

APPROVED

WASHINGTON CONVENTION AND SPORTS AUTHORITY
(WCSA)

t/a EVENTS DC

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

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PUBLIC SESSION

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2026

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The meeting came to order at 9:04 a.m. EST in the DC Department of Employment Services Conference Room, 4058 Minnesota Avenue NE, Washington, D.C., Leif Dormsjo, Chairman, presiding.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

LEIF DORMSJO, Chairman
CHERRIE DOGGETT, Vice Chairman
JAY HADDOCK ORTIZ, Treasurer
MONICA RAY, Secretary
NINA ALBERT, Member*
ALAN BUBES, Member
SOLOMON KEENE, Member*
BRIAN KENNER, Member
GLEN LEE, Member*
GEORGE "TY" SIMPSON, Member

STAFF PRESENT:

ANGIE M. GATES, President and CEO
NICOLE JACKSON, General Counsel
DANIA JOLLEY, Deputy Chief of Staff
VERONICA TAYLOR, Controller

OTHER ATTENDEES:

LINDSEY PARKER, Senior Advisor to the Mayor
BRIAN HANLON, Director, RFK Stadium Development

*present via videoconference

Call to Order and Roll Call:

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. Ms. Jolley called the roll and determined that a quorum was present.

Closed Session:

The Chairman announced that the first portion of the meeting would be in closed session to discuss contract negotiations as provided by D.C. Code § 2-575(b)(2), to discuss commercial or financial information obtained from outside the public body as provided by D.C. Code § 2-575(b)(11), to consult with counsel as provided by D.C. Code § 2-575(b)(4)(A), and to discuss personnel matters as provided by D.C. Code § 2-575(b)(10).

Reconvene Meeting

The meeting was reconvened at 10:15 a.m. Mr. Bubes and Mr. Kenner joined the meeting.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes from the December 11, 2025 Board meeting were approved by acclamation.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

Chairman's Remarks:

The Chairman welcomed those in attendance to the meeting. He explained the purpose of the closed session discussions, acknowledged the development of a strategic plan, and noted that a Board retreat is scheduled for July 16, 2026. The Chairman looked forward to the college basketball games in February at Capitol One Arena, the NCAA Sweet Sixteen in March, the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race in June, and the upcoming celebrations of America's 250th anniversary.

President and Chief Executive Officer's Report:

Ms. Gates wished a Happy New Year to those in attendance. She thanked Ms. Unique Morris-Hughes, Mr. Jason Washington, and the Department of Employment Services team for hosting the meeting. Ms. Gates also thanked the Events DC team, Projections, the Calpro Group, and Neal R. Gross & Company for their assistance and flexibility in preparing for the Board's off-site meeting.

In the Conventions and Meetings Division, Ms. Gates reported on the four events at the Convention Center in December, with a combined 10,500 attendees. She highlighted the 105th National Council for the Social Studies Annual Conference and the DC Chamber of Congress Annual Meeting and Chairman's Inaugural Breakfast. Ms. Gates is looking forward to the six events scheduled for January, including one citywide, with an expected 27,400 attendees. She highlighted the Joint Mathematics Meeting, Transportation Research Board Annual Meeting, Travel and Adventure Show, and Washington, DC Auto Show.

In the Sports and Entertainment Division, Ms. Gates reported on the 13 events in December at the RFK and St. Elizabeths East Community campuses, with a total of 26,500 attendees. She highlighted the special recording of the Six Feet Under with the Undertaker podcast, with 1,200

attendees; John Cena's Final Match and Official Fan Fest, which was the highest-grossing arena game in WWE history and the highest-grossing game in the history of Capital One Arena, with 19,000 attendees for the sold-out event; and Battle for the Real HU at CareFirst Arena, at which the Howard University Men's and Women's basketball teams defeated the Hampton University teams. Ms. Gates is looking forward to the 16 events scheduled for January, with an expected 9,900 attendees. She highlighted the Capital City Go-Go's season, UConn v. Georgetown Women's basketball game, and Clipper Round the World Yacht Race.

