

**The City of Atlanta and Fulton County Recreation Authority (“AFCRA”)
Board of Directors Meeting
1 State Farm Drive, Suite Level, Atlanta, Georgia 30303**

**August 30, 2022
8:30 a.m.**

After providing proper public notice, the City of Atlanta and Fulton County Recreation Authority (“AFCRA”) held a Board of Directors Meeting on Tuesday, August 30, 2022 at 1 State Farm Drive, Suite Level, Atlanta, Georgia 30303.

Board Members:

Present: Vice Chairperson, Michael Green
Treasurer, Commissioner Bob Ellis
Secretary, Ronald W. Sims, II
Michelle Falconer
Kellye Terrell
E. Carl Touchstone, Esq.

Absent: Chairperson, William K Whitner, Esq.
Commissioner Marvin Arrington, Esq.
Commissioner Robb Pitts

Quorum Present: Yes

Authority Representatives:

Kerry Stewart, Executive Director
Vivienne Kerr, Executive Assistant
Derrick Cannon, Staff Accountant
Alvin Kendall, Esq., The Kendall Law Firm, Consultant for AFCRA
Douglass Selby, Esq., AFCRA Legal Counsel, Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP

Guests:

Rebecca Serna, Executive Director, Propel Atlanta (Formally Atlanta Bicycle Coalition)

Proceedings:

Vice Chairperson Green called the meeting to order at 8:40 a.m.

Minutes:

Mr. Sims made a motion to approve the June 7, 2022 and July 22, 2022 meeting minutes. Mr. Ellis second the motion. There were NO Abstentions. Motion CARRIED.

Executive Director’s Report

Mr. Stewart gave an update on the following:

- Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) – Mr. Stewart was notified that the SWAC is interested in hosting its baseball championship in Atlanta and that they will be visiting Atlanta to preview the proposed venues in the upcoming months. Mr. Stewart extended a letter of interest to the SWAC Commissioner.
- Red Lots Test Fit Overall Site Plan – Mr. Stewart notified the Board that the massing study was completed for the two lots near the juvenile court. The plans will be shared with the Mayor’s Office and Fulton County to further discuss the potential for the AFCRA owned lots to be developed into mixed use projects with affordable housing.
- Swordfish Team Competition Results – Mr. Stewart shared photos and competition results from schools that participated in the 2022 All States tournament swim competition. The AFCRA gave a donation \$12,800.00 to support the team.

Grounds, Facilities and Security Committee Report

State Farm Arena

Arena Operations (AO) Request for Reimbursement from the Traffic Management and Pedestrian Fund Account

Mr. Stewart explained that AO updated their original request for payment to remove payroll taxes and dispatchers used on non-event days. Mr. Sims made a motion to accept the amended request for \$1,262,252.84. Ms. Falconer second the motion. No Abstentions. Motion CARRIED.

Fanplex

Mr. Stewart informed the Board that the air conditioning and gate were repaired. The previous lessees have reimbursed AFCRA for the damage done to the gate and a quote is being sought to repair the damaged sidewalk.

John A. White Golf Course (JAW) and The First Tee of Metro Atlanta (FTMA)

Special Advisory Committee Report

Mr. Sims explained that the committee met and reviewed the management proposal submitted on behalf of JAW/FTMA. Of the two scenarios presented, the committee selected option two which would fully restore the park, thereby, enhancing patron experience. With the implementation of the new plan proposed by Bobby Jones Links, the golf course may still operate at a deficit, but the deficit should be much lower and operate at breakeven or a small profit by year three. Mr. Green asked where the funds would come from, and if there were other options. Mr. Stewart replied, the AFCRA operating account as there are no bond opportunities that would pay for an amount as small as one million dollars.

Mr. Sims made a motion to approve negotiating a contract for improving the golf course under criteria outlined in the proposal. Mr. Touchstone second the motion. Motion CARRIED.

Golf Course Reopening

Mr. Stewart shared photos taken at the August 19th event in which the course reopened after restoration projects were completed.

Zoo Atlanta

Operations of the Zoo for Period Ending June 30, 2022

Mr. Stewart summarized the report submitted by the Zoo. They are not on pace to exceed the 900,000-attendee threshold for the year. The Zoo submitted an RFP for the construction of an Animal Health Center that will be discussed in further detail at the Executive and Finance Committee meeting and presented to the full board at its next meeting.

Community Recreation Special Project Committee (“CRSP”) Report

Mr. Green introduced Ms. Rebecca Serna, Executive Director, Propel Atlanta who gave a brief presentation about her organization and request for a donation to support the bike family. The organization was formerly named the Atlanta Bicycle Coalition and has been in operation for 30 years. Each member receives a bike and safety gear along with training. The program supports all age groups and has several partners to include the Atlanta Public Schools and YMCA.

Ms. Serna explained the importance of purchasing high quality bikes as they are better built to handle the ruggedness of the bike paths and roads. Safety is their top priority and believes that paying the extra cost is a benefit in the long run because the bikes will last longer. They use A/C Clutch Bicycle Shop that is located in the West End of the city and who makes repairs as needed. Mr. Touchstone asked if the families were aware of this location and Ms. Serna confirmed that they do. Additionally, he asked if Retrospect was the only vendor Propel Atlanta uses. Ms. Serna confirmed that they are, and the bikes are sold at A/C Clutch. This vendor is preferred because they will come to the bike site if assistance is needed.

Mr. Green asked how many families have been served since inception of the program. Ms. Serna will research and get back to him.

The following donation requests are recommended for approval by the CRSP committee:

Cascade Youth Organization (Registration) - \$15,000.00
Atlanta Bulldogs Academy (Uniforms) - \$15,000.00
National Black Golf Hall of Fame (Golf Tournament) - \$7,500.00
National Association of Minority Contractors (Golf Tournament) - \$5,000.00
Propel Atlanta (Bikes and Equipment) - \$30,500.00
HBCU All Stars (Tournament) - \$20,000.00

After speaking with leaders with the Atlanta Bulldogs, Mr. Sims understood that they were asking for a donation toward the purchase of uniforms for the team, not bleachers. Ms. Falconer explained that after much discussion, the CRSP Committee opted to fund the cost to purchase bleachers because the organization would get more longevity with this hard asset but should fall under Parks and Recreation. Mr. Stewart will reach out to the City of Atlanta’s new Parks and Recreation Commissioner, Justin Cutler to discuss the possibility of acquiring new bleachers at JAW Golf Course.

Mr. Sims made a motion to approve all of the donations listed with the funds to the Atlanta Bulldogs going directly to the Athletes through the purchase of uniforms and would like the City of Atlanta Parks and Recreation to fund the purchase of bleachers. Mr. Touchstone second the motion. No Abstentions. Motion CARRIED.

To support Mayor Andre Dickens initiative, midnight basketball, Ms. Falconer recommends that the AFCRA consider partnering with the city to sponsor the program.

Executive Session

Ms. Falconer made a motion to move into executive session for the purpose of discussing real estate. Mr. Touchstone second the motion. Motion CARRIED.

Mr. Touchstone made a motion to move out of executive session. Mr. Sims second the motion. Motion CARRIED.

(No action taken)

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Certified by:



Ronald W. Sims (Nov 7, 2022 14:32 EST)

Ronald W. Sims, II, Secretary