Houma Restoration District

Board Meeting

June 6, 2023

Commissioners Present:

Noah Lirette Jason Underwood Kevin Champagne - absent

Daniel Babin Tom Hassell Sondra Corbitt

Nick Hebert Kevin Faulk - absent Bryan Bunn

Others Present:

Anne Picou Jason Bergeron Chris Pulaski

Michelle Neil, Attorney Cohen Guidry Jessica Domangue

Carl Lee Logan Jacobs Laura Hughes

Houma Police Dept: Sgt. Darryl Cunningham, Sgt. David Wagner, Lt. Byron Jackson, Keith Craft, and Capt. Bobbie O’Bryan

1. Meeting call to order: N. Lirette called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m.
2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance: N. Lirette led the board in the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Roll Call: Quorum was present.
4. Public to be Heard: Introduction - Logan Jacobs, TPCG’s intern, and Laura Hughes, Fleur De Lis Development Corporation.

T. Hassell entered the meeting at 11:18 a.m. N. Hebert and J. Underwood entered the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

1. J. Domangue addressed the board regarding the boardwalk repairs and additional funding needed to complete the project. Discussion: lighting project updates, funding of $ 60,000.00 is needed to complete the project, scope of work, ongoing maintenance, start date, Inter-Governmental Agreement draft vs. Cooperative Endeavor Agreement, board approval at July’s meeting, and contractors conducting the work. N. Lirette motioned to approve M. Neil to draft an IGA contract for the next meeting. Seconded by: J. Underwood. Motion passed.
2. Approval of Minutes: B. Bunn motioned to approve May’s minutes. Seconded by: S. Corbitt. Motion passed. N. Hebert motioned to approve May’s special meeting minutes. Seconded by: T. Hassell. Motion passed. A. Picou entered the meeting at 11:20 a.m., and J. Bergeron entered at 11:33 a.m.

New Business:

1. Budget Approval: N. Hebert provided an overview of the proposed budget. B. Bunn motioned to approve the calendar year budget. Seconded by: T. Hassell. Motion passed. Discussion: calendar vs. fiscal reporting, deposited funds overview, check order, and money market/ CD’s interest rates.
2. A & S Bayou Financial Services: N. Lirette provided an overview of the proposal for professional services. T. Hassell motioned to approve hiring A & S Financial Services at $ 700.00 monthly. Seconded by: B. Bunn. Motion passed. Discussion: scope of work, additional professional service proposals, cost comparison, and audit services.
3. Ethics Board opinion regarding non-profit CEA interactions: M. Neil provided an overview of the procedures for obtaining a formal governmental ethics board opinion, board resolution requirements, and research findings. S. Corbitt motioned to approve M. Neil to obtain a formal governmental ethics board. Seconded by: D. Babin. Motion passed.

Old Business:

1. Downtown Walkthrough Findings: N. Lirette provided an overview of the downtown walkthrough findings. Discussion: foot traffic, sidewalk safety issues, parish repair punch list, forwarding information to public works and risk management, lack of pedestrian crosswalks, streetscape improvement project, Bayou Arts Council crosswalk project, July’s CSRS presentation, handicap accessibility, forging a partnership with TARC for routine maintenance and upkeep, painting of electrical boxes, abandoned/dilapidated buildings, graffiti/tagging, DDC’s maintenance staff, marina/bridge maintenance, and signage.
2. Weyls Jewelry Sign: B. Bunn provided an update on the sign repairs. Discussion: refurbishing updates, LED lighting, sign owner discussion update, sign location, historical marker, historical facts,
3. Opelousas Ordinance Update: N. Lirette updated the ordinance and committee meeting members/date.
4. Sponsorship Program: M. Neil and N. Lirette will work on creating a sponsorship application.
5. Landry Furniture Building Update: N. Lirette provided an update: E. Eues will start assessing the building and parking lot.
6. Officer’s Reports: Reminder of yearly requirement training and financial disclosure, payables due, meeting attendance, and Chamber of Commerce’s parrot head party.
7. Downtown Safety: HPD provided a downtown safety update. Discussion: additional patrolling, SRO activity report, staging of an unmanned patrol vehicle, camera project in the courthouse square, flashing blue lights on the camera, and recent crime activity.
8. B. Bunn made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by: N. Hebert. Motion passed. The meeting ended at 12:26 p.m.

Chair: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_