



SPORTS AUTHORITY OF THE
METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

BRIDGESTONE ARENA | MUSIC CITY MEETING ROOM
THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2024 | 10:30 AM

ATTENDEES

BOARD MEMBERS: Cathy Bender (Chair), Jad Duncan (Vice Chair), Aaron McGee (Secretary/Treasurer), Kim Adkins, Don Deering, Tiffany Degrafinreid, Dan Hogan, Monchiere' Holmes-Jones, Winston Justice, Anna Page, Emmett Wynn

STAFF: Monica Fawknorton (Executive Director), Valda Barksdale, Bob Lackey, Brandon Little, Melissa Wells, Joshua Thomas (Metro Legal), Lexie Ward (Metro Legal)

VISITORS: Karzan Mohammad-Ali (Cumming), David Aronoff (Cumming Group), Amy Bratten (Preds), Katie Cafiero (Preds), Brittany Campagna (Pillars), Bonnie Campbell (MSS), Lindsey Campbell (Entrepreneur), Paula Casey (NVWT), Kyle Clayton (Preds), Edwin Feagins (CAA-PHG), Carol Greenlee (Cumming), Kate Guerra (Titans), Bill Haslam (Preds), Keith Hegger (Preds), Sean Henry (Preds), Heather Hill (Cumming), Heidi Hoeffner (Metro Finance), Ianaune, David Kells (Preds), Michelle Kennedy (Preds), Janeen Lalik (Preds), Tammara McGee (Metro Finance), Kevin McGrath (CAA ICON), James Morrison (Mortenson), Shannon Myers (Titans), Will Traylor (Mortenson), David Urso (Preds), Carrie Victorio (PMC), Bill Wickett (Preds), Bryce Wylie (Renascent Inc)

Call to Order

Chair Bender called the meeting of the Sports Authority Board of Directors to order, welcomed all to Bridgestone Arena and thanked the Nashville Predators for hosting.

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

There were no sign ups for Public Comment.

Consider Approval of June 20, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Chair Bender asked if there were questions or comments pertaining to the June 20, 2024 Meeting Minutes. There being none,

Upon a motion made by Director Hogan and seconded by Director McGee, the Board of Directors unanimously approved the June 20, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Executive Director's Report

ED Fawknorton gave an overview of the agenda noting that today's meeting is the Board's Annual Meeting the purpose of which, according to the Bylaws, is the nomination and election of officers.

ED Fawknorton directed the board's attention to the Soccer Community Benefits Agreement (Soccer CBA) - 2023 Annual Report for Nashville Soccer Club (NSC). In 2016 the Soccer CBA was signed as part of the deal to bring Major League Soccer to Nashville. The Community Advisor Committee (CAC) was then created to ensure the Soccer CBA is transparent, inclusive and accessible to the community. At a future meeting, she noted, Lindsley Paola, Chief Operating Officer, NSC and CAC member will present a report on the great work the CAC and its significant progress in 2023.

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Stadium Project Management Report: Authority Construction Representative

Heather Hill, Senior Director, Project Management, Cumming Management Group (CMG) reported that while the summer has been busy it did start as scheduled. She reported as follows:

- Food Service Addendum was received
- First Draft Guaranteed Maximum Price documents (pricing, clarifications, and qualifications) was received on 7/16; CMG is currently reviewing the documents and will provide comments by 7/25 to the Titans and Tennessee Builders Alliance (TBA)
- CMG continues to meet bi-weekly with the Titans and Metro Finance to ensure information is being shared and made available in a timely manner
- DBE Outreach Events were held in Memphis 6/20 and in Knoxville 6/27
- Discussions with Titans and BAO continue regarding DBE parameters and getting B2Gnow up to date.
- Director Hogan directed Ms. Hill's attention to her report regarding Metro Planning's understanding that the far-left side of the North Façade is not a garage door but rather a louver. He asked whether this was a design change? Ms. Hill noted that CMG continues to work with Metro Planning and the Titans design team to ensure that the Facades are being developed as expected for the neighborhood environment. There have not been any substantial structural changes, however the final finishes on the facades are still being decided.
- Chair Bender asked for clarity regarding DBE reporting to which Ms. Hill noted that her reporting involves ensuring that CMG has a good understanding of how the numbers will be collected and reported to ensure the mandated percentages are being met.

