midway numbers were all up and he also mentioned that the redemption on school tickets was also up quite a bit. There were a few questions about numbers, goals, expectations, and fair dates. Councilwoman Vo stated that she had attended the Fair and she enjoyed it and was looking forward to working together in the future. Chair Hendricks then moved to the Executive Director's Report.

Director Womack stated that they were pleased to have a safe fair with no incidents concerning the rides. She also recognized Danny Reynolds for making the 2 new podiums for the Fairgrounds which came from wood from the old stables and Volunteer Village. Chair Hendricks then moved to the *Update on capital projects including infrastructure, Fair Park, and mixed-use development* item on the agenda.

Mr. Gobbell gave a brief financial report on the projects at the Fairgrounds since Mr. Henley was not in attendance. He also gave his update on the Phase 2 Project/Infrastructure Project. Mr. Melton then gave a report on the Mixed-Use Project. Chair Hendricks asked about the impact since there had been no movement on the speedway decision and Mr. Gobbell stated that they were coordinating with Bristol, just in case, and added that what was there for now, would work whether the Bristol deal went through or not. Vice-Chair Hartley stated that it might be helpful to have a ten-year block of project development and goal(s) of where they wanted to be since stability was important. There was no old business, so Chair Hendricks then moved to New Business and the *Consideration of 2024 contract extension with Track Enterprises* item on the agenda.

Director Womack asked that the Board vote on extending the speedway contract so that Mr. Sargent could confirm his scheduling and stated that there was an amendment (#3) to consider in their packets. She went over a few changes and there were several questions and lengthy discussion concerning some of the changes, noise levels and sound monitoring and enforcement. Vice-Chair Hartley then made a motion stating, *“I make a motion to approve the 2024 contract extension with Track Enterprises as written as long as we also investigate sound mitigation services on the epic control of the Fairgrounds at the same time but without making the approval of the contract contingent on anything related to the sound mitigation services”* Commissioner Eguiarte seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was passed. Mr. Sargent said a few words and finished by stating that they liked quiet cars as well and they were checking cars every race.

Chair Hendricks then reminded everyone of the board retreat coming up. He added that they were also waiting on the mayor to appoint a new board member.

Commissioner Owens made a motion to adjourn, and Commissioner Eguiarte seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was dismissed.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Chair, Jasper Hendricks

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Executive Director, Laura Womack