



GENTILLY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT BOARD MINUTES

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 7, 2023

1:00 P.M.

The meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the Gentilly Development District (GDD) was called to order by Chairman Joe Bouie at 1:00 p.m. He welcomed everyone to the teleconference.

Gretchen Bradford took the roll call of the Commissioners.

Members Present:

The following board members were present: Chairman Joe Bouie, Commissioners Pastor Aubrey Watson, Rep. Matthew Willard, Rep. Candance Newell and Councilmember Eugene Green. A quorum was established.

Others Present:

Gretchen Bradford, GDD Executive Director

Community Members: Nick Harris, Dr. Kim Rugan,

Old Business

Public Comments

Chairman Joe Bouie asked for change in agenda to moved public comments to the front. There were no Public Comments.

Approval of Jan 30 2022 Minutes

Chairman Joe Bouie

Chairman Bouie asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes from the last meeting in August. He asked for a motion to approve the Minutes.

Councilmember Willard made the motion to approve and Commissioner Newell seconded the motion which were approved by all.

Murals (Change location)

Chairman Bouie asked Executive Director Gretchen Bradford to lead the discussion. Exec Director referenced Act 1 she said there is \$28,000 for murals that was to be painted at 610 and Franklin, but it was completed by others in the community. The funds was budgeted for two locations. We would like to recommend changing locations of murals to the Underpass at Chef Mentuer Highway and Peoples Ave: Location one, the eastbound side of street and location two,

the westbound side of street). Councilmember Green's Office will assist in obtaining the permit. Both sides are considered different.

Chairman Bouie asked for clarity on the cost. Executive Director stated the cost of paint, and primer cost are higher. He asked what artist we are looking at. Exec. Director explained we have spoken to three different artist. Newell asked if we need assistance in getting permits from the Rail. Councilmember Green agreed to take care of the permits. Motion to change location was moved by Councilmember Green and Seconded by Commissioner Watson, motion passed.

New Business

Chairman Bouie asked Executive Director Gretchen Bradford to lead the discussion to introduce new projects. Gretchen informed everyone that the funds for 2022-2023 must be used by June 30, 2023. GDD has 200k in Act 170 and 100k under Act 199. Gretchen explained she reached out to community for input. She recommended GDD partner with Dillard University to oversee several of the projects. Dillard University will be representing several neighborhood associations. 1. There are 10 neighborhood identification signs (\$2800 each = \$28,000), a motion was made to approve by Rep Newell and seconded by Commissioner Green. 2. Landscaping on St. Anthony between Gentilly and Humanities & Norman Mayer Walkways \$56,250 - A motion was made to approve by Rep Willard and seconded by Rep. Newell, ****80 GDD Pole Banners on Gentilly Blvd, Paris, Mirabeau- A motion was made by Commissioner Watson and seconded by Rep Willard. A vote was taken and all projects was approved by the Commissioners.

Edgewood Park – requested bumper guard rails \$40,000 on Peoples Ave, Project Committee (Exec Dir. Gretchen and Commission Watson) met with the City of N.O. Public works and they said it could be done and will recommend vendor. A motion was made by Newell and seconded by Watson.

Exec Director Gretchen also recommended GDD partnering with Southern University to complete mural project on Press Drive at Leon C. Simon at the underpass. Chairman Bouie asked a question about the painting that is already there. They recommended we reach out to the original painters and let them know before painting over it. We approved tentatively until we get answers. Collaborate on Mural with SUNO (Dr. Rugon). A motion was made to tentatively approve by Commissioner Watson and seconded by Rep Newell.

Councilmember Green made us aware Edgewood Heights is not in the boundaries of Gentilly Development District. In order to help them the boundaries must be changed to include them. However the projects will be redirected to a neighborhood in the Gentilly Development District (Community Garden and Entrance Signs). Legally we cannot spend funds on projects not defined under Gentilly Development District boundaries.

Projects Recommendation for Act 199 100k, in partnership with Homeland Security for License plate readers \$30,000, they are asking us to commit to a few years to pay for the technical upkeep in the future. Chairman Bouie asked if there were any questions, ...he asked why are we giving more for the walking path? Ans. Additional funds of \$50,000 for Walking Paths due to increased cost in supplies because of inflation. The City says the things they got a quote a year ago has changed. Motion to approve was made by Newell and seconded by Green.

The meeting was opened for questions. Rep Newell just wanted to confirm location of banners and also where the money is coming for mural and neighborhood signs.

Sen. Bouie reviewed each individual project for questions and comments; Councilmember Green made us aware that Edgewood Heights is outside the boundaries.

A vote was taken and all projects was approved under Act 170 and Act 199.

Adjourn Meeting

As there were no other business, Chairman Bouie asked for a motion to adjourn if there were no more comments or questions from the members.

A motion was made to adjourn by Commissioner Watson and seconded by Commissioner Willard.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:25p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gretchen Bradford". The signature is written in black ink and includes a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Gretchen Bradford