



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Meeting of Monday, November 7, 2016

**MINUTES**

**Commissioners Present:**

Darryl Berger	Brian Furness	Jim Oliver
Steve Caputo	Duke LoCicero	Kimberly Rosenberg
Jeremy DeBlieux (lv 3:15)	Nicholas Musso	David Speights

Absent: Mia Matassa, Dennis Pearse, Robert Watters, Ted Young

**Committee Co-Chairs and Staff:**

Bob Simms, Security Task Force (STF)	Emily Remington, Executive Director
Gail Cavett, Infrastructure Committee	

**Guests<sup>1</sup> (Affiliation if listed)**

B. McGovern, French Quarter Business Association	Ryan Berni, City of New Orleans
Susan Guillot, French Quarter Citizens	Albin Guillot, French Quarter Citizens
Beverly Fulk, Resident, Security Task Force	Meg Lousteau, VCPORA
Alex Chasich, City of New Orleans	Mary Hemes, VCC Foundation

I. Call to Order, Roll Call, Introduction of Attendees

Chair Jim Oliver called the meeting to order at 2:06 pm. The agenda (Attachment 1) was noted and guests were asked to introduce themselves.

The Secretary called the roll and stated that a quorum was present.

II. Public Comment

Chair Jim reminded members of the public wishing to address particular items to record their interest on the sign-up sheet.

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<sup>1</sup> From sign-in sheets. Spelling is not guaranteed. Undecipherable names not included.

### III. Approval of September and October Minutes

Commissioner Rosenberg's motion (M1) to approve the September 12 and October 17, 2016 Minutes as submitted was approved unanimously. (Attachments 2 and 3, as approved).

### IV. Chairman's Comments

At Chair Oliver's request, Commissioner Rosenberg moved (M2) and the Board approved unanimously that the Agenda IX discussion of the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) and related matters be considered before taking up Agenda V Executive Director's Report.

IV.a Motion to approve emergency funding if need from the FQMD general operating account to the French Quarter Task Force account.

Chair Oliver informed that additional flexibility might be necessary to fund FQTF operations between Board meetings. Treasurer Deblieux stated that cash flow problems could arise; and that the FQMD operating account was substantially greater and with a larger margin. Commissioner Rosenberg clarified the possible need was only until the 2017 budget took effect. Mr. Deblieux stated that any funds transferred would be reimbursed, and his motion (M3) to approve funds not to exceed \$5,000 to cover any temporary shortage was approved unanimously.

### IX. Status of CEAs and related matters

Chair Oliver reminded that the City-FQMD-Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) CEA under consideration would support existing FQTF operations and one additional FQTF officer to provide daytime traffic and related operations. He also noted that the parties to the previous CEA had failed to live up to some CEA provisions, and the purpose of the renegotiation was primarily to ensure that CEA reflected what was actually being performed.

Deputy Mayor of External Relations Ryan Berni briefed the Board on City CEA perspectives and timing. He stated that the proposed CEA reflected the commitment that the FQTF would exclude the Bourbon Street entertainment district and would continue to focus on resident security. On timing, he indicated that the Administration would like to introduce the CEA at the November 17, 2016 City Council meeting so that the CEA could be approved in December.

With respect to proposals to include the Bourbon entertainment district within the FQTF mandate, Deputy Mayor Berni saw no problem with 4-hour Bourbon entertainment district walking patrols, provided there was enough money and that it was consistent with the commitment to the residents. Chair Oliver interjected that the FQMD did not foresee any available funds for a Bourbon Street walking patrol. Deputy Mayor Berni concurred with SEC Co-Chair Simms' observation that the Economic Development District (EDD) tax was approved with the understanding

provided that the Louisiana State Police would patrol the Bourbon Street entertainment district and the FQTF would do the rest, a point underlined by Commissioner Berger. Mr. Berni stated that the formal State Police mandate provided coverage for the entire FQMD service area, whereas the FQTF patrol coverage excludes the Bourbon Street entertainment district. Infrastructure Committee Co-Chair Cavett observed that FQTF patrols do cross Bourbon Street, and patrol Bourbon Street outside of the Bourbon Street entertainment district. Chair Oliver recalled that, per the SEC, no FQTF resources were to be diverted to patrolling Bourbon Street.

