

Minutes for Durham City Participatory Budgeting Steering Committee

Call to Order

Durham City Participatory Budgeting Steering Committee May, 2020 Meeting was held on *Monday, May 11th, 2020* virtually via Zoom. It began at 6:02 pm and was presided over by Tiffany Elder.

Attendees

Members in attendance included: Ray Palma, Jenn Frye, Tom Fletcher, Sarah Mye, Marion Johnson, Tiffany Elder, Susie Goodman, Cesar Ortiz, Sean Almonte, José Romero, Jessica Uba, Chantelle Fisher-Borne

Others in attendance included: Jillian Johnson, Javiera Caballero, Bertha Johnson, Andrew Holland, Rebecca Brown, John Killeen, Stacey Poston,

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Tiffany Elder

Seconded by Tom Fletcher

Vote: Unanimous, passed

Officers' Reports

Chair Report - Tiffany Elder did not have a report.

Other Reports

None

Agenda Items

Welcome and Introductions

- Robin Baker called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes (see above)

Announcements/Chair Report

Historic Monuments along Fayetteville Street - Stacey Poston & Rebecca Brown

See: [Document](#)

→ **City staff** found that monuments in each neighborhood implementation would face many challenges within the two year scope in addition to the property and land-easement restrictions, and are currently recommending to shift the project scope to utilize signs for the neighborhoods. The sign design would be determined by neighborhood community engagement.

→ Recommend a shift in the scope of the project to accommodate land-use restrictions and include a broader vision of the Fayetteville Corridor northern entrance. The PB project scope will commemorate and celebrate the history of 11 historic neighborhoods along the Fayetteville Street Corridor.

Stacey Brown spoke in detail regarding the current state of the project and recommendations.

Bertha Johnson raised the issue that given the current recommendation, citizens may be unhappy that although 12 neighborhoods were included in the project, not all would receive equal funding.

Jenn Frye asked for clarification of the operation steps.

- Robin Baker clarified that the PB staff were planning to have a stakeholder group session in order to gage input on what was desired on the to-be-implemented signage. However, due to COVID-19, these sessions were unable to be held.

Tom Fletcher inquired if the banners to be hung from the Haiti Center would incorporate input from different neighborhoods or not

- Robin Baker said that Haiti Center has the final say on what goes on their building
- Rebecca Brown added that Haiti Center has been inclusive in their decision making process

Portion of difference in funds between what voters voted on and what the City Staff has recommended will go towards community outreach and input efforts

Susie Goodman raised the concern of making sure all communities were incorporated in the public-art process

Jenn Frye related her concern for a significant portion of the project budget being concentrated in the front part of the corridor as opposed to being more spread out.

Sean proposed asking Rebecca and Stacey to report back with a balanced budget that gauges community input and stakeholder input of what the budget allocations should be.

Stacey raised the concern that at some point, some entity will have to be the decision-maker in order to push a consensus forwards

Sarah proposed that community stakeholders be the ones that make the decision.

Motion: José moved to have Stacey and Rebecca report back to PBSC with an updated budget with a dollar amount for community engagement given the new shift in scope

Seconded: Sarah Mye

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion passed

- 8 yeas
- 1 abstention (Susie Goodman)

PB Durham Cycle 2

- Review & vote on [by-laws](#)
 - City legal staff recommended that, in order to “build in equity,” instead of the proposed by-law change of at least 10 members of the PBSC being of members from the LGBTQ+, Latinx, and other communities, to spell out committee positions for each group.
 - Marion Johnson raised her view of ambivalence to the issue
 - Jenn Frye raised the question to see if the legal staff could come up with wording that could effectively reflect the mission to have two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of the commission are of the identified communities
 - Robin Baker said that she would check in with the city attorney’s office and report back
- Review [subcommittee assignment](#)
- PB Cycle 2 [timeline](#)
 - Robin Baker let the committee know that whether PB Cycle 2 would be delayed or occur on time is at the PBSC’s discretion

Staff Recommendations for Cycle 2 - Robin Baker

See: [Document](#)

Key points:

- Allocate 50% of funds for microgrants, Allocate 50% of funds for macrogrants
 - Microgrants are up to \$10,000
 - Macrogrants are \$10,000+

- *It is important to note macrogrant funds can be used for capital projects on City owned property.*

Motion: José moved to approve the proposed change for Cycle 2 while still keeping the equity focus from the first cycle

Seconded: Tiffany Elder

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion passed (Unanimous)

Discussion about proposed changes - all

Leadership positions vote - all

See: [Document](#)

Robin Baker made a mock ballot and asked all nominees to accept/decline their nomination

Action Items & Next Steps - Robin Baker

Next meeting is: Wednesday, May 20th at 6pm

Robin Baker: Please review the by-laws

Announcements

None

Adjournment

Motion: Tom Fletcher

Seconded: Sarah Mye

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion passed (consensus)

Meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm

