

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

**July 6, 2021**  
**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, July 6, 2021, at 1 State Farm Drive, Atlanta, Georgia 30303

**Board Members:**

*Present:*

Chairperson, William K Whitner, Esq.  
Vice Chairperson, Michael Green  
Treasurer, Commissioner Bob Ellis  
Secretary, Ronald W. Sims, II  
Commissioner Marvin Arrington, Jr. Esq.  
Michelle Falconer  
Cathy Hampton, Esq.  
Commissioner Robb Pitts  
E. Carl Touchstone, Esq.

*Absent:* None

*Quorum Present:* Yes

**Authority Representatives:**

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

**Guests:**

Matt Blakely, Fulton County Communications Director

**Proceedings:**

Chairperson Whitner called the meeting to order at 8:44 a.m.

**Minutes:**

Ms. Hampton made a motion to approve the May 10, 2021, meeting minutes as written. Mr. Sims second the motion. NO Abstentions. Motion CARRIED.

**Executive Director's Report**

**Mayor's Youth Scholarship Program 2021**

Mr. Stewart presented the sponsorship package for the 2021 Mayor's Cup Golf Tournament to be held on August 16, 2021 at the East Lake Golf Club. The program has been in place for 16 years, and proceeds from the tournament go to the mayor's youth scholarship program which provides funds to support Atlanta Public School student's post-secondary college expenses.

Mr. Pitts asked how much money has been raised, scholarships awarded and if the program serves Fulton County. Mr. Stewart replied that over \$500,000.00 has been raised, over 3,200 have benefited from the scholarship. Currently, the funds are awarded to Atlanta Public School students and Fulton County students if they have a recommendation from a City of Atlanta employee or lives in the city limits.

Mr. Sims made a motion to approve the 2021 Mayor's Youth Scholarship award in the amount of \$20,000.00. Mr. Touchstone second the motion. No abstentions. Motion CARRIED.

**Grounds, Facilities and Security Committee Report**

**John A. White Park Golf Course and First Tee Update**

Mr. Sims gave an update on the operations at the golf course. JAW has submitted a sustainability plan that includes the removal of 300-400 trees. The Grounds committee was not in favor of the removal of that volume of trees and subjected approval based on the Arborists recommendations. The park's Executive Director, Mr. Marvin Hightower, confirmed that only 10% of the trees would be removed. Mr. Sims further explained that it has been several years since matters of this nature have been addressed at the park. JAW will replace the grass and add artificial teeing ground to the back of the practice driving range.

The Grounds Committee moved for approval of the Phase I and Phase II of the plan in the amount of \$323,000.00. Ms. Falconer second the motion. No Abstentions. Motion CARRIED.

**Community Learning Center**

Mr. Stewart presented renderings for the learning center. He will update the board with new developments on the progression of the project.

**State Farm Arena****Capital Improvement Request**

Mr. Stewart presented the Atlanta Hawks capital request. He had The Walters Consulting Group review and make its recommendations. The funds in the capital improvement accounts total \$4.4 million dollars, but the items presented total \$7.9 million dollars. The Hawks plan to cover the difference.

Mr. Stewart recommends approval of time sensitive items that involve employee and fan experience.

Mr. Kendall added that historically the improvements are completed over a two-to-three-year period and asks if the items were going to be completed now or 2 to 3 years from today. Mr. Selby added that in the past, the team has been asked to provide a long-range plan of two to five years.

Chairperson Whitner spoke with Mr. Steve Koonin, Chief Executive Officer, Atlanta Hawks, who forecasts a lot of capital improvements needed post renovation. There are maintenance items that need to be addressed.

For the sake of time, Mr. Stewart asked The Walters Consulting Group for a bullet point report to present at today's meeting and provide a full report to include photos of the capital items, later.

Chairperson Whitner recommends Mr. Stewart work along with Mr. Kendall to determine an authorized amount of what needs improvement.

Mr. Arrington made a motion to approve the Atlanta Hawks capital request up to \$4.4 million dollars based on Mr. Stewart, Mr. Kendall and The Walters Consulting Group's list of items that should be included. Mr. Touchstone seconded the motion. No Abstentions. Motion CARRIED.

**Statement of Gross Revenues**

Mr. Stewart presented the Atlanta Hawks' 12-month gross revenue report for the period ended March 31, 2021. The ratio is right at the 1.5X threshold. An amount lower than this would create a shortfall trigger, in which case, the team would need to provide a letter of credit or cash to cover the shortfall. The June 30, 2021 year-end audited report will provide updated financial data.

He further explained that there will be an increase in events over the next two years that will help boost revenue to levels before the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Fanplex****Renovation/Repurpose**

Mr. Stewart discussed plans of renovation to the facility to make way for affordable housing and community space for area residents. He will need to research ownership of some of the lots surrounding the facility.

Mr. Pitts asked if the rationale is to develop or sell the property. Mr. Kendall added that a developer would have to be sought if plans to move forward with renovation occur. He also mentioned that Georgia State University has the First Right of Refusal should AFCRA decide to sell Fanplex.

Mr. Stewart stated that AFCRA would enter into an agreement with a developer for a long-term lease of the facility.

Chairperson Whitner asked that Mr. Selby's office follow-up on the legalities of development of the property. In the meantime, Mr. Stewart will continue to explore development possibilities.

**AFCRA Parking Lots and Land****UniverSoul Circus**

The Grounds Committee approved UniverSoul Circus' use of the gray lot as follows:

- Rehearsals January 3 – January 25
- Shows January 26 - March 13
- Strike March 14 to March 16

**Reef Technology Proposal to use the Satellite Lot for food Delivery Services and Access to Fanplex for use of the Restroom**

The Grounds Committee moved to approve Reef Technology the use of the Satellite lot provided they find other means of bathroom services. Mr. Arrington proposes they rent the entire facility. The motion was not seconded. No Abstentions. Motion FAILED.

**Media Lot Use**

Due to the Atlanta Fair operations, Mr. Stewart offered Marvel Productions use of the Media lot to continue with COVID-19 testing. Georgia State University ("GSU") has submitted dates that it would like to use the lot in late fall and will present a conflict. Mr. Stewart noted that an agreement has not been entered into with GSU

Mr. Pitts was asked by a state representative Margaret Kaiser, if the lot could be used by Zoo Atlanta to park busses gratis. Mr. Kendall explained that the lot was offered to them on a rental basis, and they declined. Ms. Falconer suggests they all submit an offer for consideration.

Mr. Ellis is opposed to not allowing GSU use of the lot, but that AFCRA make accommodations.

Mr. Kendall recommends Mr. Stewart devise a plan that would allow both Marvel Productions and GSU use of the lot during Fall/Winter 2021.

**Grant Park Parking Assets****Quarterly Operations Review**

Mr. Stewart gave a brief overview of operations and revenue generated at the park.

**Increase in Number of Security Guards**

Due to the volume of incidents, the Grounds Committee moved to allow the addition of two security guards and an added shift. Ms. Falconer second the motion. No Abstentions. Motion CARRIED.

**Community Recreation Special Project Committee ("CRSP") Report****Donation Requests**

The CRSP moved for approval of the following requests:

1. Atlanta Bicycle Coalition – The purchase of 70 adult and child bikes at \$30,500.00. Mr. Ellis second the motion. No Abstentions. Motion CARRIED.
2. Quick Silver Track Club – Purchase of new uniforms and equipment at \$25,000.00. Ms. Falconer second the motion. No Abstentions. Motion CARRIED.
3. Swim South Aquatics – Purchase of scoreboard clocks at \$14,000.00. Ms. Falconer second the motion. No Abstentions. Motion CARRIED.
4. Cascade Youth Organization (CYO) – Registration Fees at \$15,000.00. Mr. Arrington second the motion. No Abstentions. Motion CARRIED.
5. Mentoring Viable Prospects (MVP) – 15<sup>th</sup> annual baseball tournament scholarships at \$15,000.00. Ms. Falconer second the motion. No Abstentions. Motion CARRIED.

Ms. Falconer and Mr. Pitts suggest better advertisement of fund availability for community recreation projects.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Certified by: \_\_\_\_\_ //s// \_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald W. Sims, II, Secretary