

**City of Atlanta and Fulton County Recreation Authority**  
**1 State Farm Drive, Atlanta, Georgia 30303**

**Grounds, Facilities and Security Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**April 23, 2021**  
**2:00 p.m.**

After providing proper notice, the City of Atlanta and Fulton County Recreation Authority (“AFCRA”) Grounds, Facilities and Security Committee Meeting was held on Friday, April 23, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom Conferencing. All actions taken by the committee are subject to approval by AFCRA’s Board of Directors.

**Committee Members:**

*Present:* Ronald W. Sims, II, Committee Chair  
Commissioner Marvin Arrington, Jr., Esq.  
Cathy Hampton, Esq.

*Absent:* None

*Quorum Present:* Yes

**AFCRA Representatives:**

*Present:* Kerry Stewart, Executive Director  
Vivienne Kerr, Executive Assistant  
Alvin Kendall, Esq, Management Consultant

**Proceedings:**

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Mr. Sims.

**Resolution:**

Mr. Sims read the resolution of the City of Atlanta and Fulton County Recreation Authority declaring an existence of emergency conditions involving public safety and authorizing the meeting to be held by teleconference.

**Minutes:**

Ms. Hampton made a motion to approve the January 14, 2021 minutes as written. Mr. Arrington second the motion. Motion CARRIED.

**Zoo Atlanta Update**

**Grant Park Parking Deck and Cherokee Parking Lot**

Mr. Stewart reviewed the revenue received during the month of January. He explained what expenses were paid and the pay down of the construction costs.

He has a meeting scheduled this Monday, April 27<sup>th</sup> with the City of Atlanta to determine the revenue split of funds currently held in escrow.

Mr. Stewart informed the committee that a request was received by a film production company to lease level 2 and 3 of the parking deck.

#### Temporary Fence Update

Complaints had been received about children playing in and around an area of the deck that is potential safety hazard; whereby someone could fall 3ft to the ground. A temporary fence has been put in place by the City of Atlanta Parks and Recreation department.

#### Restaurant Update

Mr. Stewart reported that he has not found a Real Estate firm to assist with the project. He did receive a recommendation from to contact Adams Realty, a firm that is also located in Grant Park.

Mr. Kendall added that it is a large project and recommends AFCRA employ an expert who can advise on how to proceed with stubbing out the space for a suitable design and functionality of a restaurant. This will include stubbing for the grease trap, vent hood, plumbing, etc. He recommends Mr. Stewart contact Mr. V's Restaurant Equipment & Store Fixtures for guidance on setting up the restaurant kitchen.

#### Gateway Green Space Rentals

Mr. Stewart had no new updates, but is searching for an event group to manage rental operations.

A question was raised by City of Atlanta Parks and Recreation to Winter Johnson about weight restrictions and were told that the information was already provided for in its record of documents.

Mr. Kendall suggests that Mr. Stewart contact Con-Real and ask them to review the plans to find out what the weight restrictions are for use of the space.

#### **John A. White Park**

##### 2020 Operating Shortfall

Mr. Stewart had follow-up conversation with Mr. Marvin Hightower, Executive Director, John A. White Park to gather more information on their request for operational shortfall funding for \$150,000.00.

John A. White Park subsequently submitted a request to Mr. Stewart for \$130,400.00 in funding to support improvements to the facility.

Mr. Arrington asked if AFCRA needed to revisit the agreement between John W. White Park regarding requests for funding. Mr. Stewart explained the current agreement is up for renewal and the topic would be included.

Mr. Sims made a motion to approve facility improvement funding in the amount of \$130,400.00 to John A. White Park. Mr. Arrington second the motion. Motion CARRIED.

### *Golf Technology Center*

Mr. Stewart reported that construction is complete, but there are delays with the technology equipment.

