

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

Minutes of the February 16, 2007 Meeting of the Board of Directors
Predators Conference Room – Gaylord Entertainment Center
9:30 a.m.

Board Members: Arnett H. Bodenhamer, Lauren Brisky, J.D. Elliott, Kitty Moon Emery, Forrest Harris, Mike Hobbs, Cathy Bender Jackson, Kevin P. Lavender, Rusty Lawrence, Steve North, Ralph Perrey, Edward Temple, Helen Walker

Staff: Emmett Edwards (Sports Authority), Monica Clayton (Sports Authority), Tom Cross (Metro Legal)

Titans/Cumberland Stadium: Steve Underwood, Don MacLachlan, Walter Overton

Predators/Powers Management: Ed Lang, Hugh Lombardi, Beth Snider, Melanie Ainsworth, Gerry Helper, Brock Jones, Dwayne Smith

Guest: Russell Payne (Downtown Partnership)

Ms. Kitty Moon Emery called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Minutes from the January meeting were approved without corrections. Ms. Emery stated that under Metro Code of Laws (Ordinance No. BL2006-1050, § 2.68.030) notice must be given at all meetings that decisions of the Sports Authority Board may be appealed to the Chancery Court of Davidson County for review under a common law writ of certiorari. Any appeal must be filed within sixty days after entry of a final decision by the Board. Any person or other entity considering an appeal should consult with an attorney to ensure that time and procedural requirements are met.

Ms. Emery recognized Mr. Russell Payne, Public Space Manager for the Downtown Partnership, to address the Board. Mr. Payne reported that the current contract between the Sports Authority and the Downtown Partnership expired at the end of 2006 and requested that an addendum to the current contract be implemented and/or a new contract be drafted that would allow for the continuation of the Downtown Partnership's shuttle program at L.P. Field. An amendment would rename the stadium L.P. Field and give the right to one year extensions for five years. **After discussion and, upon a motion duly seconded, the Board voted to extend the contract for six months while an amendment to the current contract or a new contract is drawn up.**

Finance & Audit Review Committee Report

Ms. Emery recognized Mr. J.D. Elliott to give the Finance & Audit Review Committee Report. Mr. Elliott reported that the Finance committee had received an update on the Sports Authority's February 8th meeting with Finance Director David Manning. He noted that the meeting went well and that the Sports Authority is on schedule as it relates to the budget process. The committee also received and reviewed the Gaylord Entertainment Center's (GEC) December income statement and discussed Powers Management's proposed agreement with Ticketmaster. The committee, after reviewing the contract and discussing the proposal with Hugh Lombardi, voted to

recommend approval of the contract to the full board. **Upon a motion duly seconded, the full board voted to approve the Ticketmaster Agreement.**

L.P. Field Report

Ms. Emery recognized Mr. Steve Underwood to give the L.P. Field Report. Mr. Underwood reported that since the last meeting the Titans have raised their awareness of issues that would result from a breach in any of the upstream dams and have outlined flood mitigation plans for both LP Field and Baptist Sports Park and hope to have the plan prepared and finished by the March meeting. They have also been working to “beef up” their insurance plans.

Mr. Underwood further reported that a complete summary of the Capital Stadium Fund as well as a review of unfiled reimbursement requests dating back to March 31, 2006 were attached to the periodic report submitted to the board. Mr. Underwood also reminded the board that there is \$75-100 million worth of long term capital expenses to be done over the life of the lease.

Mr. Underwood continued by reporting that a copy of the executed Daktronics contract for the upgrade to the video boards was included in the periodic report, noting that the final cost is within 5-10% of the estimated figure. Mr. Underwood added that the new video board will triple the square footage of the existing board and reported that Daktronics is preparing to begin the work with the hope that it will be completed by the CMA Music Festival. He acknowledged the Titans will not be fully reimbursed for the expense until 2008 or 2009. Mr. Underwood reminded the Board that the current video boards still have value and are property of Metro Government. He stated the Titans’ desire to see the boards sold to college/university through Metro’s bidding process.

After discussing how the sale of the video boards would affect the Sports Authority’s bottom line, the Board asked that details pertaining to the bidding and sale of the existing video boards be presented at the March meeting.

