LOGANVILLE
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Minutes

Regular Meeting

Thursday July 23, 2020, 6:00 pm

Anna Holbrook Building

Attendance:

Directors Present:
Branden Whitfield
Lee "Skip" Baliles
Wendy Boland
Rick Stepp
Tricia Elliot
Dana Russell
Michael Dermer

Guests Present:
Andrea Gray, Attorney
Melanie Long
Shane Short
Tom Carter
Penny Martin
Greg Peoples
Paul Smith

Directors Not Present: NA

Call to Order: Chairman Baliles called the meeting to order at 6:08pm.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance and Prayer**

Pledge led by Chairman Baliles and prayer led by Ms. Tricia Elliot.

2. **Approval of Last Meeting Minutes of June 25, 2020 and Treasurer's Report**

Minutes - The last LDA meeting was held on June 25, 2020. On a motion duly made by Ms. Wendy Boland, seconded by Mr. Branden Whitefield, and unanimously approved, the Minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report – Mr. Rick Stepp reported on the LDA's finances including three items for discussion. First, he reviewed the financial records and as of May 31st, the LDA's account balance was $41,444.15. Second, he reported that he is coordinating with Ms. Gray to complete the 2017 financial report for the Department of Community Affairs. On a motion duly made by Mr. Rick Stepp, seconded by Mr. Branden Whitfield and unanimously approved, Ms. Gray was authorized to complete the online report using records provided by Mr. Stepp. Third, Mr. Stepp presented an invoice from attorney Andrea Gray covering the period from October 2019 through July 2020 and totaling $714.00. He reviewed the charges, hourly rate, and discount provided. On a motion duly made by Mr. Rick Stepp, seconded by Mr. Dana Russell and unanimously approved, the invoice was approved for payment.

3. **Current Status of LDA Website**

Mr. Whitfield reported that he designed an LDA website using Weebly and that Ms. Gray uploaded the minutes and agendas from past meetings. He requested that each LDA member send him a photograph and biography to include on the website. The website will cost approximately $96 per year. On a motion duly made by Ms. Tricia Elliot, seconded by Mr. Mike Dermer, and unanimously approved, Mr. Whitfield was authorized to spend up to $200 per year to maintain the LDA weebly website.

4. **August web-based training from Carl Vinson Institute August 27th/mandatory training with costs of $250 each**

Ms. Gray distributed registration forms for the training and explained that training is required for all members. The training is virtual due to the ongoing pandemic. Six of the seven board members need training which costs a total of $1,250.00. On a motion duly made by Mr. Mike Dermer, seconded by Mr. Branden Whitfield, and unanimously approved, the Authority approved the expenditure of $1,250.00 for training.

5. **"Learn from the Best" featuring Shane Short – Executive Director of Walton County Development Authority**

Mr. Short discussed his experience with projects such as Facebook and Takeda and advised the Authority to set its vision based on the reasons why the City of Loganville created the LDA. Mr. Baliles stated that at one time the mission was to help develop the downtown, but the focus is now wider. Mr. Short recommended that the Authority work closely with the City to achieve their mutual goals and suggested that a group work session with a facilitator may be helpful. The key is to develop a vision and a plan. He noted that the Authority has many tools that allow it to help facilitate growth including issuance of bonds and tax abatements.

6. **Question and Answer Session**

The Authority members asked follow-up questions regarding bond liability, funding sources, availability of land, traffic implications and next steps. Mr. Short responded to the questions.

7. **Adjournment**

On a motion fully made by Ms. Wendy Boland, seconded by Mr. Mike Dermer, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:36pm.

Lee "Skip" Baliles, Chairman

~~Wendy Boland~~, Secretary
Dana Russell

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