Minutes of the Downtown Improvement Board Regular Monthly Meeting

Tuesday November 8th, 2022 7:30 a.m.

Attendance

Michael Carro, Chairman, Jean Pierre N’Dione, Patti Sonnen, Nathan Holler, Claire Campbell, Greg Harding, Casey Jones, Ex Officio, Walker Wilson, Executive Director, and Emily Kopas, Chief Operating Officer.

1. Call to Order
   1. Michael Carro, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.
2. Recurring Agenda
   1. Ms. Carro confirmed the meeting was properly noticed.
   2. The proposed meeting agenda was motioned by Michael Carro, seconded by Patti Sonnen, and unanimously approved.
   3. The minutes of the regular meeting of the DIB held on October 25th, 2022 were motioned by Michael Carro, seconded by Nathan Holler, and unanimously approved.
   4. DIB October Financials were motioned by Michael Carro, seconded by Nathan Holler, and unanimously approved.
      * The audit is being finalized and will be presented at the next DIB Board meeting.
3. On-Going Business
   1. PPD Report
      * Chief indicated that PPD is working on accessing more cameras downtown. Additionally, PPD is looking into investing in technology to assist with their current operations.
      * PPD is still working to reduce panhandling.
   2. Spotless Report- No Report (Will report October and November on December 13th meeting)
   3. Marketing Report- No Report (Will report October and November on December 13th meeting)
   4. Palafox Market- Update on Holiday Market
      * Halloween Market was a success. Channel 3 came to the market as well as other media outlets.
      * The Holiday Market is full and will consist of one block between Garden and Chase street along Palafox Street.
      * Emily is organizing an events committee consisting of a few vendors to help bring new ideas for next years events.
   5. Executive Director Report
      * Foo Foo Fest is a success. A big thank you to all of the volunteers. Mayor Grover assisted with shutting down the street for the next two weeks.
      * Holiday Haul, FCLF, and All I Want Campaign start tomorrow. Blue Angel cop car and fire truck will take Grinch and Santa down Palafox Street to light up Downtown.
4. New Business
   1. City of Pensacola & DIB Discussion- Mayor-Elect Reeves
      * Plaza Ferdinand is under a very restrictive ordinance. Mayor-Elect Reeves is looking into the ordinance to activate the park. Plaza Ferdinand was originally utilized as a Spanish market.
      * Parking: Cleanliness of the Jefferson street garage does not meet downtown expectations. Spotless ambassador program has assisted with the cleanup but they are not being compensated for the extra time that is being put in. City does not take care of the garage on Saturday, Sunday or days when their employees are sick. Anything that is sidewalk, public right-of-way, surface lots, graffiti, etc was part of the original Spotless ambassador program. DIB requested $500 from the city to pay for the extra time that the Spotless ambassadors have to put in to clean up the Jefferson parking lot when the City is not able to. Premium parking is extremely strict, booting occurs often, enforcement is not backed by the City. Board requests that premium parking relax booting the first time someone violates the parking requirements in premium lots.
      * Hashtag Project: Since contractor prices are so high, the City aims to work curb to curb to activate the Hashtag Project. City is looking to potentially move some of the CRA money from the Hashtag Project to Bruce Beach so that the Bruch Beach project can be finished.
      * Affordable housing is a concern and definitely a problem that Mayor-Elect Reeves is working towards remedying in our city.
   2. Florida Power and Light Palafox Resurfacing Discussion- Eddie Dixon
      * FPL has plans to resurface areas in the downtown. This work will occur between Garden to Main along Palafox, Jefferson to Baylen along Romana, Intendencia, and Government. FPL is working with the City to brick all of the crosswalks so that the crosswalks do not fade and FPL can make easy repairs. FPL will tentatively begin roadwork during the 2nd week of January and the roadwork will occur at night. This project is approximately a 2-3 month process. Michael Carro asks to keep the visible blite to a minimum during the project. FPL would like to finish the project in the first quarter of the year. Jefferson will not be resurfaced.
   3. Puppy Pit Stop Maintenance Update
      * Mulch and liner went down so the park is in much better shape.
   4. Executive Director Annual Review Revisit- Claire Campbell requests that we revisit the discussion next meeting.
5. On–Hold
6. Public Comment
7. Adjournment: 9:27 am

**Next meeting – December 13th, 2022**