

**Downtown Development Authority  
Board of Directors Meeting  
February 22, 2017**

**Present**

John Hubbard  
Logan Schroeder  
Keith Todaro  
Stanley Varner

**Absent**

Christine Bailey  
Lydia Jackson  
Terry Moore

**Staff**

Liz Swaine  
Janie Landry  
E.D. Stewart  
Lorenzo Lee  
Stacie Leng

**Others Present**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Logan Schroeder called the meeting to order at 3:36 pm.

**II. ROLL CALL**

E.D. Stewart called the roll. Members present were: John Hubbard, Logan Schroeder, Keith Todaro and Stanley Varner. Christine Bailey, Lydia Jackson, and Terry Moore were absent. Mr. Schroeder noted there was a quorum present.

**III. APPROVAL OF ABSENCES**

Christine Bailey had requested to be excused.

**John Hubbard made a motion to approve the absences of Christine Bailey, Lydia Jackson and Terry Moore. Stanley Varner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**IV. AMEND AGENDA**

Mr. Schroeder asked if there was a need to amend the agenda. There was not a reason to amend.

**V. WELCOME / PRESENTATIONS / INTRODUCTIONS**

Mr. Schroeder welcomed the board members and staff. No members of the public were present.

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Agenda Items)**

Mr. Schroeder asked if there were any public comments for agenda items. There were no public comments.

**VII. CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Minutes**

Mr. Schroeder asked for a review of the January 2017 minutes and for any amendments or revisions.

**John Hubbard made a motion to approve the January 2017 minutes as presented. Stanley Varner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

## **B. Financials**

Ms. Swaine asked the board to review the January 2017 financials. She noted that property tax revenue for the DDD has not yet been received from the city. The amount listed for the budget is the anticipated revenue DDA will receive. The payment shown relative to the Streetscape line item was for December 2016. Ms. Swaine noted that the auditors will make necessary adjustments during the audit. Streetscape and ShrevePark contracts with the city have not been received yet. Everything is as it should be otherwise and nothing out of the ordinary has occurred relative to the financials.

**John Hubbard made a motion to accept the January 2017 Financials as presented. Stanley Varner seconded the motion which passed unanimously.**

## **VIII. REPORTS**

### **A. Director's Report**

- 1. 401 Spring (Holly Hollenshead) & 517/519 Milam (Roland Touns)**
  - Roofs on these properties have caved in
  - Letters have been sent from Historic Preservation Commission ("HPC") asking owners to respond with plans to prevent demolition by neglect
  - Other impaired buildings include: Ogilvie Grocery, B'Nai Zion Temple, Uneeda Biscuit, Johnson Furniture (800 Blk. of Texas Ave.) and Arlington Hotel
- 2. Ogilvie Grocery Store (Collapsed bldg. at east gateway into downtown; Texas St. Bridge)**
  - City reports the property will not be up for purchase (adjudication period up) until June/July, 2017
  - If city pursues clear title on the building, it will take another 8 months
- 3. UNEEDA Biscuit Building – 711/715 Milam**
  - Roof leak has led to significant internal structural damage
  - Contract pending
- 4. Former Hamilton Apartments (Creswell Hotel) – 727 Milam**
  - Building is under contract
  - Possible apartments for medical residents
  - Meeting with proposed buyers on Friday
- 5. Old KCS Café – Louisiana & Lake**
  - Greg Solomon owns
  - Restaurant use anticipated; completion expected soon
- 6. The Standard – 509 Market**
  - Construction continues
- 7. Allen Building – 600 Texas St.**
  - Under construction: future home of SUSLA School of Nursing
- 8. Centerpoint Building – 525 Milam**
  - Under Contract/Closing Pending
  - Office Space/Apartments/Various Use
- 9. 719 Marshall**
  - Tours during Artwalk, March 1
- 10. 411 Block of Lake Street (Jeff Spikes)**
  - Definition Industries moving in; likely May
- 11. Sears Buildings – 600 block of Texas Street**
  - Continued strong interest

- Contract for second floor is expected to be signed soon

**12.Red River District**

- New business coming to former Hippie Baby Location: Louisiana Specialty Gifts

**13.Continued interest in Downtown**

- Trying to find buildings now for two large businesses

**OTHER KEY PROJECTS/ISSUES:**

- **Downtown Crime Reports**
  - Office Buildings are a recent target
  - Louisiana Tower – thief used a special tool to break into offices
- **I-49 Connector Series**
  - [www.strongtowns.org](http://www.strongtowns.org)
- **Downtown Shreveport Artwalk**
  - Wednesday, March 1, 5-8 pm
  - Agora Borealis, Food Truck Station, DDA Office, tours at 719 Marshall, Lee Hardware, Solomon Apts. Noble Savage.

**B. Parking Report**

Lorenzo Lee presented the parking report for January 2017. Coinage numbers are somewhat concerning, but not certain a downward trend will continue. Credit card revenue is average. Over 50% of the revenue is from credit card payments, which serves as justification for using methods to collect meter revenue via credit card either through Parking App or meters directly. Boot revenue is significantly high due to a single repeat offender. Despite Mr. Lee’s efforts to help the individual secure a monthly parking space, the man refuses to pay outstanding tickets opting to wait until his vehicle is booted and pay tickets/boot fees at that time.

**IX. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. UDC Update**

Ms. Swaine informed the board members of her communication with the MPC regarding the new language recommended for the UDC pertaining to the requirement of Historic Design Guidelines. The new language suggests design guidelines can be enacted if the historic district desires such. This would help the HPC return to the mission for which the Commission was initially created: education on why historic preservation is important, how to save historic buildings, and the targeting of owners who are allowing their properties to deteriorate.

**B. Parking App**

Park Mobile (DFW/Houston/NOLA) is the parking app company that staff is currently working with regarding a viable parking app for downtown. It is anticipated that the app will be ready to roll out by the end of April.

**C. Streetscape Truck**

Ms. Swaine informed the board that through a RFQ process, Ms. Landry found a 2017 Ford F-150 for \$24K and a 2017 Dodge Ram V8 for \$22K. The decision was made to acquire the Ford F-150, which was the second lowest quote. The primary factor in this decision was based on Ford’s reputation for reliability. The vehicle has been ordered and is expected in approximately 60 days. Another vehicle is now needed for ShrevePark Parking for patrol.

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Downtown Museums Status**

The City of Shreveport has signed a contract to take the Shreveport Water Works Museum back into ownership, and the Colonial Dames have also signed a contract to take the Spring Street Museum back into ownership. The City is requesting assistance from "Friends" groups. Spring Street Museum is now open on Saturdays and will be holding special events.

**B. Waddell A-Truss Bridge**

The A-Truss Bridge spanning Cross Bayou on the north side of downtown, built in 1890, is only one of two A-Truss bridges in the world. The other, located in Missouri, is now a pedestrian/bicycle bridge. A volunteer group primarily made up of engineers wishes to clean up the structure and rehabilitate it for use as a pedestrian bridge. A potential DOTD grant will help determine structural integrity, and the Levee board has volunteered to create and maintain trails connecting to the bridge. A meeting with NLCOG, regarding the grant, is scheduled for Friday, February 24.

**XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Schroeder asked if there were any announcements. There were none.

**XII. PUBLIC COMMENTS (NON-AGENDA ITEMS)**

There were no public comments on non-agenda items.

**XIII. ADJOURN**

**With no further business to address, John Hubbard made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Stanley Varner seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Schroeder adjourned the meeting at 4:27 pm.

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Stanley Varner, Secretary