

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TAKEN AT A
REGULAR MEETING ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2021.

Those present: Jim Keaty, Gus Rezende, Lisa Thomas, Ross Fontenot, Miles Matt, Michael Delcambre, and Gregory Walls

Those absent: None

DDA Staff present: Anita Begnaud, Rachel Holland, Hunter Hebert, and Amy Trahan

DLU Staff present: Jamie Hebert and Cali Comeaux

Others present: Carlee Alm-Labar, Kevin Blanchard, Sam Oliver, Matthew Thibodeaux, Brett Mellington, William Labar, and Glenn Lazard

The meeting was called to order by Walls.

Public comment process is attached to the end of the agenda for individuals wishing to address the Board on agenda items. Request to speak must be submitted prior to discussion of the item. Individuals are allowed three minutes for comments.

Administrative Approvals/Reports

December Financials - December Financials were presented for approval. Keaty motioned to approve as presented, Rezende seconded, all voted in favor.

January Regular Meeting Minutes - January Regular Meeting Minutes were presented for approval. Keaty motioned to approve as presented, Rezende seconded, all voted in favor.

January Special Meeting Minutes - January Special Meeting Minutes were presented for approval. Keaty motioned to approve as presented, Rezende seconded, all voted in favor.

Agenda – Keaty motioned to attach the February Meeting Agenda to the February minutes, Rezende seconded, all voted in favor.

Downtown EDD Administration

Blanchard presented his plans and Keaty motioned to adopt a resolution to urge the Downtown EDD board of directors to move forward with hiring LPTFA as Administrator, Miles seconded, all voted in favor during a roll call vote. Trahan read the resolution into the record as follows;

WHEREAS, the Lafayette Centre Development District d/b/a Downtown Development Authority, a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana (“Authority”), and the City of Lafayette, Louisiana (“City”) entered into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the Downtown Lafayette Economic Development District to undertake or cause to be undertaken the acquisition, design, development, and construction of various multi-phased projects designed to encourage economic development, eliminate blighted and vacant property, increase the number of hotel rooms available, generate revenues for infrastructure and other necessary capital expenditures, stimulate job creation by enhancing the feasibility of private sector projects that help to achieve the economic goals outlined in the Downtown Action Plan, and catalyze development in target areas where it might not otherwise be economically feasible, primarily

through focusing on projects in the areas of development, rehabilitation, infrastructure improvements, recreation, and beautification on property located within the City, for the benefit of and to enhance the quality of life of citizens of the City;

WHEREAS, the foregoing is expected to generate various economic benefits, as defined in the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, from the construction and development of various projects including, without limitation, public works and infrastructure improvements, increased employment, increase sales and use tax, hotel occupancy tax, and property tax revenues, and the enhancement of retail shopping alternatives in the Authority district to benefit citizens of the City;

WHEREAS, the mission and existence of the Authority includes accomplishment of the foregoing;

WHEREAS, the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement provides for and requires engagement of a person to fulfill administrative duties;

WHEREAS, as party to the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, the Authority recognizes and appreciates a present need for prompt engagement of an Administrator for performance of those duties and obligations set forth in the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement;

WHEREAS, the Authority anticipates that the Lafayette Public Trust Financing Authority (“LPTFA”) will introduce a proposal to the Downtown Lafayette Economic Development District Board for it to enter into an Administrative Services Agreement with the LPTFA for the latter to function in fulfillment of administration duties and obligations as set forth in the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement;

WHEREAS, the Authority finds that the proposed LPTFA Administrative Services Agreement satisfies the duties and obligations outlined to be administered in the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement and, further, that the missions, goals and spirits of the LPTFA and of the Authority are aligned.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Authority hereby requests that the Downtown Lafayette Economic Development District Board convene a formal meeting for purposes of engaging the LPTFA to function as Administrator of the Downtown Lafayette Economic Development District, to contract with the LPTFA for those purposes, and to instruct the LPTFA to begin such services with dispatch.

CEO Report

Begnaud noted that Buquet and Leblanc has been hired as the contractor for the Old Federal Courthouse development with a construction team from Full Construction. Begnaud noted that the APC is recommending moving forward with shifting funding source for Main Street from FHWA to FTA. Begnaud noted that the structural repair bid on the Buchanan Parking Garage is due on February 24th. Begnaud noted that LCG decided to not move forward with either RFP submitted for the Buchanan Redevelopment Site. Begnaud noted that LCG receive multiple bids for the Vermilion Parking Garage elevator and that all bids were under budget. Begnaud noted that the Downtown EDD sales taxes for the month of December were up by almost 20% from November collections. Begnaud further noted that almost \$200,000 have been collected to date. Begnaud noted that the Nightlife ordinances introduced at the January 19 City Council meeting did not receive a motion or second from City Council members, so it did not move forward.

Updates

Director of Planning - Holland noted that Agora is wrapping up Phase I which will be presented in the coming weeks. Holland noted that Agora's Phase II contract will be presented for approval at the next board meeting. Holland also noted that she hopes to release the 2021 Grant policy documents in the coming weeks.

Operations – Hebert noted graffiti continues to be a problem in the district as well as across the city. Hebert noted that he is working to remove the graffiti. Hebert further noted that he is working with LPD to find the person responsible for the graffiti.

LPD update – Not present

Council update – Councilman Glenn Lazard expressed his support of hiring LPTFA as the Administrator for the Downtown Economic Development District.

Other Business

Begnaud noted that she is aware of business disruptions by the downtown homeless population. Begnaud noted that she is working with Kim Boudreaux at Catholic Charities to address this issue. Discussions continued.

There was no further business and the meeting was adjourned.

G. Nightlife ordinances

H. Parking

8:05

Updates

Walls

A. Director of Development & Planning

B. Manager of Operations

C. Lafayette Police Department

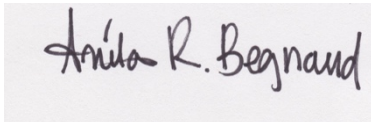
D. Councilmember(s)

8:30

Adjournment

Walls

Pursuant to Proclamation No. 30 JBE2020, Sect. 4 of the Executive Department of the State of Louisiana, 17 March, 2020, as amended, supplemented and extended, 26 March, 2020, I hereby certify that as a result of the current COVID-19 pandemic, the Downtown Development Authority is unable to operate due to physical quorum requirements. Therefore, the meeting requirement is changed for the meeting to be held on the 11th day of February, 2021 beginning at 7:30 a.m., to provide for attendance of board members, staff and the public via teleconference by use of the procedure outlined at the top of the agenda.



2/9/21

Anita R. Begnaud, Chief
Executive Officer

Date

ACCESSING DDA BOARD MEETINGS & PUBLIC COMMENT PROCEDURES

Join Zoom Meeting

Public Comment Procedures:

If you **DO NOT WISH TO SPEAK**, but wish to state your support for or opposition to an item:

- Submit your comments via email to amy@downtownlafayette.org
- You must email your request to speak prior to the calling of the agenda item to be recognized
- In your email message, you must include the agenda item, your name and your position (for or against)

If you **DO WISH TO SPEAK**:

- Public comments will be received via email to amy@downtownlafayette.org
- You must email your request to speak prior to the calling of the agenda item to be recognized
- In your email message, you must include the agenda item, your name and your position (for or against)

- Once the applicable agenda item is read during the meeting, you will be called to speak, in the order that your request was received
- The 3-minute rule will apply

Please be advised that while social distancing and other requirements are in place, some matters have been suspended to focus on essential business. While holding public meetings, safety guidelines will be implemented.