



**Minnesota Ballpark Authority Board Meeting Minutes – April 10, 2025**

Chair Margaret Anderson Kelliher called the board meeting of the Minnesota Ballpark Authority for April 10, 2025, to order at 2:02 p.m. The roll was taken. Chair Margaret Anderson Kelliher, Commissioners Justin Baylor and David Ybarra were present. Commissioner Tony Sanneh arrived after the approval of the agenda and minutes. Commissioner James Campbell participated via interactive technology.

Commissioner Justin Baylor moved approval of the agenda, seconded by Commissioner David Ybarra, and approved unanimously – 4 YEAS, 0 NAYS.

**APPROVED**

Commissioner David Ybarra moved approval of the January 9, 2025, meeting minutes seconded by Commissioner James Campbell and approved unanimously – 4 YEAS, 0 NAYS

**APPROVED**

**Public Comment Period** – Alan Roebke from Informed TV, Alexandria, Minnesota, commented on the potential sale of the Twins. He suggested that after the bonds were paid off in 2027 that the team should consider a stock sell off to the public and the ownership of the team would be publicly owned like the Green Bay Packers.

**Chair’s Report** – Chair Anderson Kelliher reported that she and Executive Director Dan Kenney reviewed the Twins 2023 audited financials and found them to be in good order. She noted that Hennepin County’s efforts to repurpose most the of the existing ballpark sales tax to support healthcare infrastructure will not be taken up during the 2025 legislative session. Parties remain optimistic the issue will be considered next year.

**Executive Director’s Report** – Executive Director Dan Kenney reported that Mortenson is continuing the concrete replacement project on the plaza. The remodeling of the Section 105 and 109 concessions is complete and was ready for Opening Day.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **4-10-25 Proposed Resolution 25-MBA-213**

#### **Purpose:**

To approve a process for developing a new public art project at Target Field, in partnership with the Minnesota Twins; to authorize the use of up to \$50,000 from the MBA's Ballpark Capital Projects Fund for this purpose; to authorize MBA staff to finalize the scope, design and cost details with the Minnesota Twins; and to authorize the Chair and Executive Director to enter into any necessary agreements to achieve these improvements.

#### **Background:**

In April 2008, the Minnesota Ballpark Authority adopted Resolution 08-MBA-05R1, which created the Ballpark District Enhancements and Public Art Incentive fund.

The fund was set up to allow the MBA to work with the team, other government agencies, private developers, and other interested parties to encourage the coordinated development of amenities that would serve both the long-term interests of the ballpark and this emerging area of the City. Priorities for this fund include public art, streetscape, and way-finding enhancements.

In 2021, the team and the MBA partnered on a Request for Proposals (RFP) process to find an artist to add new public art on Target Plaza around the theme "All Are Welcome" at Target Field. The selection panel reviewed proposals from five artist teams and selected mosaic artist Daniela Bianchini and muralist Kalaka for the project in November of 2021. The new mosaic mural was unveiled on Target Plaza in April of 2022.

Earlier this year the team approached the MBA with a new concept to add public art near the home plate entrance. The Black Baseball Mural Project aims to honor and celebrate the legacy of Black individuals in baseball, particularly those within Twins Territory. The project would seek to highlight the interconnectedness of baseball history, promote inclusivity, and educate audiences about the remarkable achievements and enduring struggles of Black baseball players.

MBA staff is requesting authorization for the Minnesota Ballpark Authority to work with the Minnesota Twins to set-up a Public Art Selection Committee similar to the one utilized for the 2021 mural project, to issue an RFP for artists, and to spend up to \$50,000 in MBA funding for this new public art project.

#### **Action Requested:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Minnesota Ballpark Authority approves a process for developing a new public art project in partnership with the Minnesota Twins; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the MBA acknowledges the team commitment of up to \$50,000 and authorizes contributing up to \$50,000 from the Ballpark Capital Projects Fund for this public art project; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chair appoint the MBA representatives to serve on the Selection Panel to assist in the development of the RFP and selection of the Twins

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the MBA authorizes the Chair and Executive Director to work with the team to negotiate and execute contracts with the proposed artists, as recommended by the Selection Panel, with a combined total contribution from the MBA not to exceed \$50,000.

