



MINUTES OF THE DOWNTOWN MEMPHIS COMMISSION

Thursday, June 25, 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, John Pontius, Terry Woodard, John Zeanah (for Mayor Harris), Senator Raumesh Akbari, Mauricio Calvo, Julie Ellis, Cheyenne Johnson, Demar Roberts Williams Brack, Cheryl Pesce, Joann Massey (for Mayor Strickland), Commissioner Mickell Lowery, and Representative Barbara Cooper

Board Members Not Present: Benjamin Orgel and Elizabeth Low

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

Guests: Chris Hearn, Irving Sandoval (DMC Intern), James Stokes, James North, Andre Gibson, Jacob Steimer and a Member of the Public

Deni Reilly determined that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM. Christine Taylor called roll for board members, staff and attending guest. After reviewing meeting protocols, Chairman Reilly called for approval of the minutes from April 24, 2020 meeting. Cheryl Pesce 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 several DMC activities including BSB patrol update, upcoming Diversity meeting and Downtown master plan update.

Chairman Reilly called for agenda item IV: Financial Update

Penelope Springer presented DMC Financials and highlights.

Chairman Reilly called for agenda item V: Audit Committee Report

John Pontius presented an update on the Audit Committee meeting that was held on June 17, 2020. After reviewing RFP's the committee is recommending Banks Finely and White as DMC Auditors. Chris Hearn with Banks Finley and White is present to answer any questions. Cheyenne Johnson motioned to approve the committee's recommendation, Williams Brack seconded the motion, after roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Reilly called for agenda item VI: Bylaws

Chairman Reilly called for the review of board bylaws changes and updates. Cheryl Pesce motioned to approve the bylaw changes as presented, Demar Roberts seconded the motion, after roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously.

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

Jennifer Oswald updated board on affiliated board activity: The approval of the DMC budget, the new Outdoor Dining Policy, Downtown Master Plan and the upcoming Summer Celebration. Cheryl Pesche asked that DMC Open On Main participants be required to update store windows even if not currently open to customers. DMC staff stated that they would follow up with the participants

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

Chairman Reilly thanked DMC President, Jennifer Oswald for her great leadership during these trying times. With no additional business, the meeting was adjourned.