



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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GOVERNOR DEAL APPROVES LEASE FOR GEORGIA SPORTS HALL OF FAME
NewTown Macon, Development Authority Partner to Keep Hall in Macon

MACON, GA – Governor Nathan Deal and the Georgia State Properties Commission have approved a lease of the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame building that will allow the museum to continue operating at its home in Macon. The State Properties Commission approved the terms of the lease last October, and Governor Deal signed the agreement earlier in February.

In a statement, Governor Deal said that, “The support for the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame that has been pledged by both the public and private sectors in Middle Georgia and the resulting partnerships that have been forged are a model for how governments, non-profit organizations, and the business community can work together to serve the public good. I’m delighted that the state’s investment in the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame is being protected and that the citizens of Georgia will continue to have a world class museum to tell the stories of our state’s great sportsmen and women.”

The Development Authority of Bibb County will lease the building for a term of one year with two one-year renewal options. NewTown Macon is managing the museum through an agreement with the Development Authority of Bibb County, and the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame Authority is licensing use of their physical and intellectual property to NewTown Macon. The management agreement and license agreement will also be for three year terms.

The completion of the lease, management, and license agreements brings an end to a process that began in April of 2010 when the GSHF Authority was instructed to seek proposals for alternative management of the museum. A proposal received from Macon/Bibb County was determined to be the winning bid in the subsequent RFP process in April of 2011, and negotiations to finalize the process by which management of the museum would transition were completed in December.

Representatives of the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame thanked Governor Deal for his leadership and assistance throughout the process in a brief meeting Thursday morning.

Attached photograph from left to right: Bobby Pope, GSHF Executive Director; Emily Myers, GSHF Authority Vice Chairman; Governor Nathan Deal; Ben Sapp, GSHF Managing Director; Paul Holmes, GSHF Authority Chairman.

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