### *Interior Buildout*

Mr. Stewart appraised the furniture located at Fanplex and determined that is what suitable for the new technology center. He recommends acceptance of Matt Sky Interiors design quote. Curtains are recommended to cover the windows in the area where the technology equipment is located. Mr. Kendall recommends blinds be installed. The First Tee of Metro Atlanta has budgeted for half the costs of furnishing the facility.

Mr. Sims made a motion to accept and approve the interior design plan up to \$8,500.00, excluding the blinds. Mr. Arrington second the motion. Motion CARRIED.

### **State Farm Arena**

#### *2021 Basketball Season*

Mr. Stewart informed the committee that AFCRA's suite is now open and serves 12. AFCRA also receives 6 tickets to the Atlanta Social Club for a total of 18 tickets. Additionally, there is comedy event scheduled for May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### *Holyfield Statue/Funding*

The City of Atlanta has approached Mr. Stewart to request fifty percent funding for the installation of the statue at State Farm Arena. Ms. Samara Minkin, Manager, Mayor's Office of Public Art, who through conversations with Mr. Thad Sheely, Chief Financial Officer, Atlanta Hawks, and all have agreed on placement of the statue at the Marta entrance to the facility. The Atlanta Hawks will take financial responsibility for the maintenance of the statue. The total cost of the project is \$60,000.00.

Ms. Hampton made a motion to approve \$30,000.00 funding for the installation and platform for the Holyfield Statue at State Farm Arena. Mr. Arrington second the motion. Motion CARRIED.

#### *HBCU Basketball Tournament*

Mr. Stewart spoke with Mr. Travis Williams, Executive Director, HBCU All-Stars, LLC who has reached out and received confirmation from HBCU coaches, and they are interested in participating in a tournament. It is anticipated that the game will take place in November around Thanksgiving 2021.

It was asked of Mr. David Lee, VP External Affairs, Atlanta Hawks, if the NBA could make an exception and allow the event to move forward. Mr. Lee will verify the teams schedule and report back to Mr. Stewart.

### Georgia World Congress Center (GWCC)

Mr. Stewart explained that the GWCC project is moving forward. They are installing a travel modal for ride share parking. GWCC asked for certain access to the Diamond Deck to inspect the expansion joints. The easement has been executed, and they have reimbursed AFCRA for the insurance costs to complete the project.

### Atlanta Sports Council – Unity for the Community Bench

A request to install a community bench (*made from water bottles*) to promote togetherness, was submitted to Mr. Stewart by Mr. John Keen with the City of Atlanta and John Corso with Atlanta Sports Council. Their plan is to install a single bench at each of the sports venues in Atlanta to include Mercedes Benz Stadium, Truist Park, and State Farm Arena.

No action taken to move forward with this request.

### **Fanplex Update**

#### Fulton County Elections

Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections will be using the facility for the November 3, 2021 general election and possible runoff.

#### Lease Requests

Mr. Stewart received requests to lease the facility from the following organizations:

- 1) D.A.B. Resource Center – Offer virtual assistance and after school programs for youth in the 30315 community. They are asking for a one-year graduated lease term.
- 2) Buckhead School of Medicine – Offer training to medical assistants for 4 months at a free or reduced rate.

The committee declined the requests and therefore the matter will not move forward to the full board.

### Trammell Crow Residential Use of Facility - Update

Mr. Stewart reports that the current tenants using the upper lot of Fanplex are making payments on-time and everything is running smoothly.

### **AFCRA Owned Parking Lots**

#### Atlanta Fair

Atlanta Fair has changed their dates operation to October 7 through November 14, 2021 provided they are able to meet permit requirements.

### Gray Lot

Marvel Productions has requested to extend use of the lot through September 30, 2021.

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Gray and Media Lot Rates

Mr. Stewart presented the current rates for leasing of each of the lots. A request has been received from a non-profit group asking for a reduced rate.

After discussion, the committee agrees that the executive director can make the decision to offer the lots at a reduced rate as he deems appropriate.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.