

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF THE ILLINOIS SPORTS FACILITIES AUTHORITY**

May 18, 2017

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Sports Facilities Authority was held on May 18, 2017, at 1:30 p.m. at the offices of Mesirow, 353 N. Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois.

Item 1. Call to Order

The Chairman called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m.

Item 2. Roll Call

Call of the Roll was taken and the following members of the Authority were present: Manuel Sanchez, Rosemarie Andolino, Richard Price, Timothy Rand, and Jeff Yordon. Jim Reynolds participated by teleconference. Mr. Bobins was not present. Also present were Anthony O'Neill, P.J. Frayer, Dana Phillips Goodum, Maureen Gorski, Michael Orr, and Maureen Garanzini of the Authority's staff, John Corvino of the Chicago White Sox, Danny Ecker of Crain's Chicago Business and Theresa Jaffe of Theresa Jaffe Consulting.

Item 3. Election of Officers

Upon motion by Mr. Price and seconded by Mr. Rand, the officers elected to serve as Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer in fiscal year 2017 to be re-elected to serve in fiscal year 2018 was unanimously approved as submitted.

Item 4. Approval of Minutes

Upon motion by Mr. Yordon and seconded by Mr. Price, the minutes of the April 18, 2017 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

Item 5. CEO Report

Mr. O'Neill thanked the Board for their confidence in him to lead the Authority's economic development efforts. He expressed his gratefulness to the Board for giving him the opportunity to serve as Chief Executive Officer.

Mr. O'Neill stated that he has worked vigorously to develop a special events lineup for the summer and fall of 2017. On August 19, the Authority is planning to host a premium all-day Latin music event promoted by Invivo Media Group. It will be the first of its kind in Chicago, and it will begin at noon and continue until 11 pm. Invivo is expecting to have 8-10 artists performing Latin pop, Latin urban, and electronic dance music, among others. They intend to feature hot and rising Latin music stars and trendsetters. Due to the nature and extent of the confidential contract negotiations with the artists, the Authority is not in a position to announce the specific names of any artists.

Mr. O'Neill stated that the event on September 16, 2017, is expected to be a cross between Hip Hop, Pop, and R&B music. The Authority is currently in negotiations with a number of artists that have committed, but because of the nature of the music industry and the confidential nature of these discussions, the Authority will hold off on making any formal talent announcement until later. Mr. O'Neill added that with the rising homicide rates in various parts of Chicago communities, the Authority is in a unique position to promote awareness of the gun violence issue in Chicago. The Authority expects to have a charitable component at the event, Mr. O'Neill added.

Mr. Reynolds inquired about the Authority's role with respect to the charitable aspect. Mr. O'Neill responded that the Authority will include a \$3 facility fee on each ticket sold to the event, the proceeds of which can be used to donate to various charitable organizations, churches, and other community agencies involved in the fight to end gun violence. Further, to the extent the Authority is profitable, the Board would be in position to designate additional funds to such organizations. Mr. O'Neill stated that Mr. Yordon has actively made introductions to community leaders to help create awareness of the concert-for-a-cause. Mr. Reynolds opined that the effort was excellent, expressing his support for the event. Mr. Sanchez remarked that there are many organizations trying to address the challenges with gun violence, and the Board should select the best organizations as funding recipients. It is a wonderful way for the Authority to make a statement, Mr. Sanchez added.

Mr. Yordon stated that he is arranging a meeting with Father Michael Pflieger, who is hosting an all-star basketball game on September 16. Mr. Yordon remarked that the local ministers think the concert is fantastic. Mr. Yordon also commented that the good will for both the Authority and the White Sox couldn't be better. Mr. Yordon also suggested that the Board consider a gun turn-in or gun registration along with the concert. Mr. Sanchez further stated that he intends to ask the Cardinal if he would make a supportive visit and come and enjoy a good part of the day with us at the concert. Mr. Sanchez concluded that this is a great way for the Authority to make a statement to the entire country. Mr. Reynolds stated that through his role as vice chair of Get IN Chicago, which has screened many organizations doing the charitable work, he would like to work with Mr. O'Neill and share Get IN Chicago's research.

Mr. O'Neill also mentioned that the Authority was working to develop a country music festival with Sweet Baby Rays to be held in late September/early October. The event is also expected to have a charitable component.

