



Monday, August 8, 2019; 3:00 to 5:00pm  
Bienville House Hotel  
320 Decatur Street, New Orleans 70130

## Board Meeting Minutes

### Commissioners Present:

Christian Pendleton  
David Bilbe  
Heidi Raines  
Steve Caputo (Lv. 3:15)

Susan Klein  
Jeremy DeBlieux (Lv. 3:30)  
David Speights

Kim Rosenberg  
Albin Guillot (Lv. 2:55)  
Robert Watters  
Matthew Emory

**Commissioners Absent:** Daniel Taylor ,

**Executive Director:** Emily Remington - absent

### Guests:

Beverly Faulks, FQMD SEC  
Gail Cavet, FQMD SEC  
Ann Kesler, FQ Business League

Bob Simms, FQMD FQTF  
Chris Young, FQ Business League

I CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL: INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES.

II PUBLIC COMMENT: It was announced all guests must sign in, and anyone wishing to comment on actionable items must indicate the item(s) on which s/he wishes to comment.

III APPROVAL of JULY 2019 MINUTES

- a. Ms. Klein noted typographical errors were corrected that did not alter the context of the minutes. Also, the reason for the Executive Session is now stated as “to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss the Interfor report...”.
- b. Mr. DeBlieux moved (**M1**) to “approve the July minutes with the typographical corrections and including the Interfor report as the reason for the Executive Session...”, seconded seconded by Ms. Rosenberg and unanimously approved.

V CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS

- a. Update on licensing agreement with SDT Productions LLC – Mr. Pendleton has not received the Security app proposal yet. Mr. Simms noted that Mr. Torres cannot give an accurate proposal amount if the requirements will change post-security study. It was noted there was a formal agreement to a cost of \$30,000.00. Ms. Raines volunteered to work out the technical details regarding this and to facilitate a functioning contract with SDT.

- b. Update on Executive Director search – The Personnel Advisory Team will review all the applications on Indeed. Ms. Raines has reviewed all the applicants and is rejecting non-qualifying ones. Currently, there are four or five candidates to interview. Mr. Watters believes the ad is too complex and should be reworked. It was suggested that local university political science students be sought out to assist during the transition. Mr. Emory and Ms. Raines shall work on this.
- c. Update on French Quarter Museum Association Contract- This will be finalized in September to resolve the reimbursable cost limit currently in place.
- d. Update on Interfor Security Study - The draft was received and shall be discussed in Executive Session.

- VI AMENDED ORDER OF AGENDA – Mr. DeBlieux moved (**M2**) to “change the order of the agenda to go into Executive Session...”, seconded by Mr. Caputto and unanimously approved.
- VII EXECUTIVE SESSION - Mr. Watters motioned (**M3**) to ”go into Executive Session to discuss security matters...”, seconded by Mr. Emory and unanimously approved at 2:15 p.m.
- VIII POST EXECUTIVE SESSION CONSIDERATIONS - The Regular Meeting reconvened by acclamation of the Board at 3:45 p.m. Ms. Klein motioned (**M4**) to “allow Mr. Pendleton to negotiate with Interfor to expand the research, and to provide more specific recommendations or actions to be taken...”, seconded by Mr. DeBlieux and unanimously approved.
- IX TEASURER’S REPORT – Mr. DeBlieux has reconciled all the financials from January through the end of June, and everything is in good order. He distributed the financials for the Operating and the Task Force accounts. All expenditures are acceptable. He noted comparing the budget versus the year-to-date (YTD) shows FQMD has spent 49% of the budgeted amount, so FQMD is on track with operating expenses. The same figure for the Task Force is 40%, which is also acceptable. The Balance Sheet for June gives best financial picture, listing \$284,000.00 for the Operating Account and \$275,000.00 for the Task Force. Ms. Rosenberg motioned (**M5**) that “the January – June financial reports be approved as submitted...”, seconded by Mr. Emory and unanimously approved.
- X SECURITY and ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE – discussed earlier in Section VII and VIII. Mr. Simms did note a recent order from Federal Judge Morgan as part of the Federal Consent Decree. Various security patrols including the Downtown Development District (DDD) and the French Quarter Task Force (FQTF) must now wear body cameras. The FQTF officers will be able to log in camera shots on their iPad which will result in some time savings. There are twelve body cams in the 8<sup>th</sup> District for the FQTF’s use. Mr. Pendleton requested that Mr. Simms give a ten-minute report on the crime stats in September to include sex crimes.
- IX FINANCE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – Ms. Raines noted Joshua Cox of the Mayor’s staff will attend the September Board Meeting to discuss the French Quarter Improvement Fund, along with a departmental team to discuss code enforcement and sanitation.
- X GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE – Ms. Klein stated that Mr. DeBlieux agreed to have the committee address 1) Removal of North Rampart Street as a designated truck route, 2) Rodent Control, and 3) Repeated flooding of North Rampart and its adjacent streets.

- XI LIVABILITY COMMITTEE – Deferred. The September meeting date will change.
- XII EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Deferred
- XIII NEW BUSINESS - **Governance Committee action with Livability Committee as needed.**
- a. North Rampart flooding – Ms. Klein requested, and Mr. Pendleton agreed that the subject of North Rampart Street flooding shall be addressed with DPW at the next meeting. North Rampart and its adjacent streets have flooded during all the past rain events, even if dry for Hurricane Katrina. She noted that sidewalk-grade businesses are flooding with each heavy rain and the drainage system should be checked at the storm drain location and beyond. Ms. Cavet noted that when the streetcar was put back onto North Rampart the natural gravitational drainage was altered and now the French Quarter side of the corridor is like a bowl with water being trapped. Ms. Klein also stated this problem is exacerbated because the amount of permeable surface has decreased and the storm water vaults were not increased in size, even though this request was made at public hearings pre-construction for the streetcar. DPW should be asked how they are holistically addressing the entire system will they use video diagnostic cables to determine any blockages past the storm drains. Mr. Pendleton noted following the meeting with DPW, this will be addressed for Board action.
  - b. North Rampart truck route removal – Ms. Klein stated that the North Rampart corridor is not a State highway and does not have the infrastructure of Canal, Elysian Fields and North Claiborne. This designation is a hold-over from when the French Quarter riverfront was more industrial. Removal of this designation will not prohibit delivery vehicles in the French Quarter, but it would prevent trucks that are using this corridor strictly as a pass-through.
  - c. Rodent Control – The City of New Orleans Health Depart shall be contacted to determine what may be done to mitigate this growing problem.
- XIV NEXT MEETING: September 9, 2019 *and to continue the second Monday of each month.*
- XV ADJOURNMENT – Ms. Klein motioned (**M6**) that “the meeting be adjourned...”, seconded by Mr. Emory and unanimously approved by acclamation at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Klein (signed original available)

Susan Klein, Secretary