



## Notes

### Finance & Development Committee Meeting

Monday, 4 May 2020  
4:10 to 5:10pm

Via Teleconference:  
<https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1492685068>  
 Meeting ID:  
 149 268 5068

Video:  
<https://meetings.ringcentral.com/personallink.html>  
 Audio:  
 +1 (469) 445 0100

A. CALL TO ORDER: ROLL CALL: INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES

FINANCE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE			
First Name	Last Name	Present	Absent
Jeremy	DeBlieux	X	
Matthew	Emory	X	
Sue	Klein	X	
Heidi	Raines	X	
Robert	Watters		X

GUESTS		
First Name	Last Name	Role
John	Foard	Accountant
Karley	Frankic	Executive Director
Gail	Cavett	Commissioner
Leslie	Alley	French Market Cor

- B. Public Comment: Anyone who wishes to comment on actionable items must sign announce their name for the recording and indicate the item(s) on which s/he wishes to comment.
- C. Approval of April 2020 meeting notes  
Ms. Klein moved to approve the meeting notes, and Mr. DeBlieux seconded the motion.
- D. Executive Director update
  - a. Contract Revenue received  
Received the February 2020 hotel assessment check from New Orleans & Company. This is the last check anticipated to be received from them.
  - b. French Quarter Improvement Fund (FQIF)  
Ms. Frankic reported that the FQIF ordinance was withdrawn by council and a new ordinance will need to be introduced and Cm. Palmer said she would not do so without buy in from French Quarter stakeholders. The City is entering into a CEA with French Market Corporation (FMC) to transfer security personnel from FMC to the City payroll and fin economies of scale with then being managed by New Orleans Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness (NOHSEP).

The French Quarter Management District is a state entity created by the Louisiana Legislature as a means for the residential and business communities to work together to protect, preserve, and maintain the world famous French Quarter as a safe, clean, vibrant and friendly neighborhood for residents, businesses, and visitors.



The City does not plan on propping up the FQMD-SPPP, but instead plans to replace it with NOHSEP Grounds Patrol officers starting in late fall with 3.5 officers 24/7 blue light patrol. Additionally, the City is seeing a significant funding shortfall from the FQEDD sales tax and does not expect \$1M from NO&Co. to pay for the Louisiana State Police and so the City is looking at how to continue that program. Mr. Emory asked for a copy of the City's request for COVID relief funds. Ms. Frankic said that she had spoken with Sen. Jimmy Harris about the State's request, but Mr. Emory could reach out to his contacts at the City for their request. Mr. Emory said that he would email a request from a call about the City's relief funds request to Joshua Cox at the City with Ms. Frankic and Ms. Raines to be included.

E. Discussion of 2021 budget

Ms. Frankic out together a proposed 2021 budget based on last year with 3% increase on most line items and including programming proposed by the Gov. Affairs Committee. The 2020 funding sources were swapped with proposed funding sources at the State level. Additional programming would include sanitation, quality of experience and infrastructure that furthers the legislative mandate of FQMD. The State has a couple of different pots of money to ask for funding, while they are looking at their own funding shortfalls, but there are opportunities to pursue at the State level. Mr. Emory stated that the proposed budget was too early as it is speculative and not funded. Ms. Klein suggested that it might be helpful when pursuing additional funding. Ms. Frankic noted that this budget was put together to recognize that there are additional goals in the FQMD mission beyond security. Mr. DeBlieux stressed the importance of supplemental sanitation service should meet infrastructure. Mr. Emory noted that sidewalk repair funds are recoverable from the property owner. Ms. Klein noted that utilities damage sidewalks all the time and don't repair. Mr. DeBlieux referenced the Opinion from City Attorney Sunny LeBouef that said that the ordinance does put the responsibility to fix the sidewalks on the adjacent property owner, but it is not enforceable. Ms. Frankic said that the line item could be used as a revolving fund or grant program for sidewalk, facades, or vestibule lighting that improve infrastructure throughout the FQMD. Ms. Cavett noted that the ordinance is unenforceable because you would have to prove who did the damage and the residents did not create the problem and FQMD would be asking for trouble if they rolled out a revolving fund for sidewalk repair. Mr. Emory reported that he has spoken to several residents that said they would be willing to fix their sidewalks if there was a tax break. But even without a tax break, getting the sidewalk repaired at a better rate and that improvement could be paid out over time. This would be a voluntary program, and no one would be required to use a revolving fund loan. FQMD needs to be creative because there is not going to be enough money to go around. Ms. Raines asked



that the sidewalk repair revolving fund be sent to the Livability Cmte to be worked out. Ms. Frankic noted that she would put Infrastructure Programming on the agenda of the next committee meeting. Ms. Klein noted that the partnership with the City will be key to success to addressing issues. She asked for a worst-case scenario budget as well. Ms. Frankic will pull together a worst-case scenario budget.

Mr. Emory noted that in the bylaws FQMD was created post-Katrina because there was a need for economic oversight and management in Quarter as leading the recovery. And now that the hospitality will be one of the last sectors in the economy to recover from COVID. FQMD now more than ever needs to fight to allocate dollars and maintain the sales tax revenue that is being generated in the French Quarter – to ensure the French Quarter gets its fair share of investment with a good return to the tax payers.

Ms. Raines noted this a fundraising budget in preparation for 2021. Ms. Frankic noted that it is going to take a lot of leg work chase down all of the possible funding streams for budgeting for next year.

F. New Business

Mr. Foard and Ms. Frankic have gotten the annual audit rolling again after a pause for the COVID shutdown.

G. Next meeting

August 3<sup>rd</sup>, but can schedule as needed.

H. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:42