



Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

Monday 12 September 2022

2:01 – 3:26 pm

Via Teleconference:

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

Video:

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

Audio:

Meeting ID: 204 758 9217

+1 (469) 445 0100

Commissioners Present: Christine Bondio, Jane Cooper (departed 3:15pm), Mamie Gasperecz (arrived 2:11pm), Sue Klein, Frank Zumbo, David Bilbe, Steve Caputo, Matthew Emory, Heidi Raines, Jack Rizzuto, Robert Simms

Commissioners Absent: Christian Pendleton

Executive Director: Karley Frankic

Coordinator: Shannon Muschalek

Guests: N/A

- I. **CALL TO ORDER: ROLL CALL: INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES** – Chair Heidi Raines called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm. Ms. Frankic read the Agenda as noticed and Ms. Klein called the roll.
- II. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** The Public Comment Policy can be found at <https://www.fqmd.org/public-comment-policy>. Written public comment may be submitted electronically via email to publiccomments@fqmd.org *There were no public comments received prior to the reading of the agenda.*
- III. **JULY 11, 2022 MEETING MINUTES:** Ms. Cooper motioned **(M1)** to “approve the July 11th, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes as corrected...”, seconded by Mr. Rizzuto and unanimously approved.
- IV. **SEPTEMBER 2022 TREASURER’S REPORT:** Mr. Zumbo presented the submitted Treasurer’s Report. Mr. Zumbo made note of the French Quarter Management District (FQMD) account receivable section reflecting two reports that are passed due; they will clear with the next checking cycle. He also noted that the patrol budget is \$200,000.00 over the budgeted amount due to the contract being extended past the initial three month period. A subsequent budget adjustment may be necessary moving forward. Ms. Klein motioned **(M2)** to “approve the June, 2022 Treasurer Reports as submitted...”, seconded by Mr. Emory, and unanimously approved. **ANNEX I**

V. BOARD CHAIR COMMENTS: Ms. Raines

- a. FQMD/French Quarter Economic Development District (FQEDD) Monthly Meetings - Ms. Raines reported that the Agreement Monitors met on August 15th, 2022 and discussed the following:
 - i. FQEDD Trust Fund - The trust fund is currently reflecting above \$1,000,000.00 in profit to include the subtracted \$326,000.00 that was erroneously placed in the account for online retail sales. Ms. Klein noted a portion of these sales may have been generated within the FQMD footprint and this should be reviewed, especially for future sales.
 - ii. This was an error made by a vendor and was subsequently removed from the trust fund.
 - iii. New Orleans Police Department (NOPD) - The NOPD reported that they have recently trained five more officers to take part in the Supplemental Police Patrol Program (SPPP). The SPPP reported a 42% fill rate for their obligated shifts; This can potentially be improved with moving to twelve-hour shifts.
 - iv. SPPP Application - Eric Smith from the City Analyst Office reported that they will release the SPPP application request for proposal (RFP) once they have received an update from New Orleans and Company about proposed vehicle procurement. He also reported that the NOPD has approved two more Ford Escape patrol vehicles for procurement utilizing French Quarter Improvement Fund (FQIF) funds.
 - v. Loiterer Letter - The NOPD has released an authorization letter to remove loiterers from Private property. This letter has been further disseminated to FQMD subscribers and released on Vieux Carre' Property Owners, Renters, and Associates (VCPORA), French Quarter Citizens (FQC) and French Quarter Business Association (FQBA) newsletters.
- b. FQEDD Mid-Year Budget Adjustment - Ms. Frankic advised the Board on the next steps in City Council for the approval process on the mid-year budget adjustment which could be at the next City Council public meeting. Mr. Simms suggested that FQMD avoid surveillance discussion.
 - i. Polarises - the cost of procurement on these vehicles has gone up about \$3,000 since they were originally added to the mid-year budget adjustment. The FQEDD Agreement Monitors have decided to move forward with purchasing one Polaris vehicle for the NOPD.
- c. FQEDD 2023 Budget Process - The 2023 budget will initially be discussed in the FQEDD Agreement Monitors Meetings. Information will then be passed to the Security and Enforcement Committee and the Finance and Development Committee. Ms. Raines invited all Commissioners to be present at these meetings and provide suggestions.
- d. Call for Commissioner Volunteers for 2023 Officer Nominations –Chairman Raines shall establish a Nominating Committee according to the FQMD bylaws over the next month to discuss who will be the 2023 FQMD Board of Commissioners officer nominees. Ms. Raines will provide the Board with a list of recommendations.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Ms. Frankic

