

**DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT
FINANCE & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday April 28, 2021 – 4:00PM
ZOOM TELECONFERENCE**

Roll taken, Quorum present - Meeting was called to order at 4:06 pm

Members Present: Michele Craig, Leo Marsh, Jim Cook, Cleveland Spears

Members Absent: Carla Major, Chris Ross

Other Board Members Present: Gregory Curtis

Staff/Counsel Present: Richard McCall, Anthony Carter, Shantel McCormick, William Aaron, Ryan Bordenave, Leigh Ferguson, Devona Dolliole

Members of the Public: Andrew Sullivan, Councilwoman Kristin Palmer

Notice: The time, location, and agenda had been adequately and publicly noticed.

Call for Public Input Cards: Councilwoman Kristin Palmer

Action Items

- Approval of March 31, 2021 Joint Finance & Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
- Approval of March 2021 Financials
- Approval of Louisiana Audit Compliance Questionnaire

Approval of Meeting Minutes from March 31, 2021 – Action Item* - Chair Craig requested a motion to approve the March 31, 2021 meeting minutes; moved by Commissioner Cook; supported by Commissioner Marsh; motion carried unanimously.

Approval of March 2021 Financials – Action Item* - Anthony Carter presented the March financials to the Board. After a brief discussion, Chair Craig requested a motion to approve the March Financials; moved by Commissioner Marsh, supported by Commissioner Cook; motion carried unanimously.

Louisiana Audit Compliance Questionnaire – Action Item*- Anthony Carter presented to the Board that the Louisiana Compliance Questionnaire which is a requirement part of the financial audit of Louisiana state and local government agencies. After a brief discussion, Chair Craig requested a motion to present to the full Board at the next Board of Commissioners meeting. Moved by Commissioner Marsh, supported by Commissioner Cook; motion carried unanimously.

Update on Executive Search Committee RFP- Commissioner Curtis along with the assist of Anthony Carter informed the Board that 17 requests were received for the RFP with the deadline for proposal submissions set for May 4, 2021. As of yet no proposals have been received. Hoping to have the process of scoring and a follow up Executive Search Committee meeting within the next two weeks.

(Chair Craig had to leave due to another appointment and Commissioner Marsh took over leadership of the Meeting)

Project Updates – Richard McCall informed the Board on which he described was a successful Community Meeting that was held last week with 29 stakeholders that participated. The questions were targeted towards the dedicated bike lane issues and updates on the Charity development. He spoke on the survey that is hosted by the national downtown association to engage stakeholder interest as we move forward with recovery. Richard informed the Board on the press conference he held with Mayor Cantrell on the re-opening of Canal Street. Mr. McCall also reported a follow up on the DDD Infrastructure Plan. He informed the Board that he sent a response to the City requesting that we complete all the planning and evaluation work for all of the 19 blocks that was propose under the first 2 years agreement. It continues to be a major priority to the DDD to get these evaluations and projects done.

Old Business – N/A

New Business – N/A

Public Comments – Councilwoman Kristin Palmer discussed with the Board about the rising issues on the French Quarter side of the DDD from Canal Street to the middle of Iberville Street. Per Councilwoman Palmer, over a little of 900K a year of revenue for the DDD is derived from these 100 blocks. Councilwoman Palmer spoke on the rise of violence within the 100 block of Bourbon Street in addition to the 100 block of Royal Street and Exchange Place which is right of Canal Street. After a brief discussion, Councilwoman Palmer pleaded with the Board that the DDD would consider helping the businesses in those 100 blocks going into the French Quarter with funding for lighting and security initiatives.

Executive Session – N/A

Adjournment – Commissioner Marsh requested a motion to adjourn; but due to not having a quorum the Board ended the meeting agreeing to adjourn at the next meeting.

Chair Craig requested a motion to adjourn from the previous Finance & Executive meeting; moved by Commissioner Marsh, supported by Commissioner Cook. Motion carried unanimously.