REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF BETHLEHEM SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

Town Hall at Bethlehem City Hall 10 East Church Street Bethlehem, PA 18018

MINUTES

The Board of the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Bethlehem met for a regular meeting on Thursday, September 22, 2022 at 5:00 P.M. in Town Hall at Bethlehem City Hall; 10 East Church Street, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. The place, the hour and the date duly noted for the holding of this meeting was publicized.

Due to both the Chairman and Vice-Chairman absent from the meeting, RDA Board member Lea Grigsby assumed the position of Chairperson for this meeting.

Chairperson Lea Grigsby called the meeting to order and the following members were present:

Tracy Oscavich Christopher Spadoni

The Chairperson called a quorum present.

Also present were: Alicia Karner, Executive Director

Tony Hanna, Consultant (via GoToMeeting) Heather M. Bambu-Weiss, Board Secretary

RDA Board Members, Ronald Heckman and Earl Bethel, were not in attendance at this meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Oscavich made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2022 regular meeting of the Redevelopment Authority. The minutes were emailed earlier to each member of the Board. Mr. Spadoni seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously and the minutes of the August 25, 2022 regular meeting of the Redevelopment Authority were approved.

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR

Since there were no members of the public in attendance, there were no comments during the Courtesy of the Floor portion of this meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Ms. Grigsby turned the meeting over to Ms. Karner for her Executive Director Report. Ms. Karner provided the following update to the Board:

1) 1218 Center Street / 1220 Center Street – Ms. Karner reminded the RDA Board that at the August 2022 meeting an agreement between the City of Bethlehem and RDA, pertaining to the demolition details of 1218 and 1220 Center Street, was approved. Ms. Karner stated that the Bethlehem City Council approved this agreement at its meeting on September 19, 2022. Ms. Karner also noted that there were no new developments with this project at this time.

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HARVEST FEST 2022

Ms. Grigsby noted that the RDA Board has been asked to review and consider for approval a Use Permit Agreement, authorizing the Downtown Bethlehem Association to use an RDA owned land parcel located in front of the Moravian Blacksmith Shop, along Main Street, for its 2022 Harvest Fest. She added that if acceptable, this agreement can be approved via motion.

Ms. Karner explained that the since the City of Bethlehem and RDA both own land in this area having a single Use Permit Agreement for the event was the best approach. She indicated that since alcohol will be served during Harvest Fest, the City and RDA is required to provide permission for the fest to occur on the land their own. Ms. Karner also noted that this agreement was reviewed and found acceptable by the RDA Solicitor, Mr. Riskin, prior to this meeting.

Ms. Oscavich inquired who would be receiving the fees referenced in the Use Permit Agreement. Ms. Karner explained that the RDA incurs minimal costs as a result of the Use Permit. She did indicate that the fees being referenced in the agreement are for costs incurred by the City for police and fire protection during the fest as well as Harvest Fest obtaining the required permits for the event. Ms. Karner added that those fees and costs are paid directly to the City of Bethlehem.

Following this discussion, Mr. Spadoni made a motion to approve the Use Permit Agreement for Harvest Fest 2022. Ms. Oscavich seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. As a result, the Use Permit Agreement for Harvest Fest 2022 was unanimously approved by the RDA Board.

AMENDMENT TO 2021 CDBG AGREEMENT

Ms. Grigsby noted that the RDA Board has been asked to review and consider for approval an Amendment to the Agreement between the City of Bethlehem and the RDA for 2021 CDBG-Funds. She added that this amendment will provide the RDA with additional funds to reimburse costs incurred by the RDA as part of the blight remediation process. It was also noted that this authorization can be approved via motion.

Ms. Bambu-Weiss indicated that these are additional CDBG funds the RDA will be receiving from the City of Bethlehem. She noted that with these funds the RDA will be able to recover some costs associated with acquiring blight certified properties.

Mr. Spadoni made a motion that the RDA approve the Amendment to the Agreement between the City of Bethlehem and the RDA for 2021 CDBG-Funds. Ms. Oscavich seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. As a result, the Amendment to the Agreement between the City of Bethlehem and the RDA for 2021 CDBG-Funds was unanimously approved by the RDA.

ADJOURNMENT

As there was no further business, Ms. Oscavich made a motion to adjourn the September 22, 2022 RDA Board meeting. Mr. Spadoni seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously carried. As a result, the meeting adjourned at 5:10 P.M.

Submitted by,

Heather M. Bambu-Weiss Board Secretary