

Downtown Development District Board of Commissioners Meeting
Ronald E. Gardner Board Room
Tuesday, June 4, 2024– 3:00 PM
In Person

Roll taken, Quorum present – Meeting called to order at 3:04 p.m.

Members Present: Chair Gregory Curtis, Treasurer Chris Ross, Secretary Kristi Taglauer, Commissioner Alex Glaser, Commissioner Leann Moses, Commissioner Coleman Adler, Commissioner William Bradshaw, Commissioner Edwin Murray

Members Absent: Vice-Chair Carla Major, Commissioner Damon Burns

Staff/Counsel Present: President & CEO Davon Barbour, Bianka Brown, CFO, Christopher Kane, Legal Counsel Adams & Reese, (via zoom) and Erika Sensenbrenner, Adams & Reese

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

Call for Public Input Cards: N/A

Public Comments: N/A

Action Items:

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 7, 2024, Board Meeting – **Action Item***
2. Approval of 2023 Audit Report - **Action Item**
3. Approval of April 2024 Financial Reports – Action Item*
4. Approval of Executive Committee Officers- **Action Item***

Guests:

- Captain LeJon Roberts NOPD continues to prioritize violent crime, carjacking, and car break-ins. Violent crimes are down five percent.
- Gilbert Montano City of New Orleans Chief Administrative Officer spoke briefly on the following:
 - The City of New Orleans has 400-500 projects in anticipation of the upcoming SuperBowl, lights, roads, and sidewalks e.g., the sidewalks being replaced in the 100 block of Carondelet, lighting on Canal Street, improvement of Poydras Street.
 - Quality of life and code enforcement.
 - Sanitation – replacing big belly trash cans.
 - The city has 3-in-house crews working on the cleaning of catch basins.

Approval of Meeting Minutes from May 7, 2024, Board Meeting – Action Item*

Motion to approve by Secretary Taglauer, second Commissioner Moses. Motion carried.

Approval of 2023 Audit Report – Action Item*

Denis Muckelroy, CPA with Bruno & Tervalon, LLP presented a draft of the 2023 Financial Audit. DDD received a clean 2023 Financial Audit report. No findings, no compliance issues.

Motion to approve by the Finance Committee, second by Secretary Taglauer. Motion carried.

Approval of April 2024 Financial Reports – **Action Item***

- **Revenue:**
 - YTD totaled \$4,396,648, and the YTD budget totaled \$3,340,599, reflecting a positive variance of \$1,056,049. The revenue variance is attributed to the ongoing collection of Ad Valorem Taxes by the City of New Orleans.
- **Expenses:**
 - Overall Operating Expenses YTD totaled \$2,805,086. YTD's budget totaled \$3,823,493, which reflects a positive variance of \$1,018,407.

Motion to approve by the Finance Committee, seconded by Secretary Taglauer. Motion carried.

Chair’s Report:

Chair Curtis touched on the DDD accomplishments and impact on the community:

1. Public Safety
 - a. Installation of the Safety Camera Network in collaboration with the City of New Orleans Real Time Crime Center
 - b. Expanded private security.
 - c. Wisner funding for homeless outreach
2. Beautification
 - a. Graffiti removal.
 - b. DDD’s CEA with the City to fund code enforcement.
3. Infrastructure:
 - a. Fifty percent design completion of the downtown stormwater project
4. Economic Development
 - a. DDD had a successful production with two ICSC events.
 - b. DDD In partnership with the City and GNOF funded the BioDistrict Strategic Plan.
5. Intergovernmental Relationship
 - a. DDD rebuilt a working relationship with the City of New Orleans and the Louisiana State Government.
6. Open Spaces
 - a. Completed and the design and construction of Crown Park.

Approval of Executive Committee Officers- **Action Item***

- After extensive dialogue on both the process to nominate Executive Committee candidates and the DDD by-laws, the Commissioners decided it would be best to hold a Nominating Committee Meeting on Wednesday, June 12th and a Special Board Meeting on Tuesday, June 19th to discuss these matters.

President’s Report:

President & CEO commented on the following:

- President & CEO continues to attend Super Bowl coordination meetings in which discussions are held on Infrastructure and Beautification
- President & CEO touched on DDD’s visit to ICSC Las Vegas where the DDD team conducted meetings with retailers, lenders, developers, and brokers.
- met with brokers,
- Crown Park Dedication slated for Wednesday, July 3, 2024
- He introduced Mark Castillon, Chief of Public Safety and Security
- DDD continues to work to address illegal vending.

Old Business: N/A

New Business: N/A

Executive Session: N/A

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Secretary Taglauer, seconded by Commissioner Glaser. Motion carried.