

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TAKEN AT A  
REGULAR MEETING ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021.

Those present: Denice Skinner, Gus Rezende, Gregory Walls, and Miles Matt

Those absent: Lisa Thomas, Eric Crozier, and Michael Delcambre

DDA staff present: Anita Begnaud, Amy Trahan, and Rachel Holland

DLU staff present: Haleigh Garcia

Others present: Pat Trahan, Andre Breaux, Kevin Blanchard, Sam Oliver, Matthew Thibodeaux,  
Kevin Blanchard, Brett Mellington, Cliff Guidry and Calen Guidry

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

July Financials – July Financials were presented for approval. Matt motioned to approve as presented, Rezende seconded, all voted in favor.

August Regular Meeting Minutes - August Regular Meeting Minutes were presented for approval. Skinner motioned to approve as presented, Matt seconded, all voted in favor.

August Special Meeting Minutes - August Special Meeting Minutes were presented for approval. Skinner motioned to approve as presented, Matt seconded, all voted in favor.

CEO Report

Begnaud noted that surveying continues on Main Street project. Begnaud noted that construction continues on Old Federal Courthouse development with completion still expected by year's end. Begnaud also noted the Buchanan Parking Garage Phase I construction, Vermilion Parking Garage repairs, and the renovation of the Opportunity Machine are all expected to be completed by the end of the year. Begnaud noted that July collections of the Downtown EDD were \$62,343 which is the highest month to-date. Begnaud noted that \$16,800,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) allocations for downtown infrastructure were approved for drainage, sidewalks, parc improvements, parking, safety, wayfinding, connectivity, lighting, and bollards. Discussions continued. Begnaud noted that Assessor Conrad Comeaux was not yet prepared to give the millage assessment revenue for the coming year yet. Begnaud noted that a special board meeting would need to be called before the end of September to vote on the millage rate for 2022. Begnaud noted Legend's Annex has applied for a Conditional Use Permit to convert the permit from a restaurant to a bar permit for the Annex location on Polk Street due to a shift in majority of sales from food to alcohol.

Updates

Director of Planning – Holland noted that the first Wayfinding totem was installed in Parc Sans Souci and encouraged all to check it out. Holland also noted that the response to the deployment

of the Park Mobile app in Downtown has largely been positive. Holland noted that the city plans to continue deployment of parking zone utilizing the app and phase out the parking meters. Holland noted that the Agora is reviewing parc lease rates and an agreement between Lafayette Consolidated Government, DDA, and DLU for management of the Downtown Parc network. Holland also noted the first weekend of the pilot of street closures on Jefferson Street during nightlife hours on Friday and Saturday nights occurred last week. Holland noted that the pilot will continue with weekly assessments and coordination with Lafayette Police Department on best practices. Discussions continued.

#### 716 Lafayette Towers

Guidry noted that commercial and residential interest in the new high-rise development was lower than expected. Guidry noted that he is pursuing one tower with a 120-bed hotel and restaurant at this time. Guidry noted that he is working on a feasibility study to determine room rates. Guidry noted that he would share his findings with the board once complete.

LPD update – Not present

Council update - Not present

#### Other Business

There was no further business, and the meeting was adjourned.