

Las Vegas Stadium Benefits Oversight Committee

CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

Committee Members

Ken Evans - **Chairman**

Lynn Littlejohn

Peter Guzman

Don Webb

Rose Davis

Monica Ford

Rebecca Fountain

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OF SOUTHERN NEVADA (RTC)

ROOM 108

600 S GRAND CENTRAL PKWY | LAS VEGAS, NV 89106

1:00 PM

The Las Vegas Stadium Benefits Oversight Committee met in full in full conformity with Nevada open meeting laws. The meeting took place in the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC), Las Vegas, Clark County Nevada on Thursday, the 17th day of October, 2019 at the hour of 1:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order at the hour of 1:00 p.m. by Chairman Evans and on the roll call, the following members were present, constituting a quorum of the members thereof:

Chairman and Members:

Ken Evans

Rose Davis

Rebecca Fountain

Don Webb

Monica Ford

Peter Guzman – via telephone

Also Present:

Christopher Sotiropulos – committee administrator

Absent:

Lynn Littlejohn

ITEM NO. 1 Call to Order, Roll Call and Establish Quorum

DISCUSSION: At this time, Chairman Evans called the roll and confirmed quorum was present.

Chairman Evans closed Agenda Item No. 1.

ITEM NO. 2 Public Comment

- 1) **Dave Washington** was first to speak. His comments were regarding the status of various numbers for ethnic groups and expressed a desire for more detailed reporting, especially as it related to African Americans.
- 2) **Brian Harris** was second to speak. He submitted his comments to the committee and are attached as an exhibit at the end of the minutes.
- 3) **Shaundell Newsome** was third to speak and he discussed about trying to focus on certification and preparing companies to be ready to handle the growth as opportunities come about.

Chairman Evans closed Agenda Item No. 2.

ITEMS NO. 3 Approval of Agenda with the Inclusion of Any Emergency Items and Deletions of Any Items (For possible action)

FINAL ACTION: The agenda for the meeting was approved (motion to approve was set forth by Rebecca Fountain and seconded by Peter Guzman).

Chairman Evans closed Agenda Item #3

ITEM NO. 4 Review and Potentially Approve Minutes of the Community Benefits Oversight Committee Meeting on October 17, 2019 (for possible action)

DISCUSSION: There were no additions or edits made to the minutes as submitted (motion to approve was set forth by Rose Davis and seconded by Peter Guzman).

Chairman Evans closed agenda Item #4

ITEM NO. 5 Chairman's and Committee Member Comments

DISCUSSION: Chairman Evans opened this agenda topic to others for comment (all declined). Chairman made brief comments about making good progress on the stadium and announcing key additions of AEG as the stadium operator and Levy as the food concessionaire. Also, the database of 800+ of interested

vendors would be contacted by both entities as the operation of the stadium really starts to ramp up and roles became more clearly defined.

Chairman Evans closed Agenda Item #5

ITEM NO. 6 Discussion of Future Approach to Benefits Oversight Committee Meetings, Scheduling, and Expectations for Reports and Submissions (For Possible Action)

DISCUSSION: Chairman Evans inquired about the schedule for 2020. Based on the 2019 cadence, it was suggested that a similar pattern is followed with meetings in January, April, July, and October. To maintain consistence, keeping these meetings to the 4th Thursday of those months would be ideal. Those dates would be:

- January 23, 2020
- April 23, 2020
- July 23, 2020
- October 22, 2020

Chairman Evans indicted the substance of the reporting would not change and after discussion for clarification from Stadium Authority Board, the reporting metrics provided by Mortenson/McCarthy meet the SB1 requirement and extra information provided, like the veteran statistics, are above and beyond. Committee member Rose Davis asked for Chairman Evans to restate the previous information to clarify his statements.

Don Webb added comments about the difference between what the committee reports to the Stadium Authority Board and what Mortenson/McCarthy chooses to report to the group. The reports from MMCJV is in excess and gives much greater detail and surpasses their obligation.

Chairman Evans closed Agenda Item #6

ITEM NO. 7 Receive a Community Benefits Plan Progress Update and Have a Discussion Regarding the Format, Content and Timing of Quarterly Community Benefits Plan Reports to be Provided by LV Stadium Events Company, LLC Pursuant to Section 2.6 of the Community Benefits Plan (For Possible Action)

DISCUSSION: Chairman Evans opened this agenda topic by referencing the color-coded portion of the report that specifically lists all the entities on the project and what their designation is (SBE or MBE).

Don Webb furthered the discussion by explaining this as an example of why Mortenson/McCarthy has gone above and beyond the requirements to provide more comprehensive information for the group to see.

Chairman Evans closed Agenda Item #7

ITEM NO. 8 Receive an Update by Community Benefits Plan Oversight Committee and Discuss Responses to Public Inquiries and Requests for Information Related to LV Stadium Project Progress and Participation by Interested Parties (For possible action)

DISCUSSION: Chairman Evans started by going through all the documents that were provided to the committee by Lynn Littlejohn. The specifics of the reports were read aloud for the audience to hear. This was the most up to date report that was available to provide.

Don Webb added some comments regarding the numbers. The SBE participation of 22% roughly equates to beating the goal by 30% (goal is 15%). The other comments focused on SBE firms and a discussion regarding the average contract awarded of being 2 million and this is typically over 50% over what they normally contract. Taking a small business and giving them too much can be problematic. Most businesses struggle because they not growing fast enough, or in some cases they are growing too quickly. As far as workforce diversity, the goal of 38% is being exceeded by close to 60% (goal is 38%). Peter Guzman chimed in to applaud the numbers in the latest report.

No other committee members made comments.

