FRIENDS OF ROSA PARKS SQUARE BOARD
AMENDED MEETING MINUTES
February 13, 2020 – 4:00 P.M.
Government Center
Mayor's Conference Room

Members Present
Nancy Cleveland, Community Foundation of Central Georgia, Chair
Jack Ellis, Former Mayor
Jim Beall, Beall Financial Planning, Inc.
Louie Hargrove, Community Activist
Jean Bragg, Travis Jean
Alex Morrison, MBC Urban Development Authority
Kunj Patel, Kunj Construction & Development
Sarah Hunt, Middle Georgia National Action Network

Media Present
Liz Fabian, Mercer University Center for Collaborative Journalism

Staff Present
Michele Harris, Assistant County Attorney
Kaye Cleveland, Recording Secretary

Members Absent
George Muhammad, KCAC, Inc., Vice Chair
Dr. Carmalita Dillard, Bibb County Board of Education
Tim Thornton, Thornton Realty & Development
Bob Fickling, Rhythm N Jazz Foundation, Inc.

Chair Nancy Cleveland called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Mr. Jim Beall, seconded by Mr. Alex Morrison and passed unanimously, the minutes from the January 9, 2020 Meeting were approved.

Mr. Morrison presented information to the group regarding his presentation to the Urban Institute regarding the Macon Action Plan which includes improvements to Rosa Parks Square. The group was advised Macon, Georgia was selected to part of the next round of Reimagining the Civic Commons. The premise of the program is using public space to build more equity inclusion, economic vitality, and better health outcomes. The Macon Project Pitch included in addition to park improvements, the Ocmulgee Heritage Trail, and other proposed improvements. Mr. Morrison advised group members being part of Reimagining the Civic Commons does not include funding, however, it includes access to resources and organizations who can provide funding opportunities.

INFO PRESENTATION: BOARD BY-LAWS

Ms. Cleveland opened discussion regarding the proposed by-laws for the Friends of Rosa Parks Square Board. The group discussed meeting attendance policies, group functions and regulations associated with the duties of the Board. Group members were asked to review the proposed by-laws which included the replacement of the word Commission with Board. A vote to adopt said by-laws was delayed for further review.

DISCUSSION: STRATEGIC GOALS

Group members discussed what they wanted to accomplish within the first year of board meetings. Ms. Cleveland informed Board Members goals needed to be established prior to applying for funding for park improvements. Former Mayor Ellis opened discussion regarding removing the Veteran’s Memorial in Rosa Parks Square as a part of park improvements. No action was taken regarding removal of the memorial. Said discussion was referred to the Construction/Design Committee. Group members agreed the strategic goals were assimilating the design bid in phases, finding funding resources, developing a communications plan, and programming.

DISCUSSION: BOARD MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Discussion opened regarding member responsibilities. Ms. Kaye Cleveland reiterated previous discussion regarding board member responsibilities. Board members discussed potential roles and came to a consensus a Financial Secretary was needed to track funding received and money spent on park improvements. Ms. Sarah Hunt was nominated to take on said role. On motion by Mr. Beall, seconded by Mr. Ellis and passed unanimously, Ms. Hunt was named the Financial Secretary for the Friends of Rosa Parks Square Board.

ADJOURNMENT

Board members were informed the next meeting would take place on March 12, 2020 at 4pm. Ms. Cleveland adjourned the meeting around 4:56 p.m.

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Kaye Cleveland
Recording Secretary