In the Community Engagement Division, Ms. Gates reported on the success of Winter Wonderland at the Convention Center.

RFK Stadium Development Presentation:

Ms. Parker presented a report on the RFK Stadium Development project and thanked Events DC for its support and collaboration on the project. The major redevelopment will include significant public and private investment and require coordination among many entities. Mayor Bowser issued an Executive Order creating a dedicated Project Management Office (PMO) to be a single coordination point for planning, development, construction, and policy execution, and to coordinate public and internal communications and engagement. This structure will establish clarity and accountability, and ensure continuity, transparency, and long-term success for the RFK campus. Ms. Parker will focus on executive coordination, policy alignment, and deal execution at the mayor's level. She emphasized the importance of communicating a consistent message to all stakeholders and the public. Mr. Hanlon, as the Project Executive, will be responsible for bringing the stadium to Day One readiness, and will seek to optimize project planning decisions for future development, with a focus on energy and sustainability. He described his work as a process of derisking, ensuring that decisions made now will put the development on a firm course to completion.

The PMO will deliver the stadium, the Washington Commanders will operate it, and Events DC will serve as the administrator of the stadium on behalf of the District. Operations and Administration have been intentionally separated.

Critical milestones for 2026 will include advancing the NEPA and master planning strategies, confirming the Day One stadium and infrastructure delivery schedule, finalizing the procurement strategy, core project documents, deal documents, and required approvals, and establishing the administrator transition framework with Events DC. Ms. Parker and Mr. Hanlon also presented renders of the planned design for the RFK Stadium Development project. Mr. Simpson asked about coordination with the National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC). The Chairman commented on the coordination taking place with the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) and the ability to use the stadium campus for a wide variety of events. Ms. Gates expressed excitement about the collaboration.

Operations Committee:

At its meeting on January 5, 2026, the Committee received updates and one recommendation. Staff provided an update on the Convention Center Renovation Project, noting that demolition, electrical, and plumbing rough-in were complete, and construction was progressing well. The Facilities Department is also using this phase of the project to assess structural conditions.

Ms. Gates reviewed a list of FY 2026 vendor contracts that exceed \$250,000, including contracts already approved by the Committee or the Board, and contracts that staff anticipated would be presented to the Committee through the remainder of the fiscal year. She also provided updates regarding her recent meeting with DC Councilmembers Mendelson and Pinto, a Request for Proposal issued by the National Park Service for a lease of Rock Creek Tennis Center, and on recent developments on National Links Trust's lease with National Park Service for the East Potomac Langston and Rock Creek Park Golf Courses.

The recommendation was the approval of increased funding for Option Year Three of the contract with Modern Door and Equipment Sales, Inc. to replace the operable air walls in the exhibit halls and bathrooms, bringing the total not-to-exceed amount to \$5,193,334, an increase of \$4,943,334. The Committee unanimously voted to approve placing the recommendation before the full Board. Ms. Jackson read a summary of Resolution 26-01, which was moved, seconded and approved, with Ms. Doggett recusing herself.

Real Estate and Economic Development Committee Report:

The Committee received updates at its January 5, 2026 meeting. The RFK Stadium demolition site continues to be monitored by ECS Mid-Atlantic. The RFK Quarterly meeting was held on December 8, 2025. Ms. Gates noted that Ms. Parker, Mr. Hanlon, Mr. Sarosh Olpadwala, and Mr. Jonathan Kayne will be attending the Board's January meeting.

The Rock Creek Tennis Center Request for Proposal (RFP) was issued on December 17, 2025, and outlines expected tenant investments and required improvements. Staff emphasized the importance of the Mubadala Citi DC Open tennis tournament. Civitas continued its marketing efforts with prospective tenants for the 9th Street Kiosk Retail Space. Staff confirmed the size of each kiosk space and expressed support for the business incubator model.

