



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 May 11, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. Directors in attendance included the following:

President, Joe Bonham
Secretary, Nancie Rain
Becky Haas
William B. Morefield, III
City Attorney, Gary Smith
City Secretary, Laura Scarlato

Vice President, Kit Jones
Treasurer, Terry Gaul
Verge Greenwood - **Absent**
Terri Vela, City Manager
Executive Director "ED", Jerry Jones

President Joe Bonham proceeded to call the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was broadcast via video conference call. All members of the public may participate in the meeting and via video conference call.

There was a quorum present.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag and Texas flag were recited.

Agenda item A3, was introduced for public comments. There were no individuals signed up to speak therefore the agenda item was closed.

Agenda item A4, to review and consider taking action on the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 13, 2021. President Bonham asked for changes or discussion regarding the minutes and there were no suggestions or changes. Director Becky Haas made the motion to approve the minutes for the April 13, 2021 meeting. Director Nancie Rain seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous to approve.

Agenda item A5, Review Financial Reports through April 30, 2021. Finance Director Justin Alderete stated the revenues for April totaled \$127,130 with a year-to-date total of \$1,107,714. Expenses for April totaled \$23,146 with a year-to-date total of \$1,186,351. There were no questions.

Agenda item A6, Receive update on 2021 Richmond's Economic Development Week. The online job fair, "Richmond Means Workforce" was held on May 10, 2021 and the totals were as follows:

- ❖ 133 applicants for Warehouse Associates for the Family Dollar Distribution
- ❖ 16 Caseworkers
- ❖ 10 Clerk III
- ❖ 4 Fairground Maintenance
- ❖ 3 Accounts Payable

The total was 166 job applicants. There were 350-400 reviews of the video. It was stated that two restaurants in the area have had to adjust hours due to staffing issues. ED Director Jones noted this is a national issue that is occurring, not just on the local level. It was stated that approximately 30 individuals attended the "Richmond Means Transportation" an Infrastructure Breakfast Meeting at Morton Lodge. Members of the Central Fort Bend Chamber, West Fort Bend Management District, TxDot, Staff and community leaders were all in attendance this morning. There was a very good exchange of information. ED Director Jones reminded everyone of the "Richmond Means Tourism" event to be held on Wednesday the 12th at The Moore Home at the Fort Bend Museum. Thursday will be "Richmond Means Business" which will be at the Long Acres Ranch with Tim Jeffcoat, District Director of Small Business Administration as the speaker. On Friday, the 14th, "Richmond Means Downtown" with a Boutique and Vendor Crawl. The events were advertised with the following, full page ad was printed in the Houston Chronicle, Fort Bend Herald, Fort Bend Star, and all social media outlets.

Agenda item A7. Review Update on Legislative Affairs from Marvin Marcell. ED Director Jones stated Mr. Marcell traveled back to Austin on Monday, and that the Senate Bill 10 and House Bill 479 had stalled out. In addition to HB 3097 another Bill related to the hotel/convention center funding extension was put forth that would give the City two more years. There were no questions.

Agenda item A8. Review and consider taking action on the request for funds from the Fort Bend History Association. ED Director Jones stated the funds requested would provide upgrades, fencing and other items to the McFarlane House located at the corner of 5th and Jackson Street. The funds requested total \$3,500. City Manager Terri Vela stated a budget amendment will need to be done during the budget process. Director Rain made the motion to approve \$3,500 in funds to the Fort Bend History Association. Director Kit Jones seconded the motion, and the vote was unanimous to approve.

Agenda item A9. Consider taking action on requests for future agenda items. Justin Alderete, Finance Director stated the upcoming Budget Process which takes two months. One month to review the revenues and one month to review the expenses. There were no questions, and the item was closed.

Agenda item A10. Excuse from Attendance at Regular DCR Meeting. There were no excuses to consider.

Agenda item A11. Report of activities of Economic Development Director. ED Director Jones

- ❖ The policy for funding small businesses has been amended to include the businesses who opened at the beginning of 2020 prior to the shut-down of Covid-19.
- ❖ Significantly increase the presence on Social Media with the expansion to Instagram and YouTube. In the last seven days the Development Corporation of Richmond has gained 207 followers.
- ❖ ED Jones met with Danny Nguyen who owns Danny Nguyen International and has 21+ years of making a positive impact in the surrounding areas including Houston.
- ❖ Economic Development Week was recognized in the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court with Betty Russo, Community Relations Specialist for the Governor of Texas in attendance.

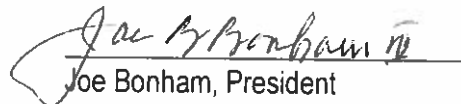
Director Kit Jones asked if there had been any interest shown in the Fire Station. City Manager Vela stated the deadline for the RFPs was last Friday. The relationship with Retail Coach will assist with getting the RFP out to developers. City Manager Vela stated the paint and windows had made an incredible difference to the properties. ED Director Jerry Jones also stated they are reviewing buildings that could possibly be added to the historical sites register.

President Bonham inquired about the quiet zones and wayside horns. Assistant City Manager Howard Christian stated the system will be installed in June and the project will be completed by August 2021.

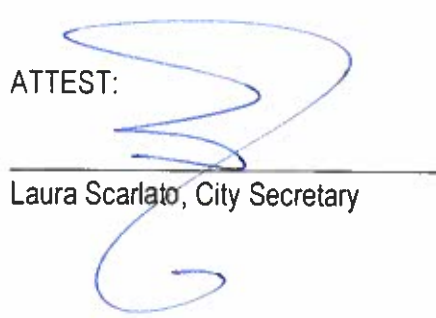
A meeting was held with Culture Arts to review what is necessary for a strategic plan and the application.

There being no further business to come before the Development Corporation of Richmond, President Bonham adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m. Director Rain made the motion with Director Haas seconding.

APPROVED:


Joe Bonham, President

ATTEST:



Laura Scarlato, City Secretary