Titans New Enclosed Nissan Stadium Monthly Progress Report

Adolpho Birch, Chief External & League Affairs Officer reported as follows:

- The design team continued the Construction Document Phase following the issuance of the GMP Set (which represents 50% CDs) on Friday, May 31.
- TBA progressed procurement for the early packages with recently approved Recommendations of Award for various workplan proposals.
- TBA also opened the final procurement for the GMP (referred to as Package no. 5) to the subcontracting community on June 3. Outreach efforts were held in June and proposals are due to TBA on July 10.
- Colonial Pipeline's gas line relocation and site restoration is complete.
- Coordination efforts with NES have continued throughout May. Routing has been established for full design of the underground duct banks to proceed.
- The construction activities have continued to progress and multiple onsite trades are working concurrently. More than 520 of the 767 piers have been completed; over 340k cubic yards of dirt have been excavated; 2,000+ cubic yards of concrete have been poured and 400+ workers are scheduled to be on site by the end of July with over 1,000 by end of August. Also under construction are: a 22 foot loading dock retaining wall; 100k gallon cistern tank for collecting rain water that will be used for toilet flushing, cooling tanks and irrigation (which supports the LEED Certification goal).
- Trailer mobilization continues within Titan Town; the safety training and community diversity complexes are complete and in-use. TBA and other Metro office trailers have arrived. Expected completion and occupancy is early August.

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- DBE 25% Participation Goal
 - The teams use B2GNow system, procured by BAO, to monitor and track DBE participation and payment. There is a time lag of inputting data into systems meaning the summaries for amounts received by DBEs and reported in B2GNow database will not be current for several days.
 - Several confirmed certified DBEs are involved on the New Nissan Stadium Project including 8 certified MBE firms, 3 certified SBE firms and 8 certified WBE firms who have a combined billing of over \$3.7m and have been paid through May 2024.
- TBA kicked off its second Titans Construction Training Camp (TC2) cohort on June 6, 2024 with fifteen 18-year-olds; TC2 participants will graduate July 2 at the Martha O'Bryan Center.
- The project has spent a total of \$131,848,091 through the end of June 2024. For the last approved monthly pay application of May 2024, the project spent a total of \$12,792,442.
- Director Hogan commented that the GEODIS Park construction project set the bar with only one onsite injury. He requested that the board be kept apprised of safety elements and protocols.

Shannon Myers, SVP & CFO gave a brief update on completed, ongoing and anticipated projects to ensure safety and reliability at the current Nissan Stadium as follows:

- Completed projects include: Escalator Repairs for \$95,443 and purchase of a previously owned golf cart for patron transportation for \$8,104
- Ongoing project - East Side Perimeter Sidewalk, Power and Lighting - \$220,000 estimate
- Anticipated projects include Stadium step repair and painting of stair nosing - \$50,000 estimate and Electrical and technology upgrades for IT Carts to be used on game day for communicating player injuries - \$30,000 estimate

NVWT Marker Update

Chair Bender noted that during the 2020 year-long celebration of the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment the board approved a land use agreement to allow the installation of a marker at First Horizon Park as part of the National Votes for Women Trail (NVWT). The First Horizon Park site was nominated, however its selection wasn't final. Paula F. Casey, Chair, National Votes for Women Trail Committee, NVWT Tennessee State Coordinator thanked the board and SA staff for approving the land use agreement and provided an update on the marker as follows:

- The NVWT is a project of the National Collaborative for Women's History Sites which recognizes, preserves and advocates for the history of women's struggles. In 1848 on July 19-20, the first Women's Rights Convention was held in Seneca Falls which is known as the birthplace of the Women's Rights and Women's Suffrage Movements. As we approach 2026, America's 250th anniversary, it is essential that contributions by women and the men who supported them are a part of the celebration.
- Carol Lynn Yellin of Memphis and dear friend of Ms. Casey penned an article on the suffrage movement for *American Heritage Magazine* and co-authored *The Perfect 36*, a definitive book about how Tennessee became the final state (#36) needed to ratify the 19th Amendment which gave women the right to vote on August 24, 1920

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- The double-sided marker was funded by the William C. Pomeroy Foundation which adheres to a stringent criteria and selection process. One side of the marker faces the Sulphur Dell outfield wall of First Horizon Park and the other side faces the dead end at 4th Ave. The Marker reads: *Road to the 19th Amendment. Suffrage Day Held Here at Sulphur Dell in August 1916. Judged a success due to Catherine T. Kenny and fellow leaders of TN Equal Suffrage League.* It is the last of the seven markers to be installed in Tennessee and will be included in the NVWT database.
- As co-founder of the TN Women's Suffrage Heritage Trail, Ms. Casey will ensure the marker is included in the Historical Marker Database (<https://www.hmdb.org/>) and will be featured on an upcoming episode of *Her March to Democracy* podcast. Ms. Casey also encouraged all to visit the Tennessee Woman Suffrage Monument in Centennial Park which she was directly involved in its inception and installation.

Facility Questions

There were no questions presented.

Bridgestone Arena Host Facility Report

Sean Henry, CEO, Nashville Predators reported on various Hockey Operations including the hiring of Barry Trotz as the new General Manager in July 2023 who has recruited and acquired enthusiastic key players and leaders. The Predators inked deals with Stanley Cup champions Steven Stamkos and Jonathan Marchessault, veteran blueliner Brady Skjei, Predators starting goaltender Juuse Saros, defenseman Alexandre Carrier and netminder Scott Wedgewood. Ozzy Wiesblatt was acquired from San Jose, Egor Surin was selected in the First Round as well as six forwards, one defenseman and one goaltender at the 2024 NHL Draft held on June 28-29 at The Sphere in Las Vegas. Mr. Henry commented that the Predators enjoyed an impressive season with very few injuries and conversations are buzzing of the Predators being a final-four team.

David Kells, Chief Venues Officer reported on FY 23/24 venue operations as follows:

- Bridgestone Arena hosted 131 publicly ticketed events and 49 Preds games for a total of 180 events in 12 months (a record for the Arena) for over a million guest. The community has grown as well as entertainment options including night performances, 8 Latin Headlining events which opened the doors to new constituents. 50% of non-hockey ticket sales come from out of state.
- Next fiscal year projections are very similar to this year with 50 events announced thus far and over 300,000 tickets sold.
- Scheduling of events was paused for three weeks to allow for special projects, painting and maintenance to ensure continued successful operations.
- Upcoming events for July include Smashville Summer Celebration, All Elite Wrestling plus 15 event days scheduled for August, 11 for September and 20 in October. Three nationally broadcast events are scheduled for July and August which will showcase Bridgestone Arena outside of Nashville.
- Bridgestone Arena has been named Arena of the Year by the Academy of Country Music (ACM) for the seventh time.
- Director Deering asked whether there is a possibility for the Arena to host a WNBA team to which Mr. Kells stated yes, the Arena is always interested in bringing new events to Nashville.

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Former Governor Bill Haslam, Owner/Chairman Nashville Predators, joined the meeting briefly and shared his optimism in working with the Preds organization. He commented that he admires the Predators connectivity with the Nashville community and he believes in the power of what sports can do for Nashville as a long-term business adventure. He expressed appreciation to board for their work in making the community a better place to live. Director Deering thanked Mr. Haslam for his support of the Nashville Veterans Day Parade and the TN National Guard during his term as governor.

