



**MINUTES OF THE DOWNTOWN MEMPHIS COMMISSION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Thursday, October 26, 2017

9:00 A.M.

114 North Main Street

Board Members Present: Chairman Carl Person, Mr. Rick Copeland (for Mayor Luttrell), Ms. Joann Massey (for Mayor Strickland), Mr. Bob Lundy, Ms. Julie Ellis, Ms. Deni Reilly, Ms. Terry Woodard, Mr. Benjamin Orgel, Mr. Demar Roberts, Representative Barbara Cooper and Ms. Cheryl Pesce

Board Members Not Present: Commissioner Van Turner, Councilman Edmund Ford, Senator Lee Harris, Mr. Mauricio Calvo and Mr. Michael Whaley

Staff Present: Ms. Jennifer Oswalt, Ms. Christine Taylor, Mr. Chris Porter, Mr. Jaske Goff, Ms. Ellery Ammons, Ms. Debra Streeter, Mr. Patrick Besseliere and Mr. Eleslie Walker

Guests: Mr. Ray Brown, Ms. Suzanne Carlson, Mr. Chooch Pickard, Mr. James Stokes and Mr. Wayne Risher

Call to Order

Chairman Person called the meeting to order at 9:04am.

Chairman Person called for agenda item II: Approval of September 28, 2017

Minutes

Ms. Reilly made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Orgel seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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

Chairman Person discussed the Diversity Meeting which was held the week prior to the DMC Board Meeting and mentioned the upcoming Strategic Planning Committee Meeting in December. He updated the board on the timeline for the search for the new DMC President. He also suggested that the same DMC officers be retained, Ms. Reilly, Ms. Woodard and Mr. Orgel, Ms. Ellis made a motion to approve them as the officers for 2017, Mr. Roberts seconded the motion, Ms. Massey abstained and all else agreed with the motion. Lastly, Chairman Person announced John Pontius would be serving as a new DMC board member replacing Mr. Lundy. He thanked Mr. Bob Lundy for his years on the board and that he hoped he would continue to stay involved with the DMC.

Chairman Person called for agenda item IV: Transportation & Mobility in Memphis

Suzanne Carlson, Transportation and Mobility Project Manager for Innovate Memphis, gave a presentation on transportation in Memphis and then continued the conversation through questions and answers with the board.

Chairman Person called for agenda item V: President's Report

President Oswald discussed upcoming events downtown the DMC was sponsoring and described how the DMC secured an option contract to purchase the property at 18 S. Main Street and issued an RFP to identify developers interested in purchasing and renovating this property. She also gave the financial report, and thanked the staff for all of their work.

Chairman Person called for agenda item VI: New Business/ Adjournment

With no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 am.