

**FRIENDS OF ROSA PARKS SQUARE BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
September 8, 2022 – 12:00 P.M.
Government Center**

Members Present

Nancy Cleveland, Chair
Andrea Cooke
Jim Beall
Bob Fickling
George Muhammad Vice Chair
Alex Morrison
Erin Keller
Jonathan Barton
Clarence Thomas

Members Absent

Susannah Maddux

Media Present

Liz Fabian

Staff Present

Adrianna Beavers, Asst. County Attorney, Via Zoom
Janet Birmingham Parker, Administrative Assistant

Non-Members

Chair Nancy Cleveland called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion of George Muhammad, seconded of Jim Beall and passed unanimously, the minutes from the May 12, 2022, meeting were approved.

PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Nancy Cleveland stated the need to elect or re-elect the chair and vice chair of the Friends of Rosa Parks Square Board (FRPS). Jim Beall suggested to vote immediately because the board has quorum. Mr. Beall nominated Ms. Cleveland for chair and was seconded by Alex Morrison. Alex Morrison nominated George Muhammad as vice chair. Erin Keller stated if Ms. Cleveland and Mr. Muhammad would be willing to serve again then they should retain their seats.

CHICNIQ

Ms. Cleveland spoke regarding ChicNiq event that will be held on Sunday September 25, 2022 from 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The necessary steps have been taken with Parks and Beautification and fees have been waived for the event to take place. FRPS members are asked to be there for a photo opportunity and because it the first sanctioned event. The event is a mental health retreat day where people can come and setup picnic areas and have a mocktail.

Andrea Cooke discussed the need for a sign showing the sponsors and the logo of FRPS since money was donated to have the fees waived. Ms. Cleveland stated there was a private discussion with ChicNiq about having a website for sponsors and FRPS is co-hosting the event.

Alex Morrison discussed the concerns regarding selling tickets and what methods they will use to secure the park. Ms. Cleveland stated there will be barrels roped off around the park and tickets will be sold for \$25.

DOWNTOWN CHALLENGE GRANT

Ms. Cleveland reported Mr. Morrison will have a meeting with her and Susannah Maddux to submit the grant to give FRPS about \$10,000 to have quarterly fundraising events.

NEW MEMBERS

Ms. Cleveland stated she had several ideas about potential members who could be great for FRPS. She asked Warren Selby about becoming a member of the FRPS. There was also the possibility of Greg Brown from Planning and Zoning being a member. George Muhammad had concerns about Warren Selby regarding a conflict of interest. Ms. Cleveland stated any nominations can be sent to Mrs. Cooke and from there the board can decide.

ATTENDANCE

Ms. Cleveland discussed the importance of checking Macon Bibb County Emails. Using personal emails is subject to open records having all personal emails. IT will be asked to come to the next meeting to finalize the webpage for FRPS. She stated the by-laws need to be updated with proper language pertaining to attendance.

COMMITTEE REPORT

Design and Communication

Mr. Morrison stated the RFPs are being finalized and will be sent out next week. The formal documents will be finished and then sent out for bids. The process will be done in a phased approach from the fully designed plans for the park.

Fund Raising

Ms. Cleveland would like to honor her mom by donating from her mom's estate to FRPS. This will help to increase the \$1000 in the Community Fund. There is also the \$5000 budget in which FRPS can use to help the board move forward.

Board Development

Mrs. Cooke stated the save the date for the Mayor's Ball will go out very soon. The event will be December 9, 2022. She discussed the idea of having live reindeer and hot chocolate for children on the same evening of the Mayor's Ball.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm

Janet Birmingham Parker
Administrative Assistant