

Downtown Development District Board of Commissioners Meeting
Ronald E. Gardner Board Room
Tuesday, March 5, 2024– 3:00 PM
In Person

Roll taken, Quorum present – Meeting called to order at 3:05 p.m.

Members Present: Gregory Curtis, Chris Ross, Carla Major, Edwin Murray, Alex Glaser, Leann Moses, Kristi Taglauer, Coleman Adler, William Bradshaw

Members Absent: Damon Burns,

Staff/Counsel Present: President & CEO Davon Barbour, Bianka Brown, CFO, Stuart Taylor, Christopher Kane, Legal Counsel Adams & Reese,

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

Call for Public Input Cards: Sandra Lombana Lindquist, President & CEO, New Orleans Chamber is in opposition of the proposed Senate Bill #364, which will remove the New Orleans Chamber from submitting nominees for the DDD Board of Commissioners.

Public Comments: N/A

In attendance:

Sandra Lombana Lindquist, President & CEO, New Orleans Chamber
Travis Martin, Manning, APC

Approval of Meeting Minutes from February 5, 2024, Board Meeting – Action Item*

Motion to approve by Vice-chair Major, second Commissioner Bradshaw. Motion carried.

Approval of RFP #2024-20-03 for Open Space & Parks Cultural Activation Plan – Action Item*

Captain LeJon Roberts attended with Lt. Travis Ward and Lt. Doucette. Captain Roberts spoke about:

- NOPD successful partnership with other agencies during Mardi Gras
- The ongoing deployment of officers and success of NOPD the deployment during special events
- There is an ongoing collaboration between NOPD and State Police
- Troop NOLA is set to begin in April

Walt Leger III, President & CEO, Kevin Ferguson of New Orleans & Co. He gave a presentation on Tourism Outlook for New Orleans. His presentation touched on the following:

- New Orleans & Co company and their mission, touched on their organizational chart and various departments. He also mentioned their their funding stream
- He touched on visitors' profile, the purpose of their travel and how they determine which city to visit:
 - Feeling of safety
 - Cleanliness
 - Value
 - Ease of getting from place

- He spoke of the goals of New Orleans & Co
- Upcoming 2024 Meetings & Conventions
- Project updates including Riverwalk, Moonwalk Park, Woldenberg Park, Ferry Terminal * Pedestrian Bridge, Spanish Plaza
- Superbowl 2025

Chair’s Report: Chair Curtis made the motion to add to the Agenda House Bill #498 and Senate Bill #364

Approval of RFP #2024-20-03 for Open Space & Parks Cultural Activation Plan – **Action Item***

Rene Pastorek, Chief of Economic Development recommended DDD accept the staff suggestion to approve the award of RFP #2024-20-03 for Open Space & Parks Cultural Activation Plan to Manning, APC. The project summary was sent to all board members via email. President & CEO Barbour once again thanked CM Harris for her assistance with a grant for this project.

Motion to approve Commissioner Bradshaw, seconded by Vice Chair Major. Motion Carried

President’s Report:

Super Bowl LIX – President & CEO Barbour was part of the delegation to Las Vegas for Super Bowl LIX hand over. President & CEO Barbour while in Las Vegas for this event also visited various Las Vegas City organizations:

- City of Las Vegas Economic Development Department
- Downtown Vegas alliance
- Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce
- Homeless Resource Center
- City of Las Vegas Workforce Development
- Downtown Developers

Additionally, President & CEO Barbour commented on the successful hosting of the ICSC-OAC event held at the Roosevelt Hotel. He also moderated a panel discussion featuring downtown businesses French Truck Coffee and Rubensteins.

President & CEO Barbour is invited to serve on the Security & City Services Advisory Committee for Super Bowl 2025

President & CEO Barbour presented at ULI emerging Trends in Real Estate 2024

The staff of the DDD is preparing for the State of Downtown Breakfast on Friday, March 22nd

Rene Pastorek, Chief of Economic Development spoke about the department’s various projects, infrastructure, the collaboration with the engineers regarding stormwater improvements, real estate, and development as well as business attraction, retention, and economic development expansion. Detailed report was sent via email to the Board of Commissioners.

DDD Chief Placemaking Officer, Hunter Hebert and Chief Marketing Officer, Ashley Mills presented video of the Mardi Gras clean-up. The video will be submitted to IDA for the 2024 Downtown Achievement

Awards. Detailed briefing reports for each department was sent via email to the Board of Commissioners.

Jarod Brossett touched on House Bill #498 and Senate Bill #364. His department's detailed report was sent via email to the Board of Commissioners.

The Board of Commissioners agreed to wait for more information on both House Bill #498 and Senate Bill #364 before coming to a decision.

Old Business: N/A

New Business: N/A

Executive Session: N/A

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Vice-Chair Major, seconded by Secretary Taglauer. Motion carried.