

EAST END DISTRICT
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
May 25, 2023

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 77003 on Thursday, May 25, 2023, at 3:30 p.m. The roll was called for the members of the Board, to-wit:

Position 1	Anna Deans	
Position 2	Blanca Blanco	Secretary
Position 3	Stephen Quezada	Chairman
Position 4	Ann Bacon	
Position 5	Roy Lira	
Position 6	Joe Meppelink	Assistant Treasurer
Position 7	Lani Baker	
Position 8	Jose Valdez	
Position 9	Erik Ibarra	
Position 10	Josue Perez	
Position 11	Taryn Sims	Assistant Secretary
Position 12	Elliot Barner	Vice Chair
Position 13	Chude Chike-Obi	
Position 14	Marjorie Peña	
Position 15	Victoria Macalino	

and all of the above were present except for Directors Deans and Bacon, thereby establishing a quorum.

Also present during all or part of the meeting were Veronica Chapa Gorczynski, the District’s President; Dan Joyce, the District’s Vice President; Eva Quiroz, the District’s Administrative Services Manager; Erick Retana, the District’s Director of Operations; Julian Garcia, the District’s Farmers’ Market Manager; Robert Ruiz the District’s Public Safety Coordinator; Sergeant Alvarado of Harris County Precinct 6 (“Precinct 6”); Justine Townsend and Jeannie Joe of Your Part-Time Controller, LLC; Patrick Ezzell of Coastal Builders (“CB”); Bryan Smart and Eva Chapa of Smartscaping; and Laura Davis and Ava Leigh Bryan (paralegal) of Sanford Kuhl Hagan Kugle Parker Kahn LLP.

Chairman Quezada called the meeting to order at 3:38 p.m.

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

Mr. Smart addressed the Board and stated that Smartscaping will be collecting litter in the City over the next four years.

Item 2. Consent Agenda

- a. **Assessments.** Receive report on collection of assessments and authorize appropriate action.
- b. **Minutes.** Approve minutes of previous Board meeting(s).

The Board considered approving the Consent Agenda. Director Meppelink moved to approve the Consent Agenda, as presented. Director Perez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Item 3. Financial Reports.

Ms. Townsend presented and reviewed the monthly Financial Reports for April 2023; and the District's investment report as of April 30, 2023 (the "Reports").

After discussion, Director Chike-Obi moved to approve the Reports, as presented. Director Blanco seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Item 4. Security Report.

Sergeant Alvarado reported on criminal activity in the District for the month of April 2023. No action was necessary. Mr. Joyce reviewed the creation of Civility Ordinance within certain corridors for an added layer of actionable violations. No action was necessary.

Item 5. Homelessness Report.

Mr. Ruiz reviewed report on security-related challenges with homeless population in the District. Mr. Ruiz stated is looking into options for addressing the issues, including (1) hiring a mental-health trained officer; (2) engaging SEARCH outreach; and (3) meeting with the City of Houston regarding enacting Civility Ordinances which will allow officers to talk to people loitering. He stated he will bring more information to the next meeting. No action was necessary.

Item 6. District Staff Insurance Purchase.

President Gorczynski presented and reviewed a proposal for the renewal of District staff health insurance with Blue Cross Blue Shield (BCBS) for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. She stated the total renewal will be approximately \$109,749.60 per year, which is within the budget of the District. She also stated that the Executive Committee has reviewed and approved this recommendation.

After discussion, Director Ibarra moved to approve the proposal from BCBS and purchase renewal of the employee health insurance for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. Director Peña seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Director Sims left the meeting at 4:33 p.m.

Item 7. Amendment to Handbook Regarding Prenatal, Paternal, Paternal, and Infant Wellness Policy.

Ms. Davis reviewed the Amendment to the Employee Handbook regarding Prenatal, Paternal, and Infant Wellness Policy. She stated the amendment adopts 160 hours of paid prenatal leave, a maximum of 320 hours of paid paternal leave, and a maximum of 40 hours of infant wellness

leave. Ms. Davis added that to only full-time employees who have been employed for at least 12 continuous months are eligible.

After discussion, Director Macalino moved to approve the amendment to the Employee Handbook regarding Prenatal, Paternal, and Infant Wellness Policy, including eligibility for such benefits, per event, and adding that Personal Leave will continue to accrue while on leave. Director Peña seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Item 8. Safe Streets for All (SS4) Grant Authorization for Submission.

The Board requested President Gorczynski to finalize action and concurred that the Board will ratify the action at the next Board meeting.

Item 9. Memorandum of Understanding – Safe Streets for All (SS4) Grant.

a. MOU with Traffic Injury Research Foundation.

The Board requested President Gorczynski to finalize action and concurred that the Board will ratify the action at the next Board meeting.

b. Other Partners.

The Board requested President Gorczynski to finalize action and concurred that the Board will ratify the action at the next Board meeting.

Item 10. Public Art and Maintenance of Art Installed on Navigation Street Bridge.

a. MOU.

The Board requested President Gorczynski to finalize action and concurred that the Board will ratify the action at the next Board meeting.

b. Amendment to Maintenance Agreement.

The Board requested President Gorczynski to finalize action and concurred that the Board will ratify the action at the next Board meeting.

Item 11. President's Report – District Overview.

Mr. Retana updated the Board on the graffiti abatement program and illegal dumping.

Mr. Joyce reviewed marketing outreach and efforts, and the East End Street Fest which took place on May 6, 2023.

Item 12. Executive Session, if Necessary.

The Board did not convene in Executive Session.

Item 13. Reconvene in Open Session.

The Board did not convene in Executive Session.

Item 14. Adjourn.

There being no further business, the meeting was then adjourned at 5:30 p.m.



Blanca Blanco

East End District