Minutes of the May 15, 2024 Board of Directors Meeting for the South Baltimore Gateway Community Impact District Management Authority dba South Baltimore Gateway Partnership ("SBGP")

The hybrid meeting was held at City Garage, 101 W. Dickman Street, Suite 1000, Baltimore, MD 21230 and by Zoom.

Board members in attendance: Themar Long, Chair; Rich Badmington; Randy Conroy; Veronica Crosby; Jill Donaldson; Karin Lundquist; Nancy Mead; Min. Willie Pack, Sr.; Bill Reuter, proxy for Quincy Goldsmith; and Noah Smock. SBGP staff members in attendance: Brad Rogers, Executive Director; Acacia Asbell, Community Grants Director; Ashley Davis, Community Grants Manager; Colline Emmanuelle, Communications and Outreach Manager; Neal Friedlander, Community Development Manager; Jeff La Noue, Enhanced Services Manager; Erica Pitkow, Deputy Director (recording minutes); and Samantha Rose, Restoration Manager.

Mr. Long called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm and presided. A quorum was not present.

Welcