

**Gentilly Development District Minutes**  
**Board of Commissioners Teleconference Meeting**  
**Friday, November 6, 2020**

The meeting of the Board of Commissioners for the Gentilly Development District (GDD) was called to order by Senator Joe Bouie at 10:07 a.m. He welcomed everyone to the teleconference.

Roll call of the Commissioners was taken by Ms. Honaker.

**Members Present:**

The following board members were present: Senator Joe Bouie, Ms. Gretchen Bradford, Commissioner Aubrey Watson, Senator Jimmy Harris, and Representative Matthew Willard. Councilperson Jared Brossett was unable to attend.

**Others Present:**

Kathy Lynn Honaker/ No members of the public were in attendance.

**Old Business**

**Minutes from August 12, 2020.**

Senator Bouie asked if everyone had a chance to review the minutes and if so and no questions, he would ask for a motion to approve the minutes from the August meeting. Commissioner Watson made a motion to approve the August minutes. A second was made by Commissioner Bradford and the minutes were approved by all.

**Proposal for Executive Director and CPA assistance**

Chairman Bouie stated that the agreement to hire Ms. Honaker /Gatsby Consulting LLC was included in the board packet and asked if there were any questions on the agreement. He explained that Ms. Honaker had been working with GDD since earlier in the year; however the contract was dated for today's date of November 6<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Honaker stated it was the same agreement she had before when she worked with GDD. Chairman Bouie stated that Ms. Honaker agreed to take 15k vs the previous 25k discussed. Senator Bouie also explained he had spoken to Mr. Sean Bruno who is proposed to perform CPA duties as required by state law for the board. Mr. Bruno stated he would charge 3.5k -5k based on the amount of transactions performed and audited. It was explained for the new board members that both Ms. Honaker and Mr. Bruno had worked for the GDD since its inception and most of the time had donated their time and services to GDD when GDD had no funds to pay them. Commissioner Watson made the motion to hire both Ms. Honaker and Mr. Bruno, which was seconded by Commissioner Bradford and approved by all. Chairman Bouie requested that Ms. Honaker get an agreement from Mr. Bruno for review at the next meeting of the GDD.

### **Resolutions of the Board**

Two resolutions were presented to the board by Ms. Honaker for approval. She read each of the following into the record. Both were recommended by motion of Commissioner Bradford and seconded by Commissioner Watson. The resolutions received the unanimous yes vote of all commissioners.

#### **Resolution #1**

**“Be it Resolved, that the Board of Commissioners, of this district hereby authorize, empower, and approve that Gatsby Consulting LLC (as Executive Director) and Sean Bruno (as CPA) be hired to work with the board of GDD and report to the Chairman to help carry out the mission and projects of the board.**

#### **Resolution #2**

**“Be it Resolved, that the Bboard of Commissioners, of this district hereby authorize, empower, and approve the work to be done by the Chairman and Consultant Kathy Lynn Honaker, Gatsby Consulting LLC to get the Gentilly Development District operational again and all documents to be completed on behalf of the GDD for the City of New Orleans, State of LA including all Capital Outlay forms, FP&C forms, State Treasury forms and CEAs. The chairman has the approval of the board to sign all documents on behalf of the board.**

### **Selection of Bank for Deposits**

Senator Bouie stated that we need to choose a bank for the GDD funds to be deposited. He explained that at the last meeting, Capital One was recommended by commissioners Bradford and Watson, due to the involvement by the bank in the Gentilly. He asked if there were other banks that should be considered.

Commissioner Watson asked about the former bank for Gentilly. Ms. Honaker stated that the former bank had been First NBC which is no longer in business. The former account had a zero balance after the last project was completed and is closed.

Chairman Bouie asked for other banks to be considered and the commissioners mentioned Liberty Bank should also be reviewed. Chairman Bouie asked that Treasurer Willard and Secretary Bradford review banks and make a formal recommendation to the board members at the next meeting (December 4). Ms. Honaker explained that at the last meeting the board voted for the requirement of two signatures on all checks. The three following members should be listed as approved signatures: the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Treasurer.

### **Discussion of CEA and selection of projects for 20/21**

Chairman Bouie explained that during the recent special legislative session he, Senator Harris and Rep. Willard were able to identify an additional stream of \$100k for the Gentilly Development District increasing the total funding to 200k for the 20/21 year.

Chairman Bouie asked Ms. Honaker to cover the state CEA and timeline on spending funds. Ms. Honaker went over the blank CEA form which everyone received in their packet and explained it was a tight timeline to choose projects, submit the form to the state which could take two months at most to process and get the approval to start spending funds. She explained she would request the funds upfront as the District has no funds until the CEA is approved. She recommended the Commissioners choose projects as quickly as possible so she could finalize the form, submit and obtain the funds to start the work. For example if things are finalized the first week of December, it could be February before funds are received and they must be spent and invoices submitted to the state showing all funds spent by June 30, 2021. She also stated she will need very specific information listed on the form for approval from the state. She recommended the board plan to spend 170k on projects, 20k on staff and allow 10k for miscellaneous charges like checks, administrative costs, etc. that will be needed to run the projects and district needs.

Senator Bouie asked for ideas for the projects from all. He reminded everyone that three areas had been mentioned to spend funds on at the 2018 meeting. They are:

- Crime prevention
- Lighting and Banners
- Beautification

Ms. Honaker stated that at the last meeting Commissioner Bradford had requested one of the projects be Ponchartrain Park Entrance Plaques as it has received historic district status.

Ms. Bradford stated she would like to have flags created for Gentilly Development District which would line Gentilly Blvd. similar to the ones on Harrison Avenue.

Chairman Bouie asked members to volunteer for a subcommittee that would meet and bring recommendations back to the next meeting which needs to be done quickly. He asked commissioner Bradford to chair the team. Commissioner Watson volunteered as did Chairman Bouie. Kathy Lynn stated she would attend the meeting also to assist.

The subcommittee meeting will be Thursday, Nov. 19 at 10am and the next board meeting will be Friday, December 4 at 10 a.m. Everyone present confirmed to attend.

Chairman Bouie stated three things should be on the December 4 agenda:

- Approval of the Projects/ need dollars and all info per the CEA form that can be completed so Ms. Honaker can submit the CEA to the state and secure the funds
- Approval of the Bank for GDD
- Review and acceptance of the CPA agreement

### **New Business**

There was no new business.

**Public Input**

There were no members of the public present at this meeting.

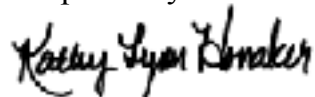
Chairman Bouie thanked all commissioners for attending. He once again thanked and recognized Senator Harris for the revenue stream. He stated he is very excited from seeing what ADD has done in the past and that it can be done with GDD for economic development and future opportunities for the Gentilly area. He said he wants to discuss the City of New Orleans partnering with GDD on projects with Councilmember Brossett. Ms. Honaker explained that ADD has partnered with the City of New Orleans on several projects in the past and gave examples of state and city partnerships.

He asked if anyone had comments. The Commissioners had none. Ms. Honaker asked if she could speak. She thanked the commissioners for the opportunity of working with GDD and serving the Gentilly community. She said the new members did not know her, but that she would send her resume to them. She said she has been blessed to have many positions and live all over the country, but best of all, to end up back in New Orleans.

As there was 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 Rep. Willard.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathy Lynn Honaker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kathy Lynn Honaker