

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF FORT BEND

CITY OF RICHMOND

The Development Corporation of Richmond convened in a regular meeting open to the public and pursuant to notice thereof duly given in accordance with Section 501.072, Local Government Code, Vernon's Texas Codes, in Richmond City Hall Annex within said City on December 12, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Directors in attendance included the following:

President, Evalyn W. Moore Secretary, Verge Greenwood Robert Haas

Nancie Rain City Attorney – Gary Smith

City Secretary – Laura Scarlato

Vice President, Joe Bonham Treasurer, Carl Drozd - **Absent** William B. Morefield, III Terri Vela – City Manager

Cameron Goodman, Executive Director

President Moore opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. There was a quorum present.

Agenda item A2 was introduced for public comments. There were no individuals signed up to speak, therefore the agenda item was closed.

Agenda item 3 to review and consider taking action on the minutes of the regular meeting held on November 12, 2019. President Moore inquired as to if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes, there were no changes. Director Bonham made the motion to approve the minutes for the November 12th, 2019 meeting. Director Morefield seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to approve.

President Moore asked for a review of the Financial Reports through November 30, 2019. Director Carl Drozd, Treasurer was absent therefore Executive Director Goodman provided the update on the Finance Reports. The sales tax was approximately \$20,000 or 20% higher than budgeted. The report will be going back to a graph format. City Manager Terri Vela stated that Finance Director Justin Alderete will be present at the meeting in January to provide a tutorial of how to interpret the graphs. Director Goodman stated that due to Director Alderete's new investment policy, the DCR will benefit an additional approximately \$80,000.00 per year. No action was required for this agenda item, therefore it was closed.

President Moore introduced agenda item 5, review and consider taking action on the Signage Improvement Grant Program. Executive Director Goodman stated the program is the same as what was presented last

month however he now has the Scoring Criteria that Director Drozd requested for the different areas. In brief, the following criteria will be scored and given point values as provided in the policy:

Location on a main thoroughfare.

Number of non-conformation signs on the property.

Total size area in square inches of the non-conforming signs.

Located inside City Limits or in a Strategic Partnership Agreement Area.

Director Haas made the motion to approve the Signage Improvement Grant Program with Director Rain seconding the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve.

Agenda item 6, to review and consider taking action on the Downtown Improvement Grant Application for 214 Morton Street. The applicant would like to add a handrail, replace falling bricks and rotting wood. The estimated cost is \$55,600 with the grant being \$25,000. They would also like to add a balcony on the second floor and awnings on the windows. City Manager Terri Vela stated the applicant has gone through all the necessary steps as far as planning, permitting, and the Historic District. Director Robert Haas commented the Rosen's have also been, "very good stewards of the City". Director Haas made the motion to approve the Downtown Improvement Grant Application for 214 Morton Street with Director Morefield seconding the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve.

Agenda item 7, staff update on Strategic Marketing Plan. Executive Director Goodman presented the different elements of the plan. The plan is tied to the goals of the Richmond's Comprehensive Master Plan and the DCR's Strategic Plan and provides strategies and tools to achieve those goals. The marketing plan and an update of the next steps were provided. President Moore stated "This looks nice" regarding the Strategic Marketing Plan. Director Bonham inquired as to the status of the Wayside Horns with City Manager Vela stating the City received an agreement today. No action was necessary for this item, therefore it was closed.

President Moore announced agenda item 8, to review and consider taking action on approval of 2019 Annual Report. Executive Director Goodman reviewed the accomplishments for 2019 of the Development Corporation of Richmond.

House Bill 4347 LCG Global Project Property Acquisition Community Events

Hotel & Convention Center Feasibility Study

Mercy Goods

Jax & 7th Downtown Improvement Grant

Wayside Horns

Marketing Activities

Several community events that DCR has sponsored this year have been the Movies on Morton, The One Table Community Table Dinner, Manufacturing Day, Pecan Harvest Festival, Miracle on Morton Street and the Art Walk. The property acquired next to the fire station of .29 acres for additional downtown parking was also an accomplishment. Director Bonham made the motion to approve the 2019 Annual Report with Director Morefield seconding the motion. The vote was unanimous to approve.

Agenda item 9 to consider and take action on recommendations for future agenda items. There were no suggestions for future agenda items, therefore the item was closed.

President Moore announced the board would adjourn to Executive Session at 6:14 p.m., as authorized by Texas Government Code, Sections 551.087 Economic Development Negotiations.

The Board reconvened at 6:21 p.m.

There was no action taken during Executive Session.

There being no further business to come before the Development Corporation of Richmond, the meeting was adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

APPROVED:

Evalyn W. Moore, President

ATTEST:

Laura Scarlato, City Secretary