Ms. Andolino stated that since the stadium is near the Back of the Yards and Englewood communities, which have struggled with gun violence, it should consider these parts of the City. Mr. Sanchez agreed that the Board will be in a position to work collaboratively to make decisions on funding recipients. Mr. Yordon also stated that the Authority should make an effort to have the Mayor and Governor to attend the concert.

Mr. Rand inquired whether there is a charitable component to the event on August 19. Mr. O'Neill responded that Invivo Media Group intends to donate to a Hispanic Scholarship Fund. Mr. Rand inquired whether the Authority has a proposed budget for the event on September 16. Mr. O'Neill stated that only a partial budget for talent existed, but that the full budget for the event was being

formed and would be circulated to the Special Events Committee. Mr. Yordon opined (and Mr. Sanchez agreed) that the Authority needs to start promoting the September event immediately.

Item 6. Guaranteed Rate Field Renovations Capital Repair & Improvements

Ms. Gorski stated that the Authority is wrapping up capital repairs under the fiscal year 2017 budget by putting in a small access system in the Authority office and one in the home clubhouse. We have a little waste and vent pipe to complete. For fiscal year 2018, which was introduced at the last board meeting, the Sox felt that the visitor's clubhouse budget was not sufficient enough so it increased from \$1.5 million to \$2.0 million. Ms. Gorski discussed her efforts to get a budget to substantiate the expenses.

Item 7. ISFA Operating Results

Ms. Phillips Goodum stated that everything is fine through the nine months ended March 31, 2017. The Authority has met its hotel tax advance, so we are no longer on the hook for anything. The hotel tax receipts are trending well, which will be good for fiscal year 2018. Based upon the revenue sources, the Authority should realize a \$3.2 million net revenue gain barring any unknown construction-related requests.

Item 8. FY2017 Transfers

Ms. Phillips Goodum discussed how for fiscal year 2017, the Authority projects what the excess funds will be so it can replenish the hotel tax reserve. The proposal in the resolution is to replenish and increase the hotel tax reserve by \$1 million. To the extent there are any remaining funds in the general fund, the Authority would transfer such remaining funds to the Comiskey Capital Improvement Fund.

Upon motion by Mr. Reynolds and seconded by Ms. Andolino, Resolution 17-14, a Resolution Authorizing End of Fiscal Year 2017 Transfers was unanimously approved as submitted.

Item 9. FY2018 ISFA Proposed Budget

Upon motion by Ms. Andolino and seconded by Mr. Reynolds, Ordinance 17-01, an Ordinance Adopting the Budget for FY2018 and Making Appropriations for Ordinary and Contingent Expenses of the Authority was unanimously approved as submitted.

Item 10. FY2018 Chairman's Certificate

Ms. Phillips Goodum stated that on June 1, the Authority is required to file with Comptroller, Treasurer and others, the state advance by the end of the fiscal year; \$5 million state subsidy; and \$5 million city subsidy. Ms. Phillips Goodum proposes keeping the Advance at \$44 million plus the \$10 million in state and city subsidies.

Upon motion made by Mr. Yordon and seconded by Mr. Rand, Resolution 17-15, a Resolution Directing the Filing of the Chairman's Certificate was unanimously approved as submitted.

Item 11. Executive Session

The Board moved into closed Executive Session to discuss litigation matters pursuant to Section 2(c)(11) and personnel matters under Section 2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act.

Item 12. Matters Arising Out of Executive Session

Mr. Sanchez confirmed the appointment of Anthony O'Neill as the official Chief Executive Officer of the Authority. Upon motion made by Mr. Price and seconded by Mr. Rand, Resolution 17-12, a Resolution Relating to Personnel Matters, was unanimously approved as submitted. Mr. Sanchez continued that the Authority has a big agenda for the next twelve months and the Authority is in a special place in terms of being a revenue generator. The Sox are very helpful by allowing the Authority to use the venue to host special events. Mr. Sanchez acknowledged that this is a new venture for the Authority.

Item 13. Other Business


Mr. Yordon stated that the Authority is courting another football game.

Item 14. Adjournment

Chairman Sanchez adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:50 am.


Chairman, Manuel Sanchez 

ATTEST:


Secretary, Jeffrey Yordon 