



BATON ROUGE NORTH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Baton Rouge North Economic Development District

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Thursday, May 19, 2022

BREC Womack Building – 6201 Florida Blvd. Baton Rouge, LA 70806

ATTENDANCE:

Present:

Dr. James Gilmore, Chairman
Tasha Clark-Amar, Vice Chairperson
Brian LaFleur, Secretary
Myra Richardson, Board Member
Bill Pizzalotta, Board Member
Eugene Johnson, Board Member
Jessie Glasper, Board Member
April Hawthorne, Executive Director
Nikki Cammon, Program Manager
Melvin Davis, CPA
Nahshon Route, Attorney

Absent:

Dr. Jacqueline Mims, Board Member
Dezimon Barrow, Board Member
Stephanie Cargile, Board Member
Gary Chambers, Board Member
Dr. Leroy Davis, Board Member
Terra B. Williams, Board Member

I. Call to Order

Chairman Gilmore called meeting to order at 12:07p.m.

II. Opening Prayer

Prayer led by Glasper.

III. Roll Call

Board Secretary LaFleur. Six members present at start of meeting. Chairman on record acknowledged the arrival of Eugene Johnson at 12:10p.m. Seven members present; Quorum met.

IV. Public Comments

None.

V. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve by Clark-Amar. Seconded by Glasper. All members approved.

VI. Partners Report

- A. Presenter – Adam Knapp – President and CEO of Baton Rouge Area Chamber: Strategic Plan for Baton Rouge for the next five years. Posted to the website.
 1. Presented the focus and intentions of BRAC in the North Baton Rouge area.



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Focusing on economics, beautification, bolster out Talent Pipeline, diversifying the industry base, job opportunities, and creating a more inclusive economy. Through their strategic plan they have hired Ernst & Young to collect the data that is needed to for economic growth.

- B. Presenter - Lynn Maloney-Mujica, AICP, - NBR Reinvestment Program w/ HNTB infrastructure Solutions Firm
 - 2. Presented on the \$99 million to be invested in infrastructure, that will include Baton Rouge Rapid Transit to bridge travel in West and East Baton Rouge, major connects for cyclists and walkers to safely connect with transit system and meeting the community who does not have access to transportation where they are through community leaders

C. Financial Reports

- A. Financial report for the month of April. The Annual Budget was added to this report. CPA Davis explained the variants in totals for the year and the month. Variants can be amended at the end of the year.
 - 1. Motion to approve questionnaire by Richardson, seconded by Glasper.
 - 2. Atty Nahshon Route asked to about the Resolution that maybe needed for the Compliance questionnaire. Davis explained that one was not needed at this time.

D. Chairman Report – None

E. Executive Director Reports

- A. Alisha Douse - Labelles AFB Designs – 6518 Renoir Ave. Baton Rouge, LA 70814 – Motion to approve made by Chairman Gilmore, Seconded by Vice Chair Amar.
- B. Bradley Brown - KMT Holdings & Development LLC – 8428 Scotland Ave. Baton Rouge LA 70807 – Motion to approve made by Richardson, seconded by Pizzalota.
- C. Theodore "Ted" Major represented by Earlene Lewis – The Major Agency, LLC – 5467 N. Foster Dr. Baton Rouge, LA 70805 - Motion to approve by Amar, seconded by LaFleur
- D. Motion to approve all remaining applicants made by Glasper, seconded by LaFleur
- E. Seven FSIP Applicants and Updates
 - 1. Licia Baaheth - Lacy Baaheth, LLC dba Lacy Baaheth & Associates – 2226 Wooddale Blvd. Baton Rouge, LA 70806
 - 2. Alisha Douse - Labelles AFB Designs – 6518 Renoir Ave. Baton Rouge, LA 70814
 - 3. Bradley Brown - KMT Holdings & Development LLC – 8428 Scotland Ave. Baton Rouge LA 70807
 - 4. Keith Watson - Smokey Watson BBQ LLC – 9932 Greenwell Springs Rd. Baton Rouge, LA 70814
 - 5. Theodore "Ted" Major - The Major Agency, LLC – 5467 N. Foster Dr. Baton Rouge, LA 70805
 - 6. Labradford Sparrow – Kreole Kravings LLC – 8408 Scotland Ave, Baton Rouge, LA 70807
 - 7. Calandra Robinson – The Learning Tree Academy/Child Care Services – 2710 N. Foster Dr., Baton Rouge, LA 70805



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- F. Thirty-six North Baton Rouge businesses have been approved by Façade and Signage Program. 4 have been completed and paid out for this month. The program has closed at this time. We are working to ensure all applicants will complied to procedures to ensure that all work is done, and payments are made.
- G. Strategic Plan Revision Update – CCI/LED Assessment – Two board members have completed the survey. The goal is to have LED to come in and facilitate training for the strategic Plan. Financial disclosure reports were due on June 16th
- H. Strategic Planning Committee members: Amar, Richardson, LaFleur, Johnson and Gilmore as ex-officio.
- I. New Developments/Project Updates: Lunch & Learns
 - 1. Brownfield Redevelopment Lunch & learn – 21 constituents to register. Maggie Gleason presented
 - 2. Access to Capital Lunch & Learn – 37 constituents to register and 31 in attendance. B1 Foundation and TruFund presented.
- F. Old Business**
 - A. Bayou Kitchen Pilot Program Contract - Motion to remove this item from the agenda; deferred to June meeting. Motion made by Richardson, seconded by Glasper.
- G. New Business**
 - B. Received funding \$150,000 Business Incubator
 - 1. Site Committee – Glasper, Johnson and Mims, found property 8050 Scenic Hwy, next to Nalls Atty Office. Government status does not allow us to buy for more than what the market value. Item added to the agenda that would give the Executive Director authority to negotiate appraisal cost that can be worked out in the next 30 days. A partial plan or two appraisals on what will be needed. Motion made by LaFleur, seconded by Pizzalota.
- B. Announcements – None**
- C. Motion to Adjourn by Amar, seconded by LaFleur at 1:45pm**