



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 March 18, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. Directors in attendance included the following:

President, Evalyn W. Moore	Vice President, Joe Bonham
Secretary, Verge Greenwood	Treasurer, Carl Drozd
Robert Haas	William B. Morefield, III
Nancie Rain	Terri Vela – City Manager
City Attorney – Gary Smith via teleconference	Cameron Goodman, Executive Director
City Secretary – Laura Scarlato	

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

Agenda item A2 was introduced for public comments.

- Zach Lambert ~ 1401 Georgina St. Rosenberg, Texas ~ Owner of Mercy Goods
Zach expressed his appreciation for Cameron Goodman to the Mayor and the Board for all that he has done for Mercy Goods, the City of Richmond and Downtown Richmond. Also, how much he appreciates the friendship of both Cameron and his wife Meredith. His family is very sad to see them leave but they wish them the best but they are thankful to have gotten to know them and to have had them in their lives and to have had Cameron in Richmond.

Agenda item 3 to review and consider taking action on the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 11, 2020. Director Bonham made the motion to approve the minutes for the February 11, 2020 meeting. Director Morefield seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to approve.

President Moore asked for a review of the Financial Reports through February 29, 2020. Director Carl Drozd, Treasurer deferred to Executive Director Cameron Goodman to provide the report. Sales Tax or revenue were 14% above what was reported in March, 2019. The expenses are within what has been budgeted. Due to the Covid-19 a dip in the sales tax is expected but there is a two month time lag in reporting therefore it will not be reflected until future months. There were no questions, the agenda item was closed.

Agenda item 5, to review and consider taking action on WFBMD Funding Request and Annual Report. The Director, Ellen Hughes for the West Fort Bend Management District was present to provide the board with the Annual Report and an update on the activities of the WFBMD and future goals.

- In the past, assisted with the Pecan Festival however, last year transitioned to the Historical Richmond Association.
- Since 2017 have been providing the mowing of FM 359 median.
- Provided the FM 762 landscaping pods – TxDot will maintain for two years at which time WFBMD has entered into an interlocal agreement with the County to maintain them.
- The Director has reduced hours to part time at 10 hours a month to reduce expenses.
- Assisted Keep Richmond Beautiful with the annual Shred Day event.

The WFBMD Board history was reviewed, the Vision Statement and that it has been governed jointly by Richmond and Rosenberg since its creation in 2005. Lane Ward has been a member of the board since the beginning which consists of five members. No action was taken on this item. President Moore complimented Director Hughes on her presentation.

Agenda item 6, to review and consider taking action on Downtown Mural Project. Director Goodman stated the project would entail placing a mural on the rear of the building of Mercy Goods facing Jackson Street. The location is favorable because of the nearness to Downtown, the upcoming farmers market and the visibility from Hwy 90 with approximately 32,000 cars passing by the location per day. Two examples of artists and their styles were provided to the board for review. One with a more abstract style with dynamic energy and the other with custom hand lettering creating an elegant mural. There were two price options of \$6000 and \$10,000 and the details of each. The mural would go through the approval process of the Richmond Historical Commission and then the City of Richmond Commission and would need to meet all of the criteria. It was also stated that St. John's Methodist Church who owns the building and the parking lot would need to approve the project as well. The responsibility of the long term maintenance of the mural was discussed. Director Morefield made the motion to approve funding for Option #2 in the amount of \$10,000 for the Downtown Mural Project. Director Bonham seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to approve.

President Moore introduced agenda item 7, to consider and take action on Richmond Podcast marketing sponsorship. Director Goodman introduced the agenda item of Born in the Bend Podcast hosted by Aimee Frederick of Blockhouse Coffee and Emily Scherer of The Guild. The two women currently host a show on Instagram called "Coffee with Em and Aim". The show has grown to include a substantial fan base and it is their desire to host a professionally edited and recorded podcast named "Born in the Bend". The podcast would promote the local spirit of the people in Richmond and the surrounding areas. The sponsorship project for four episodes is for \$2000 which would equate to \$500 per episode and would serve as seed funding to allow the Born in the Bend Podcast to be professionally recorded and edited in a studio. This is an affordable marketing tool to help spread the positive news about the community. Director Rain made the motion to approve the \$2,000 sponsorship of the Richmond Podcast for Born in the Bend. Director Morefield seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to approve.

Agenda item A8, to consider and take action on Downtown Improvement Grant application for 313 Morton Street. The establishment, Sandy McGee's is requesting a grant to improve the look of the outside of the

building with paint, fixtures, and signage. This will, in turn, improve the overall look of the Downtown Area. The preliminary cost estimate is \$35,000 with a request of an Improvement Grand for 50% not to exceed \$17,400 in matching funds. Director Bonham made the motion to approve the Downtown Improvement Grant application for 313 Morton Street with the condition of receiving quotes from contractors. Director Rain seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous to approve.

President Moore announced agenda item 9, to review and consider taking action on recommendations for future agenda items. There were none.

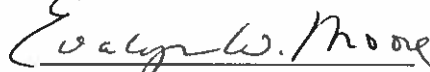
President Moore announced the board would adjourn to Executive Session at 6:31 p.m., as authorized by Texas Government Code, Sections 551.087 Economic Development Negotiations and Section 551.074, Personnel Matters.

The Board reconvened at 6:40 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 6:41 p.m.

APPROVED:


Evalyn W. Moore, President

ATTEST:



Laura Scarlato, City Secretary