

EAST END DISTRICT
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
May 23, 2019

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of the East End District (the "District" or "EED") met in regular session, open to the public, at 3211 Harrisburg, Houston, Texas, on Thursday, May 23, 2019, at 3:30 p.m. The roll was called for the members of the Board, to-wit:

Position 1	Ann Taylor	
Position 2	Blanca Blanco	
Position 3	Stephen Quezada	
Position 4	William McConnell	Chair
Position 5	Domenic Laurenzo	
Position 6	Joe Meppelink	Assistant Secretary
Position 7	Erin Dyer	
Position 8	Jose Valdez	
Position 9	Devin Licata	
Position 10	Rodrigo Tejada	Treasurer
Position 11	Taryn Sims	Secretary
Position 12	Dr. John Jacob	
Position 13	Craig Rohden	Vice Chair
Position 14	Marjorie Pena	
Position 15	Susan Sahwani-Garcia	

and all of the above were present except for Domenic Laurenzo, Erin Dyer, and Dr. John Jacob, thereby establishing a quorum.

Also present during all or part of the meeting were Veronica Chapa Gorczynski, the District's President; Martin Chavez, the District's Director of Constituent Services; Dan Joyce, the District's Director of Marketing & Communications; Roy Rodriguez, the District's Farmers' Market Manager; Justine Townsend of Your Part-Time Controller, LLC; Carl Sandin of Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins & Mott, LLP ("Perdue Brandon"); Libby Kennedy of Urban Harvest; Patrick Ezzell of Coastal Builders; Joel Cleveland and Olivia Galvan of Jeanne H. McDonald PC; and Sergeant Velasquez of Harris County Precinct 6 ("Precinct 6").

Item 1. Receive Public Comments in accordance with adopted procedures.

There was no public comment.

Item 2. Assessments. Receive report on collection of assessments and authorize appropriate action; report by Carl Sandin of Perdue Brandon Fielder Collins & Mott, LLP.

Mr. Sandin of Perdue Brandon presented the Delinquent Assessment Report. He also stated that he will be attending District meetings on a quarterly basis going forward. No action was necessary.

Ms. Justine Townsend, of Your-Part Time Controller, LLC, then presented the Assessment Report. She reported that the District's 2018 assessments were 93% collected as of April 30, 2019. No action was necessary.

Item 3. Appointment of Directors. Declare vacancies, if appropriate; appoint directors if appropriate.

This item was tabled.

Item 4. Appointment of Committee Members. Declare vacancies, if appropriate; and appoint directors to Committees if appropriate.

This item was tabled.

Item 5. Minutes. Approve minutes of previous Board meeting(s).

Blanca Blanco moved to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2019 Board meeting as amended to correct a typographical error. Marjorie Pena seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Cleveland then explained that Ms. Wimbush discovered that the June 28, 2018, minutes did not properly reflect the Board's approval of the District's 2018 Title VI Compliance Plan, required in connection with the District's receipt of federal grant funds. He then recommended that the Board approve amended minutes of the meeting held June 28, 2018, to reflect the Board's approval of such plan. Marjorie Pena moved to approve the minutes of the June 28, 2018, as amended. Blanca Blanco seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Item 6. Security Report. Receive a security report related to Precinct 6 Security contract.

Sergeant Tran of Precinct 6 reported on crime in the District. He also reported that Sergeant Velasquez is no longer with Precinct 6. No action was necessary.

At 3:39 p.m. Joe Meppelink entered the meeting.

Item 7. Financial Reports. Receive and approve the Treasurer's reports on revenues and expenditures, the investment report and the Finance Committee report, and authorize appropriate action.

Treasurer Rodrigo Tejada presented the financial report for April 2019 as well as the District's investment report for April 2019. After discussion, Devin Licata moved to approve the financial report for April 2019 and investment report for April 2019 as presented. Jose Valdez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 3:43 p.m. Susan Sahwani-Garcia entered the meeting.

At 3:46 p.m. Stephen Quezada entered the meeting.

Item 8. Review and Update Strategic Plan. Receive report and review the District's strategic plan published as part of the *East End 2017-2020 Economic Development Strategy*, and take action, as appropriate.

President Gorczynski then provided the Board with background on the District's *East End 2017-2020 Economic Development Strategy* ("EDS") and an update on the District's efforts to implement and complete the goals established in the EDS. She then reviewed a progress evaluation handout in connection with the EDS and encouraged additional review by the Board for discussion at the District's annual retreat. Discussion ensued regarding the progress made towards the goals established in the EDS and whether any of the goals should be revised. No action was necessary.

At 3:51 p.m. Ann Taylor entered the meeting.

Item 9. Review and Approve Participation Request from Urban Harvest. Receive request from Urban Harvest to consider participation in supporting the hiring of an Urban Garden Educator who will maintain a garden site, teach classes, and provide other programming on reclaimed right-of-way and take action, as appropriate.

President Gorczynski then introduced Ms. Libby Kennedy of Urban Harvest. Ms. Kennedy explained that Urban Harvest obtained funding through a grant from Green Mountain Energy Sun Club to establish a community garden and teaching space on approximately 5,000 square feet of right-of-way adjacent to Urban Harvest's headquarters located at 3302 Canal Street. Ms. Kennedy then presented a request for \$5,000 toward supporting an urban garden educator for one year to offer maintenance, teach classes, and reach out to the community to ensure the use of the repurposed right-of-way. Discussion ensued regarding access to the public, possible synergy between the project and the District's Farmers' Market, and available funding. In response to questions from the Board, Mr. Cleveland explained that the request from Urban Harvest would require a contract. After discussion, Susan Sahwani-Garcia moved to approve an agreement with Urban Harvest to support the hiring of an urban garden educator at a cost of \$5,000 for one year. Stephen Quezada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously, except for Devin Licata, who abstained.

Item 10. Review Request to Authorize Funding Toward Public Art Concept Plan for Roundabout. Review staff request to authorize funding no-to-exceed \$10,000 toward developing a concept plan to begin community process regarding potential art on the proposed navigation Roundabout.

President Gorczynski then provided the Board with background on the District's plan for public art in the Roundabout at Jensen and Navigation (the "Roundabout"). She then reviewed with the Board a proposal to consider authorizing her to engage a firm to prepare a concept plan for art at the Roundabout at a cost not-to-exceed \$10,000. President Gorczynski stated that the funding would provide for three community engagement meetings, preparation of the concept plan and analysis. After discussion, Stephen Quezada moved that the Board approve funding not-to-exceed \$10,000 toward the preparation of a concept plan for the Roundabout and authorize President Gorczynski to engage a firm regarding same. Joe Meppelink seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Item 11. Review and Approve Grant Participation with East End Foundation, Pat Jasper, and National Endowment for the Arts regarding Tejano Roots Cultural Project with National Endowment for the Arts. Approve City Initiative Grant from the Houston Arts Alliance in the amount of \$148,000 and authorize the President to execute agreement.

This item was tabled.

Item 12. President's Report – District Overview. Receive the President's report on the following District programs and authorize appropriate action:

a. Security and Public Safety:

1. Graffiti abatement program

Mr. Chavez reviewed the monthly graffiti report for the District. No action was necessary.

2. Law Enforcement Coordination Team meeting

Mr. Chavez provided an update from the monthly Law Enforcement Coordination Team meeting for the District. No action was necessary.

b. Visual and Infrastructure Improvements:

1. Right of way clean-up, litter pick-up, tire removal, dump site clean-up, and street lamp repair

Mr. Chavez presented a report for services performed by the District's litter, right of way and special projects crew. He also recognized Ann Taylor and her firm's donation of 12 live oak trees along Ernestine St and S. Lockwood Dr. No action was necessary.

2. Report on 5310 Sidewalk Grant

Mr. Ezzell provided an update on the status of the 5310 Sidewalk Grant. No action was necessary.

3. Report on Roundabout

Mr. Ezzell reported that the District's received seven proposals from its Request for Qualifications and that the Selection Committee will be scoring the proposals and interviewing the top three in order to present a recommendation at the District's June Board meeting. No action was necessary.

4. Report on Lockwood Garage

There was no report.

5. Report from UP CDC

Mr. Ezzell provided an update on the East End Maker Hub. He reported that the project should close in September 2019 and that leasing of the space is progressing well. He also reported that the project has been awarded a \$5,000,000 federal grant. No action was necessary.

6. Report on Farmers Market

Mr. Joyce reported on the activities and events associated with the Farmers' Market. No action was necessary

c. Marketing & Perception. Receive report on marketing activities.

Mr. Joyce reported on analytics regarding the District's social media platforms. He also presented regarding the District's outreach efforts during April 2019. No action was necessary.

d. East End Improvement Corporation. Receive report on marketing activities.

President Gorczynski announced that sponsorship opportunities for the 2019 East End Street Fest are available and that \$50,000 has already been committed in sponsorships.

Item 13. Executive Session, if Necessary. Convene executive session to discuss: (a) pending or contemplated litigation or to consult with the attorney in accordance with Section 551.071 of the Texas Government Code; (b) acquisition of real property in accordance with Section 551.072 of the Texas Government Code; (c) personnel matters in accordance with Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code; (d) to receive information from or question employees in accordance with Section 551.075 of the Texas Government Code; employees; (e) deployment of security personnel or devices or a security audit in accordance with Section 551.076 of the Texas Government Code; or (f) economic development negotiations or offers of financial incentives for economic development in accordance with Section 551.087 of the Texas Government Code.

There was no need for an Executive Session.

Item 14. Reconvene in Open Session. Reconvene in public session to consider authorizing District staff and consultants to take any action necessary with respect to (a) pending or contemplated litigation or attorney advice; (b) acquisition of real property; (c) personnel matters; (d) receiving information from or questioning employees; (e) economic development negotiations or offers of financial incentives; (f) deployment of security personnel or devices or a security audit; and (g) any other matters relative to any of these matters which was discussed in Executive Session.

Item 15. Adjourn.

There being no further business, the meeting was then adjourned at 5:08 p.m.





East End District