



BATON ROUGE NORTH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

Minutes of Regular Meeting
Thursday, September 5, 2019

ATTENDANCE: Dr. Jacqueline Mims, Brian LaFleur, Dr. James Gilmore, Andrea Cosey, Gary Chambers, Bill Pizzalota, Ronald Smith, Stephanie Cargile, Jessie Gasper, Terra Barrow, Dezmon Barrow, Anthony Pope, Dr. Leroy Davis

Present:

Pizzalota
LaFleur
Barrow, T.
Cargile
Chambers
Davis
Cosey
Smith

Absent:

Mims
Barrow, D.
Gilmore
Gasper
Pope

Staff:

Jerry W. Jones Jr.
Jasmine McClendon

- A. **Call to Order**
LaFleur called meeting to order at 6:13 p.m.
- B. **Roll Call**
Eight (8) members were present. Five (5) Absent. Quorum was met.
- C. **Opening Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance**
Prayer and Pledge was led by Smith.
- D. **Approval of Minutes**
Chambers motioned Davis seconded; approved unanimously
- E. **Public Comments (3) Minutes**

LaFleur motioned to suspend the rules for G.5a to be moved up agenda. Pizzalota seconded. Unanimously approved.

G.5a Building Selection and Procurement – Exxon Mobil Site

Exxon Mobil Management (EM) stated it's a great renovated space, trying to accommodate the community and bring in folks that are looking at expanding NBR & wanted a couple of community partners in space.

Also stated, there are things they can improve on; by having an EM lawyer and BRNEDD lawyer look at lease to see if it can be worked out.

EM was asked for clarity on the contract mentioning if a name change is made, we must ask permission. They responded by explaining from a logo standpoint if you're



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Minutes of Regular Meeting

Thursday, September 5, 2019

in the space (logos are displayed) and to change our name it would be a courtesy to EM that name is about to change if the logo is changed inside the space.

EM explained that the contract is a standard contract that is provided for any lease agreement within EM. Almost like a renter's type agreement.

EM expressed that a couple entities are interested (UREC & Exxon Mobil Retiree Group mentioned) and they have not landed on one or the other. Also, there would be a second tenant in the office space, but they have not landed on who that tenant will be. When asked when that decision will be made, they answered depending on what the District decides to do, would help us move forward with deciding.

When asked who controls the space and meeting space (large conference area); EM stated they are looking at scheduling going through an EM representative to manage logistics. They envision sending a calendar invite to book time on conference room.

Then in conversation, Jerry spoke about the possibility of getting interns and that he's concerned there's only 3 spots and if a team room could serve as the intern's space.

EM said the offices are large enough to house 2-3 people and are set up now for 2 people with dual monitors and ergonomic furniture. They can accommodate 2 but can be transformed to house 3. Also, team rooms can be booked automatically for hours/days needed until further notice.

Jerry mention to make note that lease at SU has already renewed.

A finalized draft of contract will be discussed between BRNEDD's attorney & EM's attorney.

It's a 6-month lease

Chambers motioned to explore the finality of the contract with our legal teams to move in, once we see a final contract.

(LaFleur modified) BRNEDD partner with EM to move in their space pending a review of contracts, terminology and execution at a later date within 20 days.

SECONDED BY DAVIS; 1 OBSTAIN, 0 OPPOSED, 6 APPROVED. MOTION PASSED.

F. Partner(s) Reports

- i. Geno McLaughlin, Community Engagement Coordinator, Build BR**
Geno came and presented to the board and solicited our support and assistance with getting feedback from community regarding the Plank



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Minutes of Regular Meeting
Thursday, September 5, 2019

Road Masterplan. Board members expressed favorable support but saw no need to take a vote.

ii. Donnie Miller, BRAC ITEP and Business Development

G. Committee Reports

i. Business Attraction/ Retention/ Expansion Committee

- a. Healthy Food and Retail Taskforce
- b. Retail Strategies
- c. CEA with the Mayor's office

Chambers motioned to approve Davis Seconded. Unanimously approved.

ii. Community Wellbeing/Revitalization Committee

- a. Façade and Signage Improvement Program (FSIP)

Chambers initially motioned to differ, then after discussion of program benefits LaFleur motioned to approve Smith seconded: Approved Unanimously.

iii. Education/ Workforce Development Committee

iv. Entrepreneurship/Small Business Innovation Committee

v. Strategic Planning Committee

- b. Legal Counsel RFQ: Chambers motion on amended, Davis Seconded. Unanimously approved.

vi. Executive Committee

vii. Special Committee

H. Review and Approval of Financial Reports

Chambers motioned to publish/adopt proposed budget for public inspection; Seconded by Davis. 6 approved, 1 abstained. Motion passed.

INSPECTION IS FOR 10 DAYS.

I. Executive Director Report

Baton Rouge Washington DC Mixer - \$2,500 Sponsorship; Chambers motioned to approve, No Second – Motion not passed.

J. New Business

K. Next Board Meeting Date/Time October 3, 2019 @ 6pm

There was a discussion regarding term limits for board officers, they expressed this should be put on agenda for board officer terms to go from 2 years to 1 year.

L. Adjournment Motioned by Gary and Seconded by Brian at 9:07 p.m.