Chairman Evans closed Agenda Item #8

ITEM NO. 9 Public Comments

- 1) **Shaundell Newsome** was the first to speak in the second set of public comments. His comments were in regards to small firms being prepared and what they would need to do to be ready to get the opportunities. He recommended using the chambers (Latin and Urban) to assist with those preparations.
- 2) **Dave Washington** was second to speak. His comments were similar to what he stated in the first public comment period regarding the lack of transparency with the reporting.
- 3) **Clifton Marshall** was third to speak and he discussed placing more emphasis on the unions because they are the gatekeepers to much of the labor pool and echoed the same sentiments as Shaundell Newsome in regards to

focusing more on making sure these SBE and WMBE are adequately prepared to handle new opportunities.

- 4) **Brian Harris** was 4th to speak and his comments focused on encouraging the committee to be more helpful in the execution of the plan in making sure that it gets implemented in the way it was intended to help.
- 5) **Tim Brooks** was the 5th to speak and he mentioned he is actively working on the site and expressed positive things about the community benefits plan and the work Mortenson/McCarthy are doing.
- 6) **Steven Munford** was the 6th person to speak. He is in real estate in Las Vegas. He spoke about the importance of the community benefits plan and cited examples from other cities that he's been involved with. He had a question about the legislation and whether this was included in additional requirements as it related to reporting and money allocation to minority businesses.

In addition to public comments, Monica Ford had comments regarding understanding the comments being made and saying where there is a lack of knowledge, people will perish. She insisted that there is an obligation to educate and discuss real issues separate from SB1 and that she is willing to provide knowledge and be engaged with community members who need extra guidance.

Peter Guzman chimed in for the record to state Ken Evans is one of the most transparent people he has dealt with and there are limits within the requirements we all must work within.

Rose Davis said, "what gets measured gets done." She is encouraged with what is going on with SB1 but is still passionate about all people of all colors and finding ways to create more jobs and opportunities in the pipeline for the future in this community.

Chairman Evans closed Agenda Item No. 9.

ITEM NO. 10 Adjournment (For possible action)

The meeting was adjourned at 1:56pm

Ⓟ Exhibit Provided,
by Brian Harris

Equality of Opportunity

Black America has continually fought for equality for everyone, but what about us! From the civil rights movement to the consent decree of 1971 in Las Vegas, our forefathers have been on the front lines for equality and equal opportunity. The consent decree of 1971 promised more opportunity for black people on the strip at all levels of their organizations. But if you look at the numbers today, this was another promise broken. With the growth of the strip an explosion of diversity for others groups has happened, but the opportunity for black people has continued to decline at all levels of participation.

On March 3rd, 2017 Colin Kaepernick was officially blackballed from the NFL for quietly protesting social injustice and white supremacy. We must realize one of the major reasons for social injustice and white supremacy is income inequality. While the players in the NFL are 68% black, the economic opportunity outside of the players is dismal at best.

On April 28th 2016 Davis said he wanted to move the Raiders to Las Vegas. To make this dream happen, \$750 million of taxpayer's money was allocated to the stadium project. With the allocation of government funds for the raider stadium came the promise of community benefits. This request was driven by the black community with many politicians coming to our community for support with the promise of economic opportunity for our community as well as others. About a year and a half ago, Ken Evans was publicly expressing the success of the benefits program as it pertains to small business. Today, this board proudly talks about the number of veterans, women and

other groups participating on this project. At that time, I requested from Ken Evans and Ms. Lightfoot about the number of black businesses and workers on the project. My goal was to validate the mission of ALL communities sharing in the benefits of this stadium that was paid for with government tax funds. Unfortunately, my requests have gone unanswered. We believe that the numbers are critical in determining the success of the mission of the benefits plan. While this board will attempt to hide behind SB1 as their justification for not giving us the numbers, this is basically business as usual of promises broken. We have committed to explore our legal rights through the AB281 requirements if necessary.

A couple of weeks ago, I spoke to a young man that has made over \$198,000 in 11 months on this project. He was not a black man or woman. These jobs and business opportunities are critical to uplifting all communities including the black community. The black community is roughly 13% of Las Vegas, and we simply want to know the percentage of businesses and people of black decent that are benefiting from this project. Again, our initial hope is to celebrate the success of the program. However, should the numbers not reflect real benefits, then the Black Business Council would like to assist in developing a real benefits plan that is inclusive of black business and people.

Black America has never wanted a FREE ride, we want equal opportunity and promises kept. If tax dollars are used with a commitment of benefit to ALL communities, then we need to know the numbers. If the numbers are NOT reflective of the goal, then we need to fix the problem. There is still time. We will continue to reach out to get this simple request answered.

On August 14th.2019 the NFL signed an agreement with Jay-Z in the name of entertainment and social justice. How are we to believe that this is not just another publicity stunt unless the NFL is serious about their existing promises. If the community benefits program was designed to uplift ALL communities, then we expect promises be kept for the black community.

The key to white supremacy is wealth inequality. Many of today's programs designed for inclusion actually exclude black people. We are asked to celebrate increase woman, veterans, disabled and disadvantaged business participation, while we are actually celebrating white supremacy. The black community knows that white male contractors simply put their wives, children and girlfriends in business under these acceptable diversity tags. The masters (Raiders, NFL, Government, etc..) then simply celebrate diversity while maintaining the status quo. This must STOP if we are serious about true community benefits. By 2053, black America will have no wealth in America as a unit. Why because the playing field is not level. We are simply asking for a fair playing field with opportunity for our group. We cannot and will not continue to celebrate our demise. We DEMAND promises kept for this project and ALL projects using government funds.

Sincerely,

Brian Harris

President Black Business Council

708-805-3819