

Minutes of the January 15, 2019 Public Meeting for the South Baltimore Gateway Community Impact District Management Authority dba South Baltimore Gateway Partnership (“SBGP”)

The meeting was held in the MedStar Harbor Hospital Baum Auditorium, 3001 S. Hanover Street, Baltimore, MD 21225.

Board members in attendance were: Keisha Allen; Ethan Cohen, proxy for Colin Tarbert; and Bill Reuter. Staff in attendance was: Brad Rogers, Executive Director; Acacia Asbell, Community Grants Director; Erica Z. Pitkow, Operations Director (recording minutes); and Marissa Ramirez, Communications and Outreach Specialist. Members of the public and others in attendance were: Kelleigh Eastman; Bill Marker; Kim Lane; Sharon Reuter; Rich Shores; and Chris Firehock.

Mr. Rogers called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm and presided.

Welcome and Overview

Mr. Rogers welcomed and thanked those present for attending the meeting. He presented an overview of the meeting agenda and discussed the history and background of SBGP as well as its Strategic Plan and program areas.

SBGP Board Member Nomination and Appointment Process

Mr. Rogers stated that the purpose of the meeting was to seek public comments and input on a proposed resolution regarding the SBGP board member nomination and appointment process. He provided an overview of how the SBGP board is currently structured and appointed and read Article 14, Subtitle 19, Section 19-6(D)(4) of the Baltimore City Code: “(I) The 12 members of the Local Development Council [LDC] who are not elected officials shall be ex officio members of the Board until at least December 31, 2018. (II) At any time on or after January 1, 2019, the board may replace some or all of the LDC board members as provided in the Authority’s bylaws. If it does so, the 1st replacement shall be appointed by the Mayor (as an additional Mayoral appointee) and the rest shall be replaced through the procedures provided in the bylaws.”

Mr. Rogers explained that the SBGP board is considering whether to replace the LDC board members. He reviewed the current board structure compared to the potential new board structure and reasons the change is being considered. He emphasized that the potential new board structure would continue to maintain accountability. At its January 16, 2019 meeting, the SBGP board plans to discuss the matter and public comments and input received at this meeting.

Public Comments

Mr. Rogers invited members of the public and other meeting attendees to provide any comments, questions, and concerns.

Mr. Rogers responded to several questions. A new board member nomination and appointment process could allow the board to seek members with specific expertise and skills provided those individuals still meet the board composition requirements. Regarding coordination and communication between SBGP and the LDC, members could serve on both the LDC and SBGP boards and SBGP employees could attend

LDC meetings and meet with LDC members and staff. It was also noted that certain public officials will continue to appoint members to both boards.

In response to questions about the LDC board, Mr. Cohen stated that they may make some changes, including appointing members for two years rather than one and staggering terms, after the SBGP board resolves this matter and after the Maryland legislative session. He noted that in practice, the Mayor has deferred to community associations and appointed who they have requested, however, that is not required by law.

Several meeting attendees expressed concern that the SBGP board nomination and appointment process still needs to be designed. Ms. Lane noted that creating separation between the SBGP and LDC boards could create checks and balances between the two entities. Meeting attendees also expressed interest in a new board nomination and appointment process being democratic, transparent and designed in order to promote coordination with the LDC and to ensure continuity across new board members.

Mr. Marker asked whether the casino should continue to have a seat on the board and suggested that additional neighborhoods, including Barre Circle, should have representation on the board; he expressed his interest in serving on the board. He also noted that one side of a street in Barre Circle is excluded from the District and asked if boundary could be changed; Mr. Rogers responded that the District boundaries are defined by legislation and that SBGP cannot change the boundaries.

Based on a straw poll, a majority of the meeting attendees expressed support for replacing LDC members on the SBGP board.

Adjournment

There being no further business, comments or questions, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Minutes of the January 16, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting for the South Baltimore Gateway Community Impact District Management Authority dba South Baltimore Gateway Partnership (“SBGP”)

The meeting was held in the MedStar Harbor Hospital Baum Auditorium, 3001 S. Hanover Street, Baltimore, MD 21225.

Board members in attendance were: Geoffrey Washington, Chair; Keisha Allen; Debbie Ally-Dickerson; Ethan Cohen, proxy for Colin Tarbert; Jasmine Esteve, proxy for Andy Gervase; Walt Ettinger; Alvin Gwynn; Aparna Jain; Jill Johnson; Alvin Lee; Willie Pack; Councilman Ed Reisinger, proxy for Council President Jack Young; Bill Reuter; Michael Tyson; and Beth Whitmer. SBGP team members in attendance were: Brad Rogers, Executive Director; Acacia Asbell, Community Grants Director; Oscar Harrell, Enhanced Services Director; Marissa Ramirez, Communications and Outreach Specialist; and Erica Z. Pitkow, Operations Director (recording minutes). Others in attendance were: Chris Firehock.

Mr. Washington called the meeting to order at 6:25 pm and presided. A quorum was present.

Welcome and Overview

Mr. Washington reviewed highlights of SBGP’s work since the last meeting and the meeting agenda.

