

Virtual meeting via ZOOM. The meeting ID was provided to the public to allow them to participate. Attorney Brown pointed out that this type of meeting was authorized by Executive Order 20-52

Call to Order

Chair Dowdell called the meeting to order at 5:03pm.

The Quincy Community Redevelopment Agency Board met in regular session on Tuesday, April 14, 2020, with **Chair Dowdell** presiding and the following **present at roll call**: Board Member Bass-Prieto, Board Member Harris, Board Member McMillan

Also present: CRA Manager Robert Nixon; CRA Attorney Hubert Brown; Admin Pam Tribue

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Member Bass-Prieto to approve the agenda as written, seconded by Member McMillan, motion carries with a vote of 4-0.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Member McMillan to approve the minutes of February 11, 2020, seconded by Member Bass-Prieto, motion carries with a vote of 4-0.

Motion by Member Bass-Prieto to approve the minutes of March 13, 2020, seconded by Member McMillan, motion carries with a vote of 4-0.

Financial Report

Two months were covered since no meeting was held the previous month.

According to the February 28, 2020 statement the beginning balance was \$317,006.62, there were no deposits, six checks/debits in the amount of \$107,233.57, interest paid \$9.78, leaving a balance \$209,782.83. The manager went over the specifics of all checks and debits including an interest payment on the line of credit and payment to the City of Quincy per the inter-local agreement. Check #11812, \$55,426.50, was issued to Dewberry Engineering in error. Being returned and reissued to CW Roberts.

According to the March 31, 2020 statement the beginning balance was \$209,782.83, there was one deposit of the annual ad valorem funds \$168,102.40, three checks/debits in the amount of \$343.14, interest paid \$14.79, leaving a balance \$377,556.88. The manager went over the specifics of all checks and debits.

Member Sapp joins the meeting.

CRA Manager Updates

Quincy Main Street Presentation (handout provided) – Penny O’Connell of Quincy Main Street discussed the grant funds they received 2018-19.

- 9 trash receptacles – Six of the required 9 trash receptacles in the downtown district. The remaining receptacles will be installed on N. Adams Street and the corner of Franklin and Monroe Street, the exact location to be determined by Joel Sampson.
- 3 banners – The banners will be installed when the lighting is done on the Kelly Lot, additionally QMS has replaced several banners that were destroyed by Hurricane Michael.
- Way-finder signs/mural – To be installed at the corner of North Adams Street and Franklin Street. To be done by June 30th. There was also discussion on the mural that was previously discussed. After an assessment it was decided to focus on improving the overall aesthetics on the site by installing 25 trees to obscure the visible damage to the wall owned by the CRA. When the weather permits the crepe myrtles will be planted. Funding for the soundstage does not appear to be available at this time. QMS has access to equipment and expertise to ensure QMS events held on the site will have appropriate sound. Organizations may work with QMS to secure access to sound equipment.
- Economic development
 - Downtown business survey – QMS has completed a survey of the 9-block downtown business district, highlighting information on building ownership, business use and business demographics.
 - Business asset guidebook – QMS has provided the CRA in the form of the downtown business survey and the historic Quincy tour guide, a compilation of notable historic, community and business assets.
 - Existing business capacity building training – three training events have been completed. One small business event co-hosted by the Gadsden Chamber of Commerce and other events with regional partners (FAMU Credit Union, Tallahassee Community College and the Small Business Development Center/FAMU). They also continue to promote business literacy.

CRA Attorney Updates – He and Manager Nixon have met with the auditors and Finance Director. He anticipates the need for regular meetings as there are some issues that are coming up. For example, the auditor those that the budget from last year had not been put up but he failed to speak with Mr. Nixon or check the QCRA website. Same thing as to whether or not we had given the budget to the County. In the 2019 Amendments to the Chapter 163, Section 387 says that auditors have to make a statement to include a “Finding” indicating the agency is in compliance with subsection 6 and 7; these deal with what monies can be actually spent on. The auditor needs to be made aware that there are other sections that deal with how funds can be spent, and economic development is approved as well as the removal of slum and blithe. Some additional meetings need to be held with him to make sure we are all on the same page and therefore in compliance with subsections 6 & 7. Section 8 deals with unused funds and we have always followed the proper procedure to roll those funds over.

Board Member Comments

Member McMillan – None

Member Harris – None

Member Bass-Prieto – None

Member Sapp

- Asked about the handout provided by Attorney Brown, Summary of Committee Substitute House Bill No. 9. He explained that he provided this earlier and wanted to help the board understand what the changes were to the Statute.
- Noted a correction to the minutes from the March 3rd joint workshop. Under Open Discussion, first item should read Member Bass-Prieto not Member Bass-Sapp.
- Thanked Mrs. O'Connell for the presentation from Main Street as to what was done with the funding for the 2018-19 budget year and asked if they were looking for anything today. The response was no, the goal is to satisfy the previous requirements before moving forward.

Chair Dowdell – Expressed appreciation to Quincy Main Street for all of the work they are doing with Manager Nixon trying to get this situation straight. Hopes that within 30 days this can be resolved and we're able to move forward. Wants to see the CRA, Main Street and other stakeholders work together to make sure Quincy is taken care of.

Others on the Zoom called were: Penny O'Connell, David Clay, Joel Sampson, Theresa Starling, Bob Woodward, Mary Alice Tyler, Crystle May

Meeting adjourned 5:53pm.