Business Development and Strategic Partnerships Committee Report:

At its meeting on January 7, 2026, the Committee received updates on the Rock Creek Tennis Center RFP and 9th Street Retail Kiosks, reviewed a list of current marketing partnerships and sponsorships, and considered one recommendation.

The recommendation was the approval of a sponsorship agreement with the Washington Spirit for the 2026 NWSL season in the amount of \$750,000. The Washington Spirit's 2025 season included 17 home games, 2 international matches, 52 community events, and the team generating more than \$500,000 in hotel-related economic impact for the District. The 2026 agreement will designate Events DC as an official partner and include prominent in-stadium signage, branding, original audio-visual content, media promotion, and back of jersey kit sponsorship. The Committee unanimously voted to approve placing the recommendation before the full Board. Ms. Jackson read a summary of Resolution 26-02, which was moved and seconded and approved unanimously.

Cultural Affairs and Grants Committee Report:

The Committee received updates at its December 7, 2025 meeting. Staff provided an update on the FY 2026 Cycle One grants and confirmed that applications for Cycle Two had opened. Over

100 organizations have participated to date in the virtual informational sessions being held on Thursdays in January at noon and 6:00 p.m.

The Fall into Fun in the District marketing campaign is built on the success of the Summertime in the District campaign. Major fall events included Legends Game Nights; the Costume Carnival at Gateway Pavilion, which was attended by over 600 children and their families, which is a 33% increase in attendance over 2024; and the Community Grant Awardees Dinner at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center, featuring performances by the Washington Conservatory of Music, Lee Little League, Youth Entrepreneur Institute, and a special guest performance by Chiquinha Gonzaga Youth Symphony Orchestra from Rio De Janeiro, Brazil. The 27th Annual Winter Wonderland event at the Convention Center brought over 400 children and their families together from all eight wards. DC Councilmembers Pinto, Frumin, and Felder joined the event, which also featured a special appearance by WWE stars Mr. Angelo Dawkins and Mr. Montez Ford of the Street Profits, and Women's United States Champion Ms. Chelsea Green. The use of complementary shuttles to the fields and the R.I.S.E. Demonstration Center increased by 24% in 2025.

Upcoming community programs include Art at the Center on February 3, 2026, and the Blossom Tea Party on March 17, 2026. Staff will follow up on a proposal to host art tours for students and community grant awardees. Staff also discussed two new positions, the Director of Cultural Affairs, Grants and Partnerships and the Senior Manager of Cultural Affairs, Grants and Partnerships.

Mr. Simpson thanked Ms. Gates for her leadership in expanding the scope of the committee with an increased focus on cultural affairs. He also commented on the Fort Dupont Ice Arena, a recent grant awardee which his friend, the late John Fitzgerald Cotten aka Guido, had long advocated for.

Finance Monthly Report:

Ms. Taylor provided the Board with the Authority's financial status. Operating revenues were approximately \$0.9 million above projections. Ms. Taylor noted that ancillary services such as catering, rigging, electrical, AV, building lease rentals, and advertising and sponsorship opportunities were driving the increased revenues. Non-operating revenues were approximately \$2.43 million below projections, as dedicated taxes and interest income underperformed. Operating expenses were approximately \$696,000 below budget. Marketing expenses were approximately \$198,000 below budget, due to the downturn in dedicated tax revenue, while debt services were at budget. Capital expenditures totaled \$2.9 million, and supported the facility restroom renovation, the RFK Stadium demolition project, carpet and flooring replacement, building enhancement, ESA-limited capital expenditure, and lease-tenant improvements. The Office of Tax and Revenue was still updating the calculation for the Destination DC transfers, so those totals were not included in the report.

The Chairman acknowledged a recent meeting with bond counsel to discuss the Authority's debt profile, covenants, and considerations.
