



**York Business Improvement District Authority
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2020**

The meeting was held Wednesday, June 10, 2020 for the York Business Improvement District Authority (“YBIDA”), commencing at 7:30 a.m. The meeting was conducted remotely on Zoom and access for the public to hear the meeting was also available by telephone. Notice of the Zoom link and telephone number were provided to the public in advance by notice required by law.

The following Board members were in attendance, representing a quorum:

Mandy Arnold
Kate Hynes
John Klinedinst
Eric Menzer
Aneury Perez

Grace Quartey
Cindy Steele
Brian Strong
Julian Tolbert
Joanne Wilmore

York County Economic Alliance staff members were present: Katie Mahoney, Vice President Marketing & Communications; Elaine Bonneau, Director of Downtown Inc.; Beth Wolfe, Executive Assistant and Sully Pinos, Director, Business Solutions & Innovation.

CALL TO ORDER / WELCOME

Chair Mandy Arnold called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m., verified each Board member could hear and be heard by all others and noted that a quorum was present.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No comments.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Ms. Kate Hynes presented the March meeting minutes which were shared prior to the meeting. On a motion by Mr. John Klinedinst, properly seconded by Mr. Eric Menzer, a vote was conducted by roll call, the Board approved unanimously as presented.

YBIDA BUSINESS PLAN 2021-2025

Kate Hynes reported the YBIDA Strategic Plan for 2021 thru 2025 will be submitted to city council with revised verbiage to include diversity, equity, and inclusion. On a motion by Mr. Brian Strong, properly seconded by Mr. Jules Tolbert, a vote was conducted by roll call, the Board approved as presented. This was not a unanimous vote, Ms. Joanne Wilmore voted no.

The Economic Equity Plan is a supportive organizational document in support of the DI strategic plan and outlines the organization’s Diversity, Equity and Inclusion goals, objectives and initiatives in greater detail. The Economic Equity Plan is on the YCEA website and will be made accessible on the Downtown Inc. website as well.



FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Tolbert reported on the March and April 2020 financial reports and the 2019 Audit for DI. All documents were shared prior to the meeting. Chair Arnold requested to know what our capital reserve is currently. There is a concern with regards to the effect of loss of partnership income and delayed BID assessment payments due to COVID-19. We need to prepare how we will navigate through this and funding resources.

POLICY UPDATES

Ms. Elaine Bonneau reported York city announced the allowance of sidewalk café and the consideration of open container resolution. This resolution was passed on June 3. Restaurants will be allowed to have outdoor seating, with guidelines and restrictions. It does not require restaurants to have additional permitting, however, they will have to currently have a liquor license and make a proposal to the city on how they would like to layout the outdoor seating and open container. Chair Arnold noted with this “light” open container liquor license, you cannot take an open container from place to place. Hamir’s Indian Fusion and Freedom Barbeque Catering LLC requested the economic development liquor license at the June 3rd City Council meeting., Both were passed and will now proceed to the PA Liquor Control Board for approval.

DOWNTOWN BLOOM GRANT PROGRAM

Ms. Bonneau reported the bloom grant opened on May 28 with a deadline of June 15. The funding pool is \$25,000. The Board is encouraged to share this information. There is no cap on the grant, we are assessing them based on need and potential impact to their business and the community. The application is online only.

DOWNTOWN INC ORGANIZATIONAL LOGO REDESIGN

Ms. Katie Mahoney reported on marketing efforts to reconcile the destination brand with the organizational brand to create a cohesive identity. The new logo reflects recommendations made by NorthStar during the rebranding process. The Board provided feedback on two logos with the majority choosing the logo below. The new logo will be integrated into all brand representations for Downtown Inc, starting with signage for the new office location.



DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

Ms. Bonneau reported on the immediate initiatives regarding access to capital/restart loan funding. The Commonwealth CARES Funding is in partnership with the Community First Fund announced \$225,000,000 will be allocated for small business assistance. As of today, the application portal is not open. Upon the portal being open, we will get the information out to businesses and assist in navigating the process.

The citywide grant fund application window has closed. Ms. Bonneau will keep the board informed of any information received.

The immediate need of funding and the access to funding for black and minority owned businesses. Many have not been able to take advantage of programs (including PPP loans).

We currently do not have data on businesses in the BID that are owned by black and minority members of the community that were unable to access PPP or economic injury loans. The YCEA and DI have developed and launched a county wide directory of black and minority owned businesses.

Improvement to economic development and public safety in the City of York.



Ms. Bonneau will begin reaching out to community leaders to discuss building an advisory committee based on diversity equity and inclusion. At the next board meeting we will discuss next steps.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Arnold reported there is an opening on the YBIDA board due to Z. Dylan Bauer resigning. The executive committee presents appointing Mr. Aneury Perez to the executive committee as Treasurer, with Jules Tolbert moving into the Vice Chair position. On a motion by Mr. Klinedinst, properly seconded by Mr. Strong, a vote was conducted by roll call, the Board unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business Chair Arnold adjourned the meeting at 9:10am.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Hynes
Secretary

Prepared by: Beth Wolfe
Executive Assistant