



Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

Monday, 14, September 2020

2:10 pm – 2:22 pm

Via Teleconference:

Video:

<https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/2047589217>

<https://meetings.ringcentral.com/personallink.html>

Audio:

Meeting ID: 204 758 9217

+1 (469) 445 0100

Commissioners Present:

Susan Klein
Heidi Raines
Steve Caputo
Robert Watters

Juliet Laughlin
Jeremy DeBlieux
Christian Pendleton
Frank Zumbo

Jane Cooper
Gail Cavett
Mamie Gasperecz
Matthew Emory

Commissioners Absent: David Bilbe

Executive Director: Karley Frankic

Guests:

Chris Young, FQBL
Bob Simms, FQTF
Brittany McGovern, FQBA
Capt. Caprera, NOPD 8th District
Chad Pellerin, FQC
Glade Bilbe, FQC, SEC

Stan Harris, LRA
Eric Smith, CNO, CAO, FQIF
Erin Holmes, VCPORA
Sherry Cannon, Gov. Affairs Comm.; VCPORA
Allison Cormier, District C-Off. Neighhod. Engage.
Bridget Neal, Lt. Gov. Office, FQ Special Projects

- I. CALL TO ORDER: ROLL CALL: INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES at 2:11 pm. Mr. Frankic read the Agenda as noticed.

- II. PUBLIC COMMENT: Mr. Pendleton noted anyone who wishes to comment on actionable items must announce their name for the recording and indicate the item(s) on which s/he wishes to comment. It was announced all signed in via the RingCentral teleconferencing application. Everyone was asked to mute their phone when not speaking, and do not speak over anyone. Also, to the best of our knowledge, FQMD is in full compliance of the Governor’s COVID-19 directive regarding teleconferencing as it applies to Louisiana Open Meetings Law.

CHANGE OF AGENDA: Since Hurricane Sally is approaching, Ms. Raines motioned (M1) to “shorten the agenda to discuss only the time-sensitive issue, agenda item VII. a., Recommendation to the Board regarding legal counsel of FQ EDD funding and its CEA negotiation, and to defer the remaining agenda items to a Monday September 21, 2020 Board Meeting...”, seconded by Mr. DeBlieux and unanimously approved.

III. APPROVAL OF JULY & AUGUST 2020 BOARD MINUTES – *Deferred*

IV. TREASURER’S REPORT: JULY & AUGUST

- a. Approval of financial reports – *Deferred*

V. CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS – *Deferred*

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT - *Deferred*

- a. Release of the Interfor International French Quarter Security Assessment
- b. Public Engagement on the French Quarter Economic Development District Stakeholder Priorities

VII. FINANCE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT: by Chairperson Raines

- a. Recommendation to the Board Regarding Legal Counsel – The FQ Economic Development District (EDD) Cooperative Endeavor Agreement (CEA) is time-sensitive. Three candidates for legal counsel, Sharonda Williams, James Stuckey and Richard Cortizas were proposed. Ms. Williams, a former City attorney represented FQMD with the first FQ EDD. The Committee recommends Ms. Williams with a budget capped at \$10,000.00 and for legal counsel to notify FQMD if a \$9,000.00 expenditure is reached.
- b. Discussion before motion vote - This shall be done within the timeframe necessary for this ballot issue. Mr. Raines noted the Committee and Ms. Frankic shall work with the City and stakeholders within FQMD to craft the content of the CEA. Then, it shall come back to the Board for final approval. Mr. Watters stated that counsel must be given clear direction. From his position, he would not want a new CEA crafted that would attack businesses on Bourbon Street. He pointed out that the current CEA was changed to prohibit nuisance sound enforcement and would like that carried forward. Mr. Simms recommended a power point presentation be made to show Ms. Williams the direction of CEA components that is desired. Mr. DeBlieux said he would work closely with Ms. Williams and Ms. Frankic on the CEA specifics for the Board approvals. Mr. Simms felt there should be some ground rules before initial work is begun. Responding to Ms. Cooper’s inquiry, Ms. Raines noted that the Committee agreed that a framework shall be established first before turning it over to the attorney. This shall be done over the next three weeks. Ms. Klein noted that in protecting business, the CEA should not be “dumbed-down” resulting in detrimental quality of life for hotels, restaurants, residents, and other businesses off Bourbon Street. She pointed out that the current FQIF (FQ Improvement Fund) CEA had been changed twice to remove enforcement funding which resulted in a request by Dr. Avegno of the CNO Health Department to be declined. She agreed the CEA language should not be used to “attack” any specific group, but to be crafted so that it is equitable to all the stakeholders involved. The CEA does limit how the funds are spent. Mr. DeBlieux stated that the “intent of the FQ EDD is to enter into an agreement between the City and the FQMD administer monies from the EDD Trust Fund, for the purposes of promoting public safety. Mr. Pendleton

noted that details must be worked out regarding public safety. Mr. DeBlieux stated the Government Affairs Committee meets next week.

- c. Ms. Raines motioned (M2) that “pursuant to the Finance and Development Committee’s recommendation, FQMD shall engage Ms. Sharonda Williams as FQ EDD CEA counsel, with a budget capped at \$10,000 to come from the General Operating account. Also, that notification will be provided if \$9,000 in fees are reached...”, Mr. DeBlieux seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

VIII. GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT: by Chairperson DeBlieux – *Deferred*

IX. LIVABILITY COMMITTEE REPORT by Chairperson Pendleton - *Deferred*

- a. Update on small cell tower installation by Mamie Gasperecz

X. SECURITY & ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT by Chairperson Emory - *Deferred*

- a. Report on Supplemental Police Patrol Program by Robert Simms
- b. Review of Supplemental Police Patrol Program deployment plan as per Board Motion on June 15, 2020

VII. DISCUSSION ON BOARD PARITY - *Deferred*

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

IX. NEXT MEETING: 21 September 2020

- X. ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Watters motioned at 2:22 pm (M3) that “the meeting be adjourned...”, seconded by Mr. DeBlieux and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Klein (signed original available)
Susan Klein, Secretary