Amy Bratten, Director, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion gave an update on GUIDER (Growth, Understanding, Inclusion, Diversity, Equality & Representation). The goal of GUIDER is to utilize the Resources, Relationships and Reach of the Nashville Predators to bring awareness and implement change in the four core pillars of the organization: Staff, Fans, Hockey and Community. Some of GUIDER's accomplishments include 1,500+ DEI training hours completed by staff; recipient of Nashville Business Journal's Leaders in Diversity (2023) and TN Pride Chamber's Corporate Partner of the Year (2024); four custom jersey designs auctioned for over \$40,000 and donated to the community; and a 5-day Smashville Seminar in conjunction with TSU students which offered game day exposure and earned credit hours. Upcoming activities include Music Heritage Celebration to commemorate the collaboration of music and sports.

Rebecca King, VP Community Relations reported on the month of May which was renamed Million Dollar May when the Preds Foundation gifted over a million dollars to nonprofit Tennessee entities. The grants were presented at Ford Ice Center Bellevue where recipients were offered an opportunity to explore the facility. In partnership with Preds co-owner Bryan Grane, Westminster Home Connection (serving adults and the disabled) was awarded \$100,000. Other awardees were \$10,000 to Oasis Center's LGBT Youth Program and \$7,500 to Box 55 and the First Responders 100 Club.

Chair Bender asked about the process for selection of recipients. The grant program is very broad based, noted Ms. King, which allows the Foundation to assist a wide array of entities. The grant cycle opens in November for the application process followed by a review of the applications by the Foundation's board who make the final selection of recipients.

Kyle Clayton, Chief Strategy Officer reported that the annual Bridgestone Arena Capital Asset Management Plan has been submitted to the Sports Authority and a meeting will be scheduled for both parties to review and discuss. Four suites have been removed to accommodate the new California Closet Studio (CCS)--a premium space located on the Suite Level which is scheduled to open for the upcoming season. The Arena's entire Wifi-System is being replaced with a new state of the art system; the original system was installed in 2013. Also, several LED screens are being replaced on the Concourse Level. The goal is to provide a premium upgraded experience for fans, visitors, athletes and entertainers each time they visit the Arena.

Mr. Clayton thanked Delaware North for creating the fantastic food and beverage experience for today's meeting as well as the Arena's AV & Events team for providing excellent technology services.

Director Hogan asked for clarity regarding the layout of the CCS and removal of the four suites to accommodate the new space. Mr. Clayton noted that preferences for families and corporations has shifted

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from the traditional 16–20-person suite to a premium space that can accommodate larger groups. The new space will be a high end offering which will provide premium viewing of the concert stage and hockey games.

FY25 Sports Authority Officer Elections

Chair Bender reported that in accordance with the bylaws, the purpose of today’s Annual Meeting is to elect officers for the upcoming Fiscal Year. Counsel Josh Thomas noted that the board’s elections are governed by Roberts Rules of Order. He recommended that the board take nominations from the floor meaning any board member can make a nomination, a second is not required and the nominations will begin with the Chair then followed by the Vice Chair and Secretary/Treasurer. The board can choose the Viva Voce (oral) or Voice Ballot (voice roll call) process. He also noted that the Chair is not required to relinquish the chair during nominations unless she desires to make comments regarding a nominee. Director Adkins asked whether a slate of nominations could be recommended from the floor to which Counsel Thomas affirmed. Chair Bender opened the floor for nominations for Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary/Treasurer (noting current officers are Vice Chair Jad Duncan, Secretary/Treasury Aaron McGee and Chair Cathy Bender). She also noted that moving forward the Secretary/Treasurer will have an automatic seat on the Finance Committee.

Director Deering nominated the current officers to serve for another year. There being no other nominations,

Upon a motion for vote by Chair Bender, the Board of Directors unanimously voted Cathy Bender as Chair, Jad Duncan as Vice Chair and Aaron McGee as Secretary/Treasury for FY 2025.

Adjourn

In closing, Chair Bender announced the next meeting is scheduled for 10:30am Thursday, August 15 at Nissan Stadium and it is anticipated that the Finance Committee will meet prior to at 9:30am. ED Fawknorton also noted there is a probability that two meetings will convene in September; one on the 12th for approval of the GMP and the regular meeting on the 19th. 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=z6Tykh0TM_w