The duration of the agreement reflects the voter-approved commitment to fund the Louisiana State Police patrols of the Bourbon Street entertainment district and to the hotel voluntary lodging assessment. Deputy Mayor Berni stated that the proposed CEA term was needed to lock in multi-year funding.

Treasurer Deblieux stated that it was the City's responsibility to pay for supervisory services. Mr. Simms explained that NOPD SGT Rhodes provides the "extra" services paid by the FQTF because using multiple shift supervisors proved unwieldy and unsatisfactory, and that the function had to be performed by a police officer. Chair Oliver observed that if the FQTF is to pay, it should be reflected in the CEA.

Deputy Mayor Berni urged the FQMD to identify questions and issues, and that the parties would endeavor to arrive at an agreement within the next five (5) days.

Commissioner Rosenberg's motion (M4) that the mandate of the FQTF administrative services negotiating team be expanded to include negotiation of the CEA was approved unanimously.

#### V. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Emily Remington reported that, if the 2017 budget (See Agenda VIII) is approved, FQMD would be able to apply for funding. She further reported that French Quarter Advocates committed to donating all proceeds from its fund raiser to FQTF. She further reported on office closures during the holiday season, and solicited suggestions for improving the FQMD newsletter.

#### VI. Treasurer's Reports: September and October 2016

Treasurer Jeremy Deblieux presented the September and October, 2017 Treasurer's Reports (Attachments 4 and 5), noting that there had been no extraordinary expenses, but that Commissioners should note the amounts paid for insurance. Commissioner Furness' motion (M5) to approve the reports passed unanimously.

#### VII. FQMD Officers: 2017

There being no further nominations, Commissioner Rosenberg moved (M6) the election of the slate of 2017 officers presented at the September meeting (Jim Oliver, Chair; Mia

Matassa, Vice-Chair; Brian Furness, Secretary; and Jeremy DeBlieux, Treasurer). The motion was approved by acclamation.

#### VIII. Presentation of 2017 Budgets

ED Remington noted that the 2017 Budget reflected increases in office expenses (furniture and rent) and a increase in salary. Treasurer Deblieux stated the budget would require modification to account for \$3,000 in attorney fees paid in conjunction with the FQTF Administrator proposal negotiation. He opined that the budget would not require amendment. Commissioner Deblieux' motion (M7) to approve the budget as presented (Attachment 6, as approved) was approved unanimously.

#### IX. (See earlier)

#### X. Report from the RFP for French Quarter Task Force Administrative Services Negotiation Team

ED Remington reported that the negotiation team would meet on November 14, 2016. Commissioner Rosenberg reminded that comments on the draft CEA should be sent well before to permit discussion then.

#### XI. Report by Chairs, Infrastructure Committee

Co-Chair Gail Cavett presented the Committee's Report (Att. 7, to be furnished), which included 2016 accomplishments:

1. *Sidewalk Repairs*. Completed.
2. *Parking on Sidewalks*. Ms. Cavett stated that she and Ms. Rosenberg were working on draft ordinance language, which would be presented to the Board;
3. *Graffiti*. The French Quarter Business Association (FQBA) had much to show for its efforts;
4. *Rampart Street Streetcar*. Completion seemed likely to spur economic development; existing merchants reported that foot traffic was way up;
5. *Street light replacement and repair*. Improvements were much aided by the French Quarter Improvement Fund; and
6. *Oversize Vehicle Enforcement*. Ms. Cavett stressed she was continuing to work with the Security and Enforcement Committee.

