

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

### METROPOLITAN AUDITORIUM COMMISSION

**MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2024**

**10:30AM NMA Meeting Room: A-31**

**PRESENT:** Blake McDaniel, Jackie Marushka, Nancy Menke, Fletcher Foster, Juanita Traugher, Taneisha Alexander-Harvey, and Don Harris

**ABSENT:** Adam Knight, Jerry Pentecost

**GUESTS:** Theresa Costonis, Attorney, Metro Legal Department; Angela Smith, Linda Chambers, Musicians Hall of Fame & Museum; Antoine Teeter, Tracey Rhodes, Darrin Howard, Municipal Auditorium

Pursuant to the provision 268030 the metropolitan code of laws please take notice that the decision of the Metropolitan Nashville Municipal Auditorium commission made the appeal to the chancery court of Davidson County for review under common law. Any appeal must be filed within 60 days after the entry of a final decision by the commission. Any person or other entity considering an appeal should consult with an attorney to ensure that time and procedural requirements are met.

**Mr. McDaniel:** Now let's approve the minutes. Has everyone had a chance to look over the minutes.

(Discussion on in item that was not clear about an event that was to take place at the MHOF)

**Mr. McDaniel:** Public comment period. Is there anyone that would like to bring any comments to the floor? None? Ok, let's here the Musicians Hall of Fame Museum Report.

#### **Musicians Hall Of Fame**

**Ms. Smith:** Hello, good morning, everyone! As for the Musicians Hall of Fame, we saw a nice uptick in walking traffic. I think Spring Breaks have hit, and hopefully it's trending towards the Tourism season once again and we're pleased with that. We have several new things happening in the museum downstairs. I invite all of you to come down. Royce has built a, I would call, a Wall of Sound. It's just old speakers in our foyer area with a nice big guitar and a nice logo neon sign that's great for photo opts for our customers coming in. We've also installed the Studio B door from CBS Records in front of our radio room; of course, if you're from Nashville or in the music industry, then you're familiar with everything that was recorded in Studio B. Other things, we've acquired John Cash's 1954 Plymouth Savoy and it is so cool! There was a national campaign when Johnny was overheard saying that the 54 Savoy was the best car he ever had, and Plymouth jumped on that and did a nationwide campaign to find the best shaped 54 Plymouth. This was the early 70s and this schoolteacher who had it. She didn't even know that

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

she was entering in a contest, and her mechanic entered her. It's a great, great story! We've all been down this rabbit hole a month now. But we hope you all come down and see what some of the fun stuff we have going on downstairs. Thank you.

(Mr. Foster remembers and circles back regarding the information that not clear on the last meeting being about a presentation and the MHOF's partnership with WKRN)

**Ms. Smith:** Yes! We are doing a WKRN Campaign. It's called Musician of the Month. We've already honored our first winner. She was an incredible young lady, 17 years old, very well spoken, multi-instrumentalist. She was recorded a couple of Fridays ago, that should be airing soon. But we will be doing this over the school year. We will take a break during the summer months so we'll get back out and (???) like dinner with their family or their inspirations. Hopefully, get one of our inductees to come and speak with them as well as inspirations to their careers. And it's not just public, private, or home school, but everywhere WKRN airs.

(Small talk)

**Ms. Menke:** I move to approve the minutes.

**Mr. McDaniel:** Do we have a second?

**Mr. Foster:** Second

**Mr. McDaniel:** Alright, all-in favor? ("I" collectively) All oppose? Alright, the minutes are approved as amended. Now let's move on the Staff Reports

### **Municipal Auditorium**

**Mrs. Alexander-Harvey:** Alright, for the staff reports, I printed off all the financials for everyone, so you should have a copy. Our budget for FY24 Revenue \$1,796,000.00 and YTD we are at \$1,229,958.00 for revenue. We have events coming that will be specifically Municipal Auditorium's revenue. From April to May, we only have one Live Nation event, in which all our revenue will be made up during the next 2 months. For expenses, we're budgeted at \$2.8Million. Currently, we are at \$1,776,152.00, assuming there are no major expenses between now and June 30, we're projected to end the year with \$2,745,000.00 in expenses, which puts us within budget.

**Mr. Harris:** As far as events, we have Joyce Meyer coming in, a cheer event, and 3 videos shoots the following week, another cheer, Nashville Kats, cheer, firefighters, Kats game, then we go into high school graduations. We have 12 schools that are graduating this. The meeting rooms upstairs have both been completed. We put in new dry wall, new flooring, painted the walls, and put in new ceiling tile and lighting. The rooms look great now. We have more signage coming in. That's going to be completed next week; Kats will have quite a bit of signage. All of the upper concourses will have signage with the Kats on it, that will be complete before the first

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

game. The showers in both two locker rooms will be updated. We're going to take out the old tile and re-tile those showers so they can look more like the dressing rooms. We'll have completely updated showers for the Kats, gymnastics and other team sports coming in. That will be done this month.

**Mr. McDaniel:** So, the Nashville Kats. Can you just give us like a overlay of how many games they will play, how often will they be in, that kind of thing?

**Mr. Harris:** They have 5 home games scheduled this year, 6 home games scheduled next year.

**Mr. McDaniel:** Ok, got it

(Brief discussion about the first Nashville Kats game regarding an opening Ceremony, activations, merch shops, activities, etc in the plaza)

**Mr. Harris:** Regarding the marquees out front, we had to amend the Pepsi contract. That's been amended and sent over from Procurement to Pepsi. Pepsi is giving us a one payment of \$35,000 for an upgrade on the marquee. Once it's approved, we're going to update the marquees, adding 3 new LED boards. Time frame should be a month & a half to two months depending on equipment lead time.

**Mr. McDaniel:** So, is that like a pouring rights deal?

**Mr. Harris:** It is part of the pouring rights contract. We asked for \$35,000 up front towards the marquee and they will get the marquee and we will pay the difference. That way we didn't have to get an RFP. We just needed to add language in the contract that allowed us to pay the difference to Pepsi.

**Ms. Marushka:** So, does that mean that we are exclusively Pepsi here?

**Mr. Harris:** We are.

(Small talk regarding Pepsi being our official vendor)

**Mr. McDaniel:** Moving onto New Business. Is there any new business?

**Ms. Traugher:** I do have a question. Last year we talked about the event building manager possibly bringing restaurants here and I don't remember. I might of missed the meeting, but was there any follow up about that? What's happening with that project?

**Mr. McDaniel:** So, with the, I think with the conversations that are starting to happen with The Venue Group (TVG) coming in, I think there is a pause button on that, because there is a major restoration of the venue itself that probably needs to be included at some level. So, that conversation is with the city at the moment. We are taking the lead from the mayor's office on

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

what to do and how we will move forward on those conversations. Because of that, I think we thought it best just to say look, if we're going to do that and put new restaurants, then we probably need to do that in conjunction with a whole renovation itself. Does that make sense?

**Ms. Traugher:** I appreciate it, thank you.

**Mr. McDaniel:** No problem. Thanks for the question.

**Ms. Menke:** So, just to follow up on that, The Venue Group discussions are moving forward, but with the city and seeing what their level of interest is?

**Mr. McDaniel:** Correct. We've had a conversation in Bob Mendez's office, Economic Development, and he wanted to do an evaluation with the mayor's office just to kind of get their take on it and what their view would be on it. We're waiting for them to evaluate it and figure out what the next steps moving forward. That's where we are. There is a variety of different ways. You can go through the RFP; you can go with a under direct contract. Or perhaps the city could decide that they wanted to go ahead and cut the check themselves; finance it themselves, and the outsource the actual construction company. So, there's 3 or 4 different possibilities. They just kind of wanted to go through that themselves to see the pros and cons of all of those before we move forward. We're just waiting on their reply.

**Ms. Menke:** Whatever kind of renovation they do, I would hope that it's going to be something that would expand our possibilities. Hopefully.

**Mr. McDaniel:** In what ways?

**Ms. Menke:** Music, athletic events; I know that some of the....we have the Kats, but I know there's been some interest in women's sports events coming and that would be good for the early part of the year in particular, where some of those are. I would want to try to see that they're going to renovate in a way to make it an attractive venue.

**Mr. McDaniel:** Absolutely. And then a part of that conversation too is, we are the Municipal Auditorium, so we need to serve the City of Nashville, we need to have it available for graduations, and events like that for the city as well. All those things will be in the conversation for sure. I ask you, when those conversations happen, make sure you bring those up, so that we can keep those in consideration.

**Ms. Menke:** Good, thank you.

**Mr. Harris:** Going more towards that, we just had a gymnastics event in here a couple of weeks ago; it was SEC schools, that went well. I know Fisk is talking to us about being a home venue for their Gymnastics.

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING

**Ms. Marushka:** Can I?, the reason I want to kind of pivot to PR and awareness. Just, in the same thread, I always bring up or talk about is that I really feel like maybe we should do a quarterly newsletter out to press, which I can work with you on (??). If you want to do that, it would be great. Because, I feel like there's so much that goes on that no one knows about, and I can either work in with the Nashville Scene, they have newsletter that goes out weekly to over 100,000 people, and that's over 30%, and just even be included in a small little recap of something that's positive, because it really does benefit everyone. And then the second thing that we talked about is the historical marker and when that would be put in. I have been working with Paula Lacampo. She wrote the book I brought you all, Night Train to Nashville, but just honoring (???) tour and the unveiling of some sort around June for Black Music Month and everything that he did. So, there are some real rooted, historicly significant items that could benefit this property top to bottom.

(small talk)

**Mr. McDaniel:** Anything else; any other new business? Alright, going once, twice? Alright, meeting adjourned.