Finally, Mr. Underwood reported that the Titans have a new General Manager, Mike Reinfeldt, a former player with the Oilers/Titans Organization who most recently served as the Vice-President of Football Operations with the Seattle Seahawks. He ended his report by expressing the Titans’ appreciation to Ms. Emery for her service as chairperson of the Sports Authority and for the fairness with which she has treated the organization over the years.

Gaylord Entertainment Center Report

Ms. Emery recognized Mr. Hugh Lombardi to give the Gaylord Entertainment Center Report (GEC). Mr. Lombardi began by discussing the GEC’s December Income Statement, reporting that it was a very profitable month for the arena. Actual December total revenue was \$817,124 compared to the budgeted \$644,049. Total operating expenses were \$684,687 compared to the budgeted \$639,573. Net income totaled \$132,437. When asked how the closing of Starwood Amphitheater would affect the GEC, Mr. Lombardi stated that the closing of the much-loved amphitheater is expected to benefit not just the GEC, but LP Field and the Municipal Auditorium as well.

Mr. Lombardi continued his report by presenting a drawing of bollards Powers Management proposes to put around the perimeter of the building and noted that the bollards are identical to the ones that currently surround the Country Music Hall of Fame and the Frist Center for the Visual Arts. The project should be completed by the end of spring. Mr. Lombardi additionally informed the Board that Metro Finance has approved the lease with Durrell for the sound equipment service agreement. He also reported that the new ice floor covering is in and being received favorably.

Ms. Emery recognized Mr. Gerry Helper to give a Predators update. Mr. Helper began by expressing his gratitude, on behalf of the Predators, for Ms. Emery's work and efforts as Sports Authority Chair. He continued by stating the franchise's excitement over the acquisition of Peter Forsberg. In response to questions about attendance at Predators games, Mr. Ed Lang stated that the Predators are continuing their efforts to increase attendance and are beginning to see progress. Ms. Emery reminded the Board that Metro Council Members have been invited to tour the Gaylord Entertainment Center and attend the game that follows on Thursday, March 8th. The tour will begin at 6 p.m. followed by the game at 7 pm. Interested board members should contact Mr. Emmett Edwards for more information and to purchase tickets.

Sounds Ball Park Report

Ms. Emery recognized Mr. Steve North to give an update on the construction of the Sounds ball park. Mr. North stated that the Sounds were unable to meet the December 31, 2006 deadline for closing the deal and that the deadline has been extended to April 15, 2006. April 2009 is now the target date for the opening of the building. As a result of the extension the budget and contract schedule approved by the Sports Authority are likely invalid. Mr. North reported that, in addition to suggestions made by MDHA and the redevelopment board, he requested that the Sounds provide the following:

- A guaranteed maximum price with bonds to ensure the Sports Authority and taxpayers that the ballpark can be built at a certain cost
- Irrevocable finance commitment documents

Mr. North further reported that he informed the Sounds that if they are able to produce these documents with the final design plans and specification he can recommend approval to the Sports Authority. Mr. North stated the importance of the Sounds meeting the April 15th deadline, reminding the Board that changes are coming both the Sports Authority's leadership and city's administration. He further reminded the board that the Sports Authority's role is to approve, consent, and enforce the provisions of the MOU and suggested that once the deal is closed the Sports Authority appoint an architectural review committee to delve deeper into issues related to the construction of the ball park. Ms. Emery requested that Mr. Mike Hobbs chair this committee, if necessary. Mr. Hobbs consented.

Old Business- Officer Nominations

Ms. Emery reminded everyone that at the January meeting the Board determined that it would receive nominations for the positions of Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary/Treasurer at the February meeting and hold the actual vote in March. Ms. Emery opened the floor for nominations and the following were received:

Chair: Kevin P. Lavender (by Cathy Bender Jackson) and J.D. Elliott (by Mike Hobbs)

Vice-Chair: J.D. Elliott (by Kevin Lavender)

Secretary/Treasurer: Cathy Bender Jackson (by Arnett Bodenhamer)

Mr. Elliott withdrew his name from consideration for the position of Chair and the Board voted to close all nominations. **The Board then voted unanimously to elect the nominations as presented: Chair- Kevin P. Lavender; Vice-Chair- J.D. Elliott; Secretary/Treasurer- Cathy Bender Jackson**

Other Business

Ms. Cathy Bender Jackson asked that Ms. Emery stand as she read a proclamation from Mayor Bill Purcell recognizing Ms. Emery for her achievements in business, entertainment, the community, and as Chair of the Metropolitan Sports Authority.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.