



Tuesday, 21 January 2020

3:00 pm

Brennan's Restaurant

417 Royal Street

New Orleans

Government Affairs Committee Meeting Notes

Committee Members Present: Brittany McGovern, Gail Cavett, David Bilbe, Christian Pendleton, Jeremy DeBlieux,

Guests Present: Karley D. Frankic, Lee Tucker, Sherry Cannon

Committee Members Absent: Brian Furness, Juliet Laughlin, Kim Rosenberg, Frank Zumbo

- A. The meeting was called to order at 3:05 by Jeremy DeBlieux, chair of the committee
- B. Approval of September 2019 meeting notes: Brittney McGovern moved to approve the meeting notes from the September 2019 meeting, Christian Pendleton seconded the motion and the notes were approved unanimously.
- C. Discussion of Governmental Affairs Committee goals for 2020
Jeremy DeBlieux reviewed goals
 - a. Lobby state legislature: Jeremy DeBlieux's recommendations are all items come from the enabling legislation.
 - i. Would like to have FQMD monitor the City sanitation contractor. Would likely be a firm at this point and would report to FQMD ED. Would not have any powers, but would be tracking Empire to be able to report back to the City factually what is happening.
 - ii. Increased funds for sidewalk and street cleaning. Would then hand over to the Livability Committee after funding secured
 - iii. Additional SPPP funding
 1. Double the details
 2. Additional vehicles and vehicle maintenance
This is for additional vehicles and maintenance above what the Task Force has now
 3. Program management – likely to be a company, and not an individual at this time
 - iv. Quality of Life – not sure the City will dedicate the funds so want to assure there is funding in place for this need
Lee Tucker referred to a blue book that listed the Quality of Life laws that were enforced for these officers

The mission statement of the Government Affairs Committee:

This Committee shall liaison with local and state appointed and elected officials on matters important to fulfilling FQMD's mission and goals, providing (1) assistance and advice on Government affairs to the Board of Commissioners and other FQMD committees, which committees shall remain responsible for the identification and fulfillment of projects and initiatives; and (2) working closely with other committees to ensure governmental efforts are not duplicated.

- b. Sunsetting CEAs
 - i. Renew CEA with New Orleans & Company Meeting with Stephen Perry 1/22.
 - ii. Renew CEA with City, New Orleans & Company and FQMD for \$1.2M for SPPP funding
 - 1. Will begin to tackle at the next meeting. Jeremy DeBlieux will bring copies for committee to review
 - iii. Renew FQMA
 - 1. Will work on later in the year. Christian Pendleton would like to work on this summer so can negotiate before the busy fall season
- c. Resolve civil service reenrollment requirements. Would like to hand off to Kim Rosenberg to take the lead because of her experience as an attorney and having worked with civil service previously.
 - i.

Juliet Laughlin said that she had a meeting with Lt. Gov. Nungesser that said that he had funding available on a one-time basis. If take this budget to Lt. Gov. Nungesser for this year as work on proposal to the legislature.

Need a white paper on the achievements and accomplishments of the last five years. Gail Cavett and Juliet started helping Karley Frankic put this information together last week. Gail Cavett said that Lt. Gov. wants to work with Juliet Laughlin works on this. Jeremy DeBlieux will assure that Juliet is involved all along the way. Christian Pendleton wants to increase the overall ask to give a buffer so there is room to negotiate. Therefore increase

+ \$200,000 for sidewalk and street cleaning

+ \$100,000 for vehicles for SPPP

Lee Tucker asked if planning on using lobbyists? Jeremy DeBlieux is planning to ask New Orleans & Company to have Walt Leger to provide guidance as to best next steps for lobbying.

David Bilble asked if FQMD ever asked for funding from the State? Gail Cavett responded no. Jeremy DeBlieux stated that the existing funding for FQMD came about because Darryl Berger as a founding member of FQMD and was active in the hospitality industry and identified the hotel assessment as funding. David Bilble reported 95% compliance with the hotel assessment by the member hotels and that the assessment is a 100% pass through to the City.

Next steps with the French Quarter Improvement Fund is for the City to take the budget to New Orleans & Company to be approved. Monthly, New Orleans & Company remits money into the account. The CEA does not say that New Orleans & Company to have final approval, it is nebulously written. The Government Affairs Committee will tackle that CEA in the next meeting.

- D. Christian Pendleton moved to adjourn the meeting, David Bilble seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:32

The next meeting of the Government Affairs Committee will be Thursday February 13th at 3:00 pm at Brennan's

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