Ms. Cavett reported that racks to promote bicycle sharing had not yet come to the Infrastructure Committee. Commissioner Musso noted that the Vieux Carre Commission had approved some sites. Commissioner Berger pointed to possible space on Conti. Ms. Rosenberg asked that the Executive Director work with Co-Chair Cavett to help determine appropriate locations and possible sponsorships.

#### XII. Report by Chairs, Security and Enforcement Committee

Co-Chair Bob Simms supplemented his submitted report (Att. 8 – to be submitted) with a review of FQTF October statistics.

He further reported positive feedback at FQTF operations expressed at the NOPD Community Engagement Night activities.

Documentation to support the FQTF Administrator (G4S) negotiations is being prepared, and includes the CEA, the Patrol Plan, and an "SOP" (Standard Operating Procedure).

Mr. Simms reported that the FQTF App changes will be available to figure in the FQTF Administrator (G4S) negotiations. Sidney Torres will license the App to the FQTF without charge, but wants to maintain an oversight role. Mr. Torres plans to donate the Smart Car patrol vehicles to the City.

XII. New Business

There was no new business brought before the Board.

XIII. Future Meetings: January 9, 2017

XIV. Adjournment

Adjournment was approved by acclamation (M8).

Respectfully submitted

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Brian R. Furness, Secretary

Annex 1: Motions approved at the Meeting of November 7, 2016

Annex 2: List of Attachments

## **ANNEX 1: Motions<sup>2</sup> – Meeting of November 7, 2016**

1. *Minutes (Agenda III)*. Kim Rosenberg: "...that the Minutes of the regular meeting of September 12 and the special meeting of October 17, 2016 be approved." Second: Speights. Approved unanimously.
2. *Agenda Change (Agenda IV)*. Kim Rosenberg: "... that Agenda IX be considered before Agenda IVa." Second: DeBlieux. Approved unanimously.
3. *Contingency Funding (Agenda IVa)*. Jeremy DeBlieux "...that the Executive Director has the authority, with the written approval of the Chair and the Treasurer, to temporarily transfer funds, not to exceed \$5,000 (five thousand), from the FQMD Operating Account to the FQTF Account." Second: Rosenberg. Approved unanimously.
4. *Negotiating Team mandate expanded (Agenda IXa)*. Kim Rosenberg: "...that the mandate of the FQTF Administrative Services Negotiation Team be expanded to include negotiation of the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement between the City of New Orleans and New Orleans Convention and Visitors Bureau and the French Quarter Management District." Second: Speights. Approved unanimously.
5. *Treasurer's Reports (Agenda IV)*. Brian Furness: "That the Treasurer's Reports for September and October, 2016 be approved." Second: Rosenberg. Approved unanimously.
6. *Election of Officers (Agenda VII)*. Kim Rosenberg: "...that the slate nominated at the September meeting (Chair: Jim Oliver; Vice-chair: Mia Matassa; Treasurer: Jeremy DeBlieux; Secretary: Brian Furness) be elected FQMD officers for 2017." Second: Caputo. Approved unanimously.
7. *2017 Budget (Agenda VIII)*. Jeremy DeBlieux: "...that the French Quarter Management District Budget for 2017 be approved as presented." Second: Rosenberg. Approved unanimously.
8. *Adjournment (Agenda XV)*. Kim Rosenberg: "...that the meeting be adjourned." Second: Musso. Approved by acclamation.

## **ANNEX 2: Attachments – Meeting of November 7, 2016**

1. Agenda — Meeting of November 7, 2016
2. Minutes — Meeting of September 12, 2016 (as approved)
3. Minutes — Special Meeting of October 17, 2016 (as approved)
4. Treasurer's Report-September 2016: Operating Account/FQTF Account/Bourbon Patrol
5. Treasurer's Report-October 2016: Operating Account/FQTF Account/Bourbon Patrol
6. FQMD 2017 Budget
7. Infrastructure Committee Report at the November 7, 2016 Meeting
8. Security and Enforcement Committee Report at the November 7, 2016 Meeting

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<sup>2</sup> "Approved unanimously" means the Motion was approved by all Commissioners present.