

MEETING MINUTES

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

April 19, 2017 | 8:30 AM | SDR A Office | 2203 Abercorn Street
Chair Dawn Morgan, Presiding

Board Members Present:

Brad Baugh, John R. Bennett, Barbara Cortese, Tom Kohler, Jerry Lominack, Marysue McCarthy, Dawn Morgan, Stephen Plunk, Kris Patel, Connie Pinkerton, Henry “Hank” Reed II, Milton Vazquez, Christine Wacta

Board Members Absent:

Theodora “T” L. Gongaware, Adam Kirk, Meg Albertson Pace, Stephen Palmer, Anne Roise, Dorothy Strong, Beth Vantosh

Quorum Present?

Yes.

Others Present:

Amy Brock, SDR A Marketing Consultant; Eric Curl, Savannah Morning News; Jennifer Deacon, SDR A Board Applicant; Dare Dukes, Deep Center Executive Director; Manuel Dominguez, City of Savannah (COS) Economic Development Director; Alderman Bill Durrence, District 2; Ellen Harris, Metropolitan Planning Commission (MPC); Kevin Klinkenberg, SDR A Executive Director; Daphne Williams, COS; Katherine Williams, SDR A Program Coordinator

I. Call to Order — Dawn Morgan

The Board of Directors meeting of Savannah Development and Renewal Authority was called to order at 8:35 AM on April 19, 2017 at 2203 Abercorn Street by Chair Morgan. Chair Morgan introduced and welcomed the meeting guests.

II. Guest Presentation — Dare Dukes, Deep Center

Mr. Dukes provided an overview of the Deep Center and its Block by Block program. He described the upcoming Block Party and presentation on which Deep and SDR A would collaborate to demonstrate the value of the program to community leaders and members. Ms. Williams asked for Board members to encourage City officials and other stakeholders to attend these events. Board members were given the opportunity to ask questions.

III. Previous Minutes — Dawn Morgan

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

IV. Treasurer’s Report — Kris Patel

Copies of the budget vs. actuals were enclosed. Mr. Patel indicated he had reviewed the financial and account statements for SDR A and that the Authority’s budget was on track for the year. He stated that SDR A was waiting on its disbursement for the first quarter from the City. Board members were given the opportunity to ask questions.

V. RFQ Submissions for Annual Audit — Katherine Williams

Ms. Williams stated that SDR A had distributed an RFQ for its annual audit and had received two responses. Copies of the proposals were enclosed. Ms. Williams indicated that the Executive Committee had voted to recommend that SDR A select KRT, Inc. to conduct its audit and that the Board would



also need to vote to approve the expense. Mr. Reed made a motion to approve the expense for KRT to complete the annual audit. The motion was seconded by Ms. McCarthy and passed unanimously.

VI. 2017 Contract & Quarterly Report — Kevin Klinkenberg & Katherine Williams

Mr. Klinkenberg stated that SDRA had finalized its contract with the City and had submitted its first-quarter report in the previous week. Copies of the contract deliverables were enclosed. Mr. Klinkenberg asked for Board members to review and track the deliverables throughout the year. Board members discussed the deliverables and expressed concern for those associated with SDRA pursuing revenue-generating development projects. Ms. Williams provided an overview of the first-quarter report and documentation submitted on April 15. Board members were given the opportunity to ask questions.

VII. Proposal for 2205/2207 MLK — Kevin Klinkenberg

Mr. Klinkenberg stated that staff had met with Habitat for Humanity and Historic Savannah Foundation to discuss potential partnership opportunities for the redevelopment of 2205 and 2207 Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard (MLK). He indicated that SDRA had continued to proceed with its initial plan to redevelop the property as a duplex. He noted the City Manager's opinion that SDRA should not be involved in the long-term management of a rental property. Mr. Klinkenberg proposed that SDRA consider all feasible options to redevelop the property moving forward, such as demolition and new construction, rehabilitation, and/or transfer of ownership. He noted that SDRA's contract with the City regarding the property stipulated that its redevelopment must be completed within two years.

VIII. Task Updates — Kevin Klinkenberg & Katherine Williams

Mr. Klinkenberg provided an overview of SDRA's proposal for incentivizing residential development downtown. He noted that SDRA was working with City staff to implement the recommended incentives included in the proposal. Board members discussed the need to follow up on the Authority's report regarding Whitaker and Drayton Streets. Mr. Klinkenberg indicated that the staff and Board were involved in the Mobility Advisory Committee (MAC) and were organizing an educational workshop on Complete Streets to take place in August 2017. He stated that the workshop would help to continue the discussion on traffic calming and the safety and mobility concerns relevant to Whitaker and Drayton Streets. Mr. Klinkenberg also suggested that SDRA establish a working group to review and plan for transportation issues across Savannah.

IX. Proposal for Master Planning — Kevin Klinkenberg

Copies of a map of greater downtown Savannah were enclosed. Mr. Klinkenberg stated that SDRA had been approached by a few different neighborhood groups with an interest in developing master plans for their respective areas. He indicated that SDRA had the capacity to oversee one master-planning process in partnership with a neighborhood in 2017. Mr. Klinkenberg suggested that SDRA ask each of the neighborhoods to submit a proposal to SDRA and that the Board review those proposals and make a determination at its subsequent meeting.

X. Board Volunteer Opportunities — Kevin Klinkenberg & Katherine Williams

Ms. Williams provided an overview of the SDRA Task Groups spreadsheet. Copies of the document were enclosed. Ms. Williams asked for Board members to review the spreadsheet and take ownership of initiatives of interest to them. She also noted specific upcoming events at which staff would like for Board members to volunteer. Board members discussed how to prioritize the tasks included in the spreadsheet. Chair Morgan scheduled a separate meeting to take place on April 24 for the Board and staff to reorganize the Authority's initiatives moving forward.



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XI. Old Business — Dawn Morgan

Chair Morgan asked for an update on City Council's review of the applications for appointment to the SDRA Board. Alderman Durrence responded that Board members whose terms had expired would continue to serve and that Council would fill the vacancies soon.

XII. New Business — Dawn Morgan

Mr. Klinkenberg stated that the City Manager had reached out to SDRA to ask for its assistance in the redesign of the street closure at East Broad and Broughton Streets. He indicated that SDRA would partner with the COS Traffic Engineering Department to make the area safer and more accessible to pedestrians and cyclists. He welcomed involvement from Board members in that effort.

XIII. Adjournment — Dawn Morgan

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 AM | Minutes submitted by: Katherine Williams

