



MINUTES OF THE DOWNTOWN MEMPHIS COMMISSION

Thursday, July 23, 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, Benjamin Orgel, John Zeanah (for Mayor Harris), Mauricio Calvo, Cheyenne Johnson, Demar Roberts Williams Brack, Commissioner Mickell Lowery, Elizabeth Low and Representative Barbara Cooper

Board Members Not Present: Joann Massey (for Mayor Strickland), Terry Woodard, Julie Ellis, Cheryl Pesce, and Senator Raumesh Akbari

Staff Present: Jennifer Oswald, Christine Taylor, Brett Roler, Penelope Springer, Penelope Huston, Jaske Goff, Erik Stevenson, Katie Flynn, Abram Lueders, Debra Streeter, Elesie Walker, Liza Hubbard and Rosina

Guests: Irving Sandoval (DMC Intern), James Stokes, Rebecca Garcia and Doug Carpenter

Deni Reilly determined that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 9:02 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 June 25, 2020 meeting. John Zeanah motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Williams Brack 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 recognized brigadier Rosina Brown for going above and beyond her job duties as a brigadier by identify a missing person from a post she viewed on Facebook. She was giving a round of applause from board members and staff for her good work. IDA has announced that Brett Roler, Open on Main program has been selected for a Pinnacle Award in the Economic Development category of the IDA 2020 achievement awards. Pinnacle Awards are the highest level of recognition the IDA provides. Also, Penelope Huston has also been recognized by IDA for Best Practices in the place making category for marketing & events for the Central Bark Dog Park and the Big Birthday Bash events.

Chairman Reilly called for agenda item IV: Financial Update

Penelope Springer presented DMC Financial update.

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

Jennifer Oswalt updated board on affiliated board activity: Erik Stevenson will be our new EBO Specialist, shifting from the Development department to Operations. Brett gave a brief review on how the change relates to downtown's retail.

Jaske Goff update board on Garage Management transition. Premium Parking has been selected as our new parking garage managers. Premium Parking will manage multiply DMA managed garages. We are looking forward to working with Premium.

Penelope Springer updated board on EBO DMC intern Irving Sandoval is currently working on the EBO quarterly report, preparing for the upcoming Diversity Committee meeting scheduled for next week.

Penelope Huston presented the newly merge DMC website.

Jennifer Oswalt thank staff for all the hard work that is going on during this pandemic, especially Clint Burke and the Clean and Green team and also the BSB.

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

With no additional business, the meeting was adjourned.