**APPROVED**

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**Twins Correspondence – Matt Hoy, MN Twins, Senior VP Operations** Mr. Hoy gave a brief overview of the Twins correspondence letters in the meeting packet.

### **Target Field Operations Update – Matt Hoy, MN Twins, Senior VP Operations**

Mr. Hoy stated that the ballpark came through the winter well with no significant issues. The remodeling project of Concessions 105 to 109 is complete along with the installation of point-of-sale terminals. The use of the concessions and terminals for Opening Day went well. The “Go Ahead Entry”, a facial recognition option to get into the ballpark, was very successful and efficient on Opening Day with approximately 4% of fans using this to enter the ballpark. American Tower Company has been here for several months to install a new distributed antenna system to improve cell and WiFi communications within the ballpark. This project should be completed by September. The Joe Mauer sculpture will be unveiled on the plaza on Sunday, April 13, 2025, at 11:30 a.m. Field lights on the top of the main scoreboard had malfunctioned and have been replaced under warranty. Opening Day was very successful with approximately 37,000 fans attending.

**Financial Report – Brenda Juneau, MBA Finance Coordinator** Ms. Juneau reported on the 2024 Financial Summary. Combined total expenditures for 2024 are \$970,909. Operating expenditures of \$681,022 and capital outlay expenditures of \$289,887. As of the end of the 2024 fiscal year, MBA funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$25,269,405, an increase of \$3,809,367 from the prior year. The increase is directly related to the annual capital contributions into the special revenue fund from Hennepin County and the Twins.

The largest portion of the combined fund balance, \$15,366,209 (60.8%), is in the Capital Reserve Fund. The Twins did not request to use any proceeds from this fund for the capital projects the team completed in 2024.

The Capital Project Fund has a year-end fund balance of \$8,738,390, an increase of \$367,336 from the prior year. Sources of revenue for this fund included interest earnings, an easement

fee and event revenue in 2024. Event revenue in 2024 was higher than the annual average. Capital expenditures from this fund covered the cost of a facility assessment, improvements on the promenade near Gate 6 and the purchase of a security camera. The General Operating Fund has a 2024 year-end fund balance of \$1,164,806, which is an increase of \$11,855 from 2023 year-end. The MBA Board approves an annual budget for the General Fund that includes an operating grant from Hennepin County. In November of 2024, when annual expenditures were estimated, the MBA requested a grant amount equal to the budgeted amount of \$655,000.

Expenditures in the General Operating Fund were \$26,022 more than the budget amount of \$655,000 for 2024 and revenues were \$37,877 more than budgeted, creating a net increase in fund balance of \$11,855. The increase in expenditures to budget was mostly related to unanticipated costs for health and liability insurance in 2024.

Investment income for 2024 was \$549,134, as compared to \$414,178 in 2023.

## **PERSONNEL EVALUATION**

**Meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m. for Closed Executive Session – Performance Evaluation of Executive Director, Dan Kenney.**

**Reconvened meeting at 2:38 p.m. for Summary of Conclusions of Evaluation and Resolution.**

### **4-10-25 Resolution 25-MBA-214**

#### **Purpose:**

To authorize the Chair to execute an amendment to the employment agreement with the Executive Director of the Authority.

#### **Background:**

On August 18, 2006, the Minnesota Ballpark Authority entered into an employment agreement with Dan Kenney, Executive Director of the Authority. Among other terms and conditions, the agreement states that each year of the Executive Director's employment, the Authority shall review and may adjust the Executive Director's base salary in its sole discretion. This resolution authorizes the Chair to enter into an amendment to that agreement.

#### **Action Requested:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Minnesota Ballpark Authority authorizes the Chair to enter into an amendment to the Employment Agreement with the Executive Director with the following terms:

1. Base salary: Increase the annual base salary to an annual base salary of \$211,160.04, effective January 1, 2025.
2. Employment Term: Extend the term of employment through August 21, 2026.
3. All other terms and conditions of the employment agreement to remain the same.

**APPROVED**

*There being no further business, Chair Margaret Anderson Kelliher adjourned the meeting at 2:42 p.m. Next meeting: July 17, 2025*