- a. Quality of Life -
 - i. Lighting Survey - Lighting Assessment field work will be complete this week. The staff has taken on completing the field work to assure that it is completed for incorporation for assessing locations for new lighting and coordinating with the VCC location recommendations. Ms. Frankic thanked the Upper Quarter Patrol (UQP) for providing security to the volunteers and staff while doing the late-night walking survey. The field work is being collated for presentation by Dave Jorgensen of the Livability Committee and is planned to be completed by the end of the month.
 - ii. Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety - Members of the Livability Committee had a virtual meeting with the Department of Public Works (DPW) regarding the N. Rampart Street

improved pedestrian and bicycle safety committee goal for 2022. DPW is working on short term strategies for traffic calming that may be possible within this calendar year. I have connected Department of Public Works staff with Chief Administrative Office staff regarding the \$25,000 approved for the Department of Public Health for this project in the French Quarter Improvement Fund 2020 budget. City Analyst Office staff indicate that there are funds elsewhere allocated in the City budget that can assist with this initiative.

- iii. Greater Lafitte Corridor Extension Project - DPW is also working on a greater Lafitte Corridor extension project that incorporates planning a better connection between the terminus of the Greenway with the French Quarter, creating a safer means for bicyclists and pedestrians to navigate this busy intersection with vehicular traffic. This project will be going out for planning RFP in the next three months so physical work would not begin for probably a year. We will keep an eye on the project as it is outside of FQMD's boundaries but has a direct impact on the residents and workers that utilize the Greenway for both recreational and transportation access to the Quarter.
 - iv. 5-G Poles - Ms. Frankic reported that after supply chain and design approval delays, the small cell poles that were installed in light pole locations are now having the lighting fixtures installed on the Toro Blanco owned 5-G poles.
- b. Public Safety -
- i. Greater New Orleans Incorporated (GNO Inc.) NOLA Coalition Meetings -FQMD continues to participate in the GNO Inc. NOLA Coalition meetings which Ms. Frankic attends with Commissioner Bondio. The Coalition's membership has grown to 400 members and has over 125 youth services organizations registered. The NOLA Coalition has two planks to their platform: 1. Community Support for NOPD, defined as immediate, actionable tactics to reduce violence and improve public safety and quality-of-life, and 2. Investment in Youth Services, defined as significant and sustained business and philanthropic investment in proven community-based youth service organizations, to help them grow their impact and drive generational change. Ms. Frankic reports that she is seeing recommendations from the Coalition being adopted by both the City Administration and City Council. And over \$3M of the \$5.0M first-year goal for investment in youth services has been identified or secured.
 - ii. Infrastructure Collaboration - Toro Blanco has reached out to discuss additional capabilities for the infrastructure available with the small new cell pole installations, including co-location for the Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) crime cameras and license plate readers, as well as new technology for curb management, people counters, water monitoring, etc. Ms. Frankic has connected Toro Blanco with the RTCC and discussion has continued as to the approved RTCC vendors and integration with the fiber wired into the poles to assure reliable power and connectivity, capitalizing on the new infrastructure.
 - iii. FQMD.org - The FQMD website has been updated with a Public Safety page so visitors can find all of the programs, helpful links, and public meetings in one location

c. Meetings Attended -

7/12	GNO Inc. Business and Civic Coalition
7/12	NOPD 8 th District MAX
7/12	Toro Blanco Meeting
7/13	DDD/FQMD Coordination Meeting w/ Jane Cooper & Mamie Gasperecz
7/13	Committee for a Better New Orleans Webinar
7/14	Security & Enforcement Committee. Midmonth Check-in w/ Steve Caputo & Jane Cooper
7/14	New Orleans & Company Meeting with David Bilbe and Jane Cooper
7/18	FQEDD Agreement Monitor Meeting
7/18	FQMD Security & Enforcement Committee Meeting
7/19	Virtual meeting with Dept. of Health Staff re: sanitation
7/19	Livability Committee Midmonth Check-in Call w/ Mamie Gasperecz

7/19	NOPD 8 th District MAX
7/20	KQC Event planning meeting w/ Maddie Charleston
7/21	FQEDD Quarterly Briefing with Mamie Gasperez, Sue Klein, and Heidi Raines
7/21	Public Safety Services Scheduling meeting w/ Don Powers
7/21	Finance & Development Committee Check-In Meeting with Frank Zumbo & Heidi Raines
7/21	GNOHLA event
7/22	NOLA Coalition with Christine Bondio
7/22	Lighting Assessment field work with Livability Committee volunteers
7/22	Toro Blanco meeting re: opportunities for fiber based public safety technologies
7/26	NOPD 8 th District MAX
7/27	N.O. TV meeting re: graffiti and public messaging
8/1	KQC Event planning meeting w/ Maddie Charleston
8/1	Lighting Assessment assistance with Livability Committee volunteer
8/2	Security & Enforcement Committee Midmonth Check-in w/ Steve Caputo & Jane Cooper
8/2	NOPD 8 th District MAX
8/2	FQMD Finance & Development Committee Meeting
8/25	Livability Committee. Midmonth Check-in Call
8/15	FQEDD Agreement Monitor Meeting
8/15	FQMD Security & Enforcement Committee Meeting
8/16	NOPD 8 th District MAX
8/17	VCPOA Summer Soirée & 2022 Gala Reveal
8/18	FQMD KBS Sanitation Meeting w/ Jane Cooper & Heidi Raines
8/18	FQBA August 2022 Lunch Forum
8/18	KQC Planning Meeting w/ Livability Committee. & FQBA
8/18	NOLA Coalition with Christine Bondio
8/23	HNOC FQMA meeting w/ Mamie Gasperez & Maddie Charleston
8/25	Night Out Event Meeting
8/25	Lighting Survey field work with Jessica Dietz
8/29	Virtual meeting with Toro Balance re: fiber and cameras
8/30	Meeting with National Telecommunications and Information Administration re: Broadband access and issues
8/30	NOPD 8 th District MAX
9/1	Virtual meeting re: small cell & crime cameras with Toro Blanco and RTCC
9/1	Safer N. Rampart Street Concept virtual meeting with DPW and Livability Chairs.
9/1	NOLA Coalition with Christine Bondio
9/2	KQC Planning Meeting w/ Maddie Charleston
9/6	Virtual meeting with Toro Balance re: fiber and cameras
9/6	NOPD 8 th District MAX
9/6	FQMD Finance & Development Committee Meeting
9/7	DDD Coordination preparation call w/ Jane Cooper & Mamie Gasperez
9/7	FQMD Livability Committee Meeting
9/8	Security & Enforcement Committee Midmonth Check-in Call with Stephen Caputo & Jane Cooper
9/8	City Council Budget Committee presentation re: FQEDD 2022 Mid-Year Budget Adjustment
9/8	KQC Planning Meeting w/ Maddie Charleston

VII. SECURITY AND ENFORCEMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT - Ms. Cooper

Ms. Cooper reported that the projected tax collections for the year will be able to fund the SPPP and additional programs. Though the committee is still waiting on the mid-year budget adjustment to be finalized through a prolonged City Council process, Mr. Caputo reiterated that the funds are secured for the items proposed. Ms. Cooper reported that the Upper Quarter Patrol (UQP) continues to perform well, producing strong reports monthly. The UQP supervisor, Matthew Pincus, is very engaged with the Security and Enforcement Committee and reported that officers have generated a strong rapport with constituents of the French Quarter. Ms. Cooper reported that the committee is still waiting on an update from the City for the crash bollards on Bourbon Street and the light poles in Allstar Electric's yard. The committee will begin to work on the 2023 budget recommendations. Ms. Cooper announced that the Security and Enforcement Committee made a motion to approve Jessica Dietz for membership on the

committee. The motion passed and was brought forth to the board for approval. Ms. Cooper made a motion **(M3)** to “approve Jessica Dietz for Security and Enforcement Committee Membership...,” Mr. Caputo seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

VIII. FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT - Mr. Zumbo

Mr. Zumbo reported that the Finance and Development Committee will also be working on the 2023 budget in the next meeting on October 4th, 2022. The Committee is currently working on a system for administrative billing for the FQEDD. FQMD staff are currently utilizing a time keeping application, Harvest, to utilize as a back-up system and for accountability. FQMD staff are currently using this application for the committee to decipher a percentage of work agreement with the FQEDD. The Committee will look at the time staff has logged in the application over a three month period to determine a fair percentage of work to bill to the FQEDD. The committee is also working on a recording policy. Mr. Zumbo reported additional changes to the FQMD employee manual to include a policy on flex/compensation time, paid time off, paid holidays, and harassment training. A protocol for meeting agendas, notes, and minutes has been created to streamline correspondence between FQMD Commissioners, committee members, and staff. Mr. Zumbo asked the FQMD Board to consider a motion to adopt a procedure for meeting agendas, minutes, and notes protocol. Ms. Klein moved **(M4)** to “adopt the procedure for meeting agendas, minutes, and notes as presented ...,” Ms. Gasperecz seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. Mr. Zumbo also asked the Board to consider a motion to extend the cooperative endeavor agreement with the French Quarter Museum Association. Ms. Cooper motioned **(M5)** to “approve a third extension to the French Quarter Museum Association Cooperative Endeavor Agreement...,” seconded by Mr. Rizzuto and unanimously approved.

IX. LIVABILITY COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT - Ms. Gasperecz

- a. Sanitation - Ms. Gasperecz reported that the Livability Committee and FQMD staff continue to have meetings with the city sanitation contractor KBS/Empire. They are waiting on an update on several key point indices to further share with the FQMD Board. Ms. Gasperecz noted that “organic waste” has been added as a reporting option on 311 and reports indicate that response time to these calls is under thirty minutes.
- b. Lighting Survey - The committee has been working to complete the lighting survey and is committed to having the field work completed by September 18th, 2022. Mr. Jorgenson will then complete the data report by September 28th, 2022.
- c. Keep the Quarter Clean - Ms. Gasperecz reported that the Keep the Quarter Clean campaign has generated over \$12,000.00 in donations. The Young Leadership Council participated in a joint event for the Keep the Quarter Clean campaign with members of the Livability committee on August 7th, 2022. This event encouraged businesses to take a window decal and place it on their storefront to further promote the campaign and raise awareness. Ms. Gasperecz thanked the FQMD Commissioners who have been involved with the campaign, Gulf Coast Bank for providing additional window decals for this event, and Where Traveler for providing add space on their concierge map.
- d. Keep Louisiana Beautiful Affiliate Program - Ms. Muschalek informed the board of the next steps in becoming a Keep Louisiana Beautiful Affiliate group. This program will be headed by the Livability Committee and gives the Keep the Quarter Clean campaign more opportunities for grants. Keep Louisiana Beautiful has already donated 35,000 hotel rack cards to the Keep the Quarter Clean campaign which are ready for distribution to hoteliers throughout the French Quarter; the hotel rack cards are valued at \$3,500.
- e. Social Media - The committee has been looking into creating a social media presence and a potential newsletter for the Keep the Quarter Clean campaign. A detailed plan will need to be created in reference to FQMD bylaws.
- f. Flooding on North Rampart St. - Jessica Dandridge from the New Orleans Water Collaboration presented at the September 7th, 2022 Livability Committee meeting to educate members on the

issues the French Quarter faces with retaining water on its streets. After the meeting Ms. Dandridge was able to walk down North Rampart Street with Vice-Chair Holmes to make suggestions and assessments. This issue is now on the radar for further research and inclusion on the 2023 budget.

g. Homelessness - Approval from the City on two case managers is still pending.

X. NEW BUSINESS: To consider and take action upon any other matters that may properly come before the French Quarter Management District Board of Commissioners.

Mr. Simms asked the board to consider methods to lessen the burden on officers in the French Quarter and to improve public safety.

XI. NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING DATE: 10 October 2022 at the Historic New Orleans Collection.

XII. ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Rizzuto motioned **(M6)** to “adjourn the September Regular Meeting of the FQMD Commission at 3:26 p.m.”, seconded by Ms. Gasperecz and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
(signed original available)
Susan Klein, Secretary

ANNEX I – Treasurer Reports