



MINUTES OF THE DOWNTOWN MEMPHIS COMMISSION

Friday, April 24, 2020

9:00 A.M.

114 North Main Street

Due to the declarations of a State of Emergency by the President of the United States, the Governor of Tennessee, and the Mayor of Memphis relating to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Downtown Memphis Commission (DMC) has determined that it is necessary that the meeting be conducted by electronic or other means of communication in order to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public, DMC staff, and DMC board members. This meeting of the DMC was held via Zoom virtual meeting. Board members participated by phone with all materials made available to them as well as the public in advance. Procedures were in place to identify all participants on the call including members of the public and allow for questions and public comment.

Board Members Present: Deni Reilly, Elizabeth Low, John Pontius, Terry Woodard, John Zeanah (for Mayor Harris), Senator Raumesh Akbari, Mauricio Calvo, Julie Ellis, Cheyenne Johnson, and Demar Roberts

Board Members Not Present: Benjamin Orgel, Williams Brack, Cheryl Pesce, Joann Massey (for Mayor Strickland), Commissioner Mickell Lowery, and Representative Barbara Cooper

Staff Present: Jennifer Oswald, Christine Taylor, Brett Roler, Penelope Springer, Penelope Huston, Erik Stevenson, Katie Flynn, Abram Lueders and Debra Streeter

Guests: Mike Humes and a Member of the Public

Deni Reilly determined that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 9:03 AM. Christine Taylor called roll for board members, staff and attending guest. After reviewing meeting protocols, Chairman Reilly called for approval of the Consideration of Open Meeting Resolution finding that meeting by electronic means of communication is necessary. Terry Woodard made a motion to approve the resolution, Demar Roberts seconded the motion, after roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously. Chairman Reilly called for approval of the minutes from February 28, 2020 meeting. Julie Ellis motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Demar Roberts seconded the motion, after roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously

Chairman Reilly called for agenda item III: Chair's Report

Chairman Reilly updated board on recent DMC activity.

Chairman Reilly called for agenda item VI: President's Report

Jennifer Oswald updated the board on DMC activity during this COVID-19 pandemic, regarding BSB activity and training and gave an update on the Downtown Mobility Authority board activity.

Penelope Huston presented an updated on the Marketing department's activity and communications to support the Downtown Community. The marketing department has been hosting online virtual community events. Brett Roler presented updates on the Downtown Business Continuity Forgivable Loan Program that was created to support existing Downtown Businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. The program has allocated \$260,000. to support Downtown businesses. 29 out of 46 are MWBE businesses.

Chairman Reilly called for agenda item IV: Financial Update

Penelope Springer presented the March financials report and asked board treasurer, John Pontius to give a brief overview of the budget review.

Chairman Reilly called for agenda item V: FY21 Budget Presentation

Before the presentation Jennifer Oswald explained the DMC budget process. Penelope Springer presented the FY21 DMC budget. John Pontius made a motion to accept the Budget as presented and Demar Roberts seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Chairman Reilly called for agenda item VII: New Business/ Adjournment

With no additional business, the meeting was adjourned.