

# MEETING MINUTES

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

November 18, 2016 | 8:30 AM | SDRA Office | 2203 Abercorn Street  
Chair Richard “Dicky” Mopper, Presiding

### Board Members Present:

John R. Bennett, Stephanie Bock, Theodora “T” L. Gongaware, Adam Kirk, Jerry Lominack, Marysue McCarthy, Richard “Dicky” Mopper, Dawn Morgan, Meg Albertson Pace, Connie Pinkerton, Stephen Plunk, Anne Roise, Victor Shernoff, Dorothy Strong, Milton Vazquez, Christine Wacta

### Board Members Absent:

Brad Baugh, Barbara Cortese, Tom Kohler, Stephen Palmer, Kris Patel, Henry “Hank” Reed II, Gina Smith, Beth Vantosh, Taylor Watts

### Quorum Present?

Yes

### Others Present:

Kevin Klinkenberg, Executive Director; Katherine Williams, Program Coordinator; Joan Clabbers, Administrative Assistant; Obaro Miller, Intern; Bim Sueb-Ai, Intern; Rob Hernandez, City Manager; Pete Shonka; Assistant City Manager; Liz Taschereau, City of Savannah Strategic Initiatives Manager; Manuel Dominguez, City of Savannah Economic Development Director

### I. Call to Order — Dicky Mopper

The Board of Directors meeting of Savannah Development and Renewal Authority was called to order at 8:30 AM on November 18, 2016 at 2203 Abercorn Street by Chair Mopper.

### II. Guest Presentation — City Manager Rob Hernandez & Strategic Initiatives Manager Liz Taschereau

Chair Mopper introduced and welcomed the meeting guests. City Manager Hernandez gave a brief overview of his background and his vision and priorities for Savannah moving forward. He outlined those priorities as being strategic; efficiency and consolidation, particularly in infrastructure; assessment and improvement of technology, outdated policies, and business processes; and overall excellence. He stated that he had created Ms. Taschereau’s position of Strategic Initiatives Manager within the City Manager’s office. He gave an overview of her experience and stated that she would lead the effort to establish a long-term vision and strategic direction for the City. Chair Mopper and Mr. Klinkenberg responded with an overview of SDRA and its functions and partnership with the City toward the planning, development, and promotion of greater downtown Savannah.

### III. Previous Minutes — Dicky Mopper

The minutes of the previous meeting were unanimously approved as presented.

### IV. Treasurer’s Report — Kevin Klinkenberg

Copies of the budget vs. actuals were enclosed. Mr. Klinkenberg spoke on behalf of Mr. Patel and stated that SDRA would receive its allocation for the third quarter in the coming days. He indicated that the Authority would be working diligently over the course of the rest of the year to complete the remaining deliverables of its contract with the City of Savannah.

### V. Board Applications — Dicky Mopper

Chair Mopper stated that SDRA had six vacancies and had received five applications for those



vacancies, two of which were submitted by Mr. Lominack and Mr. Reed respectively. Mr. Klinkenberg added that the appointments would likely not be made by City Council until January.

**VI. Election of Officers for 2017 — Dicky Mopper**

Chair Mopper stated that the Board Development Committee had created the following slate of Officers for 2017: Ms. Morgan as Chair, Mr. Bennett as Chair-Elect, Mr. Patel as Secretary/Treasurer, Ms. Roise as Director At-Large, and Ms. Vantosh as Director At-Large. He made a motion for the slate to be approved as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**VII. Board Retreat, December 9th — Dawn Morgan**

Chair-Elect Morgan asked that Board members attend the annual planning retreat, which would take place in the afternoon of Friday, December 9. She stated that the Board would discuss the Authority's strategic direction and priorities for the coming year and that the retreat would be followed by a social to take place at Ms. Wacta's residence.

**VIII. Programs Update — Katherine Williams**

Ms. Williams stated that the City had approved the improvements that SDRA had proposed to be made in Wells Park, specifically the construction of a Little Free Library and the painting of park amenities. She indicated that the Authority would hold an event on Saturday, December 3 to make those improvements and encouraged Board members to participate by volunteering, inviting others, and/or donating books for the library. Ms. Williams added that discussions regarding the Golden Broom Award would resume after the Board retreat.

**IX. Development Update — Kevin Klinkenberg**

Mr. Klinkenberg stated that SDRA had engaged with the project architect and preservation consultant for 2205 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard. He also indicated that the Development Committee had identified the Boxport site to comprise a second development plan to be submitted to the City of Savannah to fulfill that contract deliverable. Mr. Klinkenberg added that SDRA staff continued to work with the Community Planning & Development Department to reallocate the Facade Improvement Program funds, which would provide SDRA with a pool of capital to utilize for development.

**X. Committee Report Discussion Items — Kevin Klinkenberg**

Copies of the Committee Report were enclosed. Board members were given the opportunity to ask questions. Ms. Morgan asked that Board members review the Authority's current activities prior to the retreat and come prepared to discuss which tasks and projects they would like to lead.

**XI. Executive Director's Report Discussion Items — Kevin Klinkenberg**

Mr. Klinkenberg encouraged Board members to attend the public meeting regarding the Downtown Streetscape Initiative, which would take place on Monday, December 5.

**XII. Old Business — Dicky Mopper**

No old business.

**XIII. New Business — Dicky Mopper**

Chair-Elect Morgan thanked Chair Mopper and the Board members whose terms were set to expire for their service and contributions.

**XIV. Adjournment — Dicky Mopper**

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 AM | Minutes submitted by: Kris Patel