

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

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, February 27, 2024 | 10:30 am | First Horizon Park – Brauer Lounge

Attendees

Board Members: Kim Adkins, Cathy Bender, Don Deering, Tiffany Degrafinreid, Jad Duncan, Glenn Farner, Monchiere' Holmes-Jones, Winston Justice, Aaron McGee, Anna Page, Emmett Wynn, Michael Zerah

Staff: Monica Fawknorton (ED), Brandon Little, Melissa Wells, Joshua Thomas (Metro Legal), Lexie Ward (Metro Legal)

Visitors: Alleyia Ashley (MoJo Marketing & PR), Adolpho Birch (Titans), Kevin Brown (Metro Finance), Danny Butler (Preds), Katie Cafiero (Predators), Kyle Clayton (Preds), Haley Davidson (Titans), Stephen Elliott (Nashville Banner), Adam English (Sounds), Ron Gobbell (GHP), Kate Guerra (Titans), Keith Hegger (Predators), Janeen Lalili (SC&E), Necol Lyons (Metro OMB), Greg McClarin (Metro Finance), George S. Morgan, Jr (Morgan & Morgan Tech Consultant Services), James Morrison (Barton Malow), Shannon Myers (Titans), Lindsey Paola (NSC), Jennifer Pedginski (Metro Finance), Jim Pustejovsky (CPS), Doug Scopel (Sounds), Katy Sheesley (GHP), Steven Seibert (Morgan & Morgan Tech Consultant Services), Mark Sturtevant (Metro Planning), Don Twining (Cumming Group), Obi Ukiwu (Public), Shelten Vieau (Barton Malow Builders), Bill Walker (Metro Audit), Dinah Wells (PMC)

Call to Order

Chair Bender called the meeting of the Sports Authority Board of Directors to order, welcomed all to First Horizon Park, and thanked the Nashville Sounds for hosting. She also welcomed new board members Tiffany Degrafinreid and Monchiere' Holmes-Jones and announced the reappointments of Jad Duncan and Emmett Wynn to the board. Chair Bender additionally announced that she has appointed Dan Hogan as the Finance Committee Chair and Don Deering to serve on the Finance Committee. Chair Bender encouraged board members to let her know if they are interested in serving in various board roles and they will be considered as openings become available.

Public Comment Period Pursuant to TN Open Meetings Act, TN Code Ann. §8-44-101

There were no sign ups for Public Comment.

Consider Approval of January 11, 2024 Work Session & December 14, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Chair Bender asked if there were questions or comments pertaining to the January 11, 2024 Work Session and December 14, 2023 Meeting Minutes. There being none,

Upon a motion made by Director Adkins and seconded by Director Farner, the Board of Directors unanimously approved the January 11, 2024 Work Session & December 14, 2023 Meeting Minutes.

Executive Director's Report

ED Fawknorton gave a summary overview of the agenda and also welcomed newly appointed and reappointed board members. She congratulated Chair Bender and Adolpho Birch for their inclusion in the Tennessean's story on *Nashville Black Leaders To Know in 2024*.

Finance Committee Report

Finance Committee (FC) Acting Chair Winston Justice reported on the following items from the 9:30am FC meeting:

A. The FC considered a resolution approving Metro Internal Audit's recommendation that the Sports Authority (SA) establish procedures for the monitoring of wages for all future applicable contracts and cover the cost for such services. The Resolution was deferred from the December 2023 meeting to provide additional time for staff to research cost and logistics of implementing the audit's recommendations. Sports Authority Staff recommendation is that funding for all future construction activities/projects, be included in the project's budget and bond issuance. The FC recommends approval.

Upon a motion made by Director Justice and seconded by Director Duncan, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to approve a Resolution Approving the Audit of the Major League Soccer Stadium Construction Project Recommendation

B. The FC also reviewed and considered a Resolution and the FY 25 First Horizon Park Capital Plan presented by Adam English, General Manager & Doug Scopel, Asst GM, Nashville Sounds. The FC recommends approval.

Upon a motion made by Director Deering and seconded by Director McGee, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to approve a Resolution Approving the FY25 Capital Improvement Project Plan for First Horizon Park

C. Finally, ED Fawknorton walked the FC through the SA FY25 Operating & Capital Budgets. The FY25 budget is status quo from FY 24 and includes capital improvements for First Horizon Park. The FC recommends approval.

Upon a motion made by Director Justice and seconded by Director Deering, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to approve a Resolution approving the Sports Authority FY25 Operating and Capital Budgets

Consider Approval of Resolution Authorizing the Granting of a Permanent and Temporary Easement to Colonial Pipeline Company on a Parcel of Property Owned by the Sports Authority,

Mark Sturtevant, Metro Planning Department (East Bank Development), reported that Metro is seeking approval for a Right-Of-Way Easement to Colonial Pipeline Company for construction of the Titans New Enclosed Stadium. The Easement will be a U-shaped route located in the proximity of Russell Street, Second Street, the Juvenile Justice Center, Cumberland River, the Pedestrian Bridge and Victory Avenue. Two pipelines (an 8" and 12") will be relocated. The request also includes a workspace easement to ensure accessibility and space should maintenance of the pipeline be required. Director Farner questioned whether this is the same line that was approved previously by the board to which Mr. Sturtevant noted this is the third of the three easements requested. The other two were for a Water Main line and Piedmont Gas line, both of which have been completed. Director Wynn asked whether the easements have impacted the Juvenile Justice Center to which Director Page noted a new Juvenile Justice Center is under construction. Director McGee asked what would happen if the Easements were not approved; Mr. Sturtevant responded that construction would be halted as excavation cannot begin until the pipeline is relocated. Director Holmes-Jones asked for clarification regarding the request for a "Temporary" Easement; Mr. Sturtevant stated a Temporary Easement is required during the construction phase necessary to relocate the Pipeline.

Upon a motion made by Director McGee and seconded by Director Farner, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to approve a Resolution Authorizing the Granting of a Permanent and Temporary Easement to Colonial Pipeline Company on a Parcel of Property Owned by the Sports Authority

Consider Approval of a Resolution Approving Preliminary Design Plans for an Enclosed Football Stadium

Ron Gobbell, GHP President Emeritus reminded the board that GHP and CPS are Acting Program Managers representing the Sports Authority on the Titans New NFL Stadium project. GHP, CPS and their subconsultants have reviewed the 50% Design Development package which includes 4,000+ design development documents. Today, GHP/CPS are recommending approval of the preliminary design plans by the Sports Authority. Sometime in the summer/early fall the board will be asked to approve the 100% design phase.

Chair Bender thanked the GHP/CPS team for their helpful, informative and transparent reporting during the January Work Session.

Upon a motion made by Director Deering and seconded by Director Page, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to approve a Resolution Approving Preliminary Design Plans for an Enclosed Football Stadium

Titans Monthly Stadium Update

Shannon Myers, Titans CFO, reported on current Nissan Stadium Capital Expenditures and directed the board's attention to the CapEx memo which includes a summary of completed, ongoing and anticipated projects between September 1, 2023 through February 1, 2024. Two anticipated projects for March 2023 will include: repairing additional Fire Safety and Security projects with an estimated cost of \$22,000 and concrete work to repair the crumbling steps (estimated cost will be available by end of week).

Adolpho Birch, Chief External & League Affairs Officer highlighted the following from the monthly updates:

- The month of January included completion of the Design Development Phase, continued preconstruction services from the Tennessee Builders Alliance ("TBA"), and continued preparation for construction.
- The Titans and MANICA presented the stadium 50% Design Development design to the Sports Authority on January 11.
- Planning discussions continue for site logistics of the new stadium during construction. Plans have been reviewed and are now discussed monthly with Metro departments and bi-weekly with the Titans to communicate and coordinate upcoming impacts. Logistics for groundbreaking, parking, security cameras and traffic patterns have been discussed and coordinated.
- All are invited to attend the groundbreaking ceremony set for February 29.
- The installation of the new 60" force sewer main next to Nissan Stadium reached substantial completion in November. Restoration and line abandonment work will continue throughout February.
- The Piedmont Gas relocation installation and line testing has been completed. The newly installed line is now active.
- Colonial Gas pipeline relocation work will continue throughout February with a projected completion of mid-March. The contractor has mobilized and started relocation activities.
- The project has spent a total of \$89,754,761 through the end of January 2024. For the last approved monthly pay application of December 2023, the project spent a total of \$4,944,446.

- Metro’s Business Assistance Office will launch a specialized software package that will allow the aggregation of all budgeting reports as well as tracking of DBE utilization.
- The Titans are continuing to collaborate with Metro and the East Bank Development Team on the new plazas that will surround the new stadium.
- The Titans ONE Community platform continues to focus on three areas – Opportunity, Neighborhoods and Education in helping to address some of Nashville’s challenges.

Consider Approval of a Resolution Approving the Naming of a Certain Area of GEODIS Park Pursuant to the terms of the Lease Agreement Between the Sports Authority and Walsh Management

Lindsey Paola, Chief Operating officer, Nashville Soccer Club reported that the request today is to rename the Premier Club located on club level to Transcard Premiere Club. Chair Bender reminded the group that the board may not unreasonably withhold approval.

Upon a motion made by Director Duncan and seconded by Director Farner, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to approve a Resolution Approving the Naming of a Certain Area of GEODIS Park to Transcard Premiere Club Pursuant to the terms of the Lease Agreement Between the Sports Authority and Walsh Management

Facility Questions

There were no questions presented.

First Horizon Park Report

Adam English, General Manager, reported as follows:

- 2023 attendance at First Horizon Park surpassed that of 2022
- Former Sounds player Jackson Chourio is currently #2 in MLB prospects and was awarded a ten year \$80m contract with the Milwaukee Brewers after playing only six games at Triple A.
- As the Sounds continue to look at ways to expand the Park for extended family fun a Wiffle Ball turf field has been installed and a nine-hole golf field was created with each hole being created by a different local artist
- MLB entered into a licensing agreement to sell Margaritaville/Jimmy Buffet and Harry Potter Houses hats.
- In honor of the Negro Baseball League which played on the site of First Horizon Park (formerly Sulphur Dell), the Sounds are offering a Henry Kimbro Bobble Head
- Community Initiatives include: Pop-Up Baseball (where players surprise elementary schools with equipment to play and learn about baseball); Nashville Sounds Foundation Scholarship (annually awards \$2,500 in higher education scholarship to four Middle TN students); The Nine Initiative (a Black Community outreach focused on honoring & celebrating the historic impact of Black baseball pioneers; \$1.7m was raised for the infrastructure of Parkwood); Copa de la Diversion Series (Hispanic community outreach programs where the Sounds name transitions to the Vihuelas de Nashville once a month); and Fantasy Baseball Camp (a partnership with the Sertoma Club where children who are deaf or hard of hearing are invited for a day of baseball related fun)
- Nashville is one of Savannah Bananas favorite locations; they will return June 13-15, 2024 for three games
- Sounds season opener is March 29 with on the road game and the home opener is on Tuesday, April 2

Director McGee requested clarification on how schools are selected for Pop-Up Baseball. Mr. English noted all Nashville elementary schools are welcome to participate and it is typically based on which schools' schedule have availability for the Sounds to visit.

Adjourn

In closing, Chair Bender announced the next meeting is scheduled for 10:30am Thursday, March 21, 2024 at Nissan Stadium; all will be notified if there is a need for the Finance Committee to meet prior to at 9:30am. There being no further questions or business, the Board of Directors meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Valda Barksdale, Metro Nashville Sports Authority

YouTube Meeting Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mywGkMsBktU&t=498s>