Minutes of the December 19, 2018 Board of Directors Meeting

The minutes of the December 19, 2018 meeting were presented and unanimously approved by the Board.

Executive Director and Staff Report

Mr. Rogers introduced the new SBGP Communications and Outreach Specialist, Marissa Ramirez, and reported that Amy Bernstein, Technical Support Officer for SBGP, will transition from a consultant to part-time employee effective in February.

Mr. Rogers discussed SBGP’s fiscal and grant management, including progress bringing services currently provided by fiscal agent HNI in-house by quarter-end. As part of that process, SBGP plans to hire an Operations Manager. SBGP staff is developing the draft proposed FY20 financial plan (budget) with the Finance Committee and will present it for comments at the February Board meeting and March Spring Public Meeting before presenting the final proposed plan for approval at the March Board meeting. SBGP staff is also assessing projects and projecting expenses and encumbrances through the end of FY19 so that any excess revenues and unallocated funds can be (re-)allocated by year-end as necessary.

Mr. Rogers, Ms. Asbell, and Mr. Harrell presented updates on SBGP’s program work, including the CDC Operating Support Fund application and review process, the development of a Middle Branch 4th of July celebration, and an SBG Sports League Kick-off and Field Day event in partnership with BCRP and Volo City scheduled for April 13. Ms. Asbell presented an overview of SBGP’s community grants awarded to date, including commitments, expenditures, funds remaining, and project scopes and statuses. She also reported on capacity building efforts and attendance, including individual meetings and group workshops. The first workshop in a new “Keys for Capacity” series is scheduled for February 12. Ms. Jain expressed concern about grant funds SBGP is waiting to expend until responses are received from the

MWBOO regarding MBE/WBE participation goals. Mr. Rogers explained the MWBOO process, and they agreed to table a discussion of how to potentially move those projects forward to a future Program Committee meeting.

Ms. Pitkow reviewed ethics and other Board requirements.

Committee and Officer Reports

Governance and Nominating Committee Report

Mr. Rogers reported on the January 15, 2019 public meeting to seek comments and input on a proposed resolution regarding the SBGP board member nomination and appointment process and whether to replace LDC board members on the SBGP board. Mr. Rogers reviewed the issue and provided an overview of how the SBGP board is currently structured and appointed compared to the potential new board structure. He summarized reasons the change is being considered and emphasized that the potential new board structure would continue to maintain accountability.

Mr. Rogers summarized the comments and input received at the public meeting. Based on a straw poll, a majority of the meeting attendees expressed support for replacing LDC members on the SBGP board. There were several questions about the potential development and design of a new SBGP board nomination and appointment process.

The Board discussed the next steps in considering the proposed resolution. Several Board members emphasized the importance of the potential development and design of a new SBGP board nomination and appointment process. The Governance and Nominating Committee will meet on February 5 by conference call and provide a report at the February Board meeting.

Program Committee Report

Ms. Jain reported that the Program Committee has not met since the last Board meeting.

At the last Board meeting, the Board approved a resolution requiring that every Board member participate in at least one grant review cycle each year, with exemptions for public officials and City employees. However, subsequent to the meeting, technical and procedural questions were raised about the resolution and requirement. Ms. Jain and Mr. Rogers presented an updated resolution regarding Board member participation in grant reviews for clarification and approval. Questions and comments were invited, and Mr. Gwynn suggested all Board members complete unconscious bias training, regardless of whether they participate in grant reviews or other deliberations and discussions.

The Board unanimously voted to approve the resolution. Ms. Asbell will follow-up with the Board to schedule unconscious bias trainings.

Strategic Planning Committee Report

Mr. Ettinger reported that the Strategic Planning Committee has not met since the last Board meeting but will meet the first Tuesday of each month in 2019, beginning in February. He and Mr. Rogers provided updates on existing projects and projects under development and/or consideration, including the Middle Branch Waterfront Plan, the Middle Branch Fitness and Wellness Center, the CDC Operating

Support Fund, a CDC real estate development fund, the Pigtown library renovation, and the South Baltimore workforce transit hub.

Finance Committee Report

Ms. Whitmer reported that the Finance Committee has not met since the last Board meeting but continues to meet on a regular basis and review the monthly financial statements and reports. The Finance Committee will meet on January 22 to review the proposed FY20 financial plan (budget). Ms. Pitkow reviewed the November 2018 financial statements and reports.

Communications Committee Report

Ms. Ally-Dickerson reported that the Communications Committee has not met since the last Board meeting but that SBGP staff is scheduling a meeting with the Horseshoe Casino to discuss opportunities to promote SBGP's work. Communications Committee members will be invited to the meeting.

Secretary's Report

Ms. Esteve stated that there was no business to report.

Public Comments

There were no comments or questions from members of the public or other meeting attendees.

Other Business

Mr. Washington shared the meeting schedule for 2019, including Board meetings scheduled for the third Wednesday of each month and the Spring Public Meeting scheduled for March 13, 2019 with an inclement weather date of March 14, 2019.

Adjournment

There being no further business or comments, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.