

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

**OF**

**REINVESTMENT ZONE NUMBER THIRTEEN, CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS**

October 30, 2013

The Board of Directors (the “Board”) of Reinvestment Zone Number Thirteen, City of Houston, Texas (the “Zone”), convened in regular session, open to the public, on the 30th day of October 2013, and the roll was called of the duly constituted officers and members of the Board, to-wit:

Claude Anello	Chair
Larissa Lindsay	Secretary
Cynthia Card	Assistant Secretary
Patricia Garza	Director
Monica Savino	Director
Alice Valdez	Director
Ann Guercio	Director
Chris Silkwood	Director
Jason Johnson	Director

and all of said persons were present except Director Valdez, thus constituting a quorum.

Also present were: Clark Lord and Debbie Russell of Bracewell & Giuliani, LLP; Melissa Morton of The Morton Accounting Services; Blake McGregor of Edminster Hinshaw Russ & Associates (“EHRA”); Ralph De Leon of the City of Houston; Aaron Bourgeois of Lentz Engineering; Chris Dray of Moody Rambin; Tyler Flood of Tyler Flood & Associates; Alyssa Hill of Gainer Donnelly; Michael Graham of Element Architects; Alec Cass of Better Houston; and Leatha Allen, a resident of the Authority.

**DETERMINE QUORUM; CALL TO ORDER**

Director Anello noted that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order.

**SWORN STATEMENT AND OATH OF OFFICE**

Ms. Silkwood and Mr. Johnson took their oaths of office and executed their sworn statements.

**APPROVE MINUTES**

The Board considered approving the minutes of August 14, 2013. Director Card moved that the Board approve the minutes of August 14, 2013. Director Guercio seconded the motion and it passed by a vote of seven for the motion. Director Garza abstained from voting on the matter.

## **PROJECTS REPORT**

### **Proposed Office Building on Washington Avenue**

Director Anello reported on the history of the proposal for the office building. He stated that adjustments have been made to the plans that satisfied the requests made by the Board. Mr. Flood stated that the plans have been revised to provide for wider walking paths, more landscaping, the addition of a cistern to catch water, enclosed trash containers and preservation of the original sign at the location. He also reported on plans for a café/coffee bar. Director Anello stated that one of his primary objections to the original plans was the elimination of the parallel parking for existing businesses. After discussion, the Board agreed to withdraw its objection to the plans and approve the revised plans so long as the plat notes are added regarding parking with a notation that the development will not affect parking on the opposite side of the street and a stipulation that the signage would be tasteful and unobtrusive. Director Anello stated that he would prepare a letter of support in accordance with the Board's directives.

## **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

### **Lease Agreement with MECA**

Director Anello stated that plans are to spend between \$6,000 to \$8,000 to improve one of the meeting rooms in MECA. The Board took no action on the matter.

## **PROJECTS REPORT**

### **Contract with Asakura Robinson Company for Sawyer and Dow Parks and Urban Realm Pattern Book**

Director Anello then reported that the Authority's attorney had prepared agreements with Asakura Robinson Company ("Asakura") for the design of Sawyer Park and Dow Park (the "Parks") and for an Urban Realm Pattern Book which would compliment the existing design guidelines for the Authority. After discussion, Director Lindsay moved that the Board approve the agreements with Asakura for the Parks and the Urban Realm Pattern Book as presented. Director Card seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

### **Community Outreach Program**

Director Anello stated that Alex Cass from Better Houston has completed the website design for the Authority.

## **MECA'S REPORT**

There was no report for the month.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no executive session for the month.

## **ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

Director Savino requested that an item be included to discuss the Washington Avenue Parking Benefit District. She noted that she received an appointment to serve on the board of this district.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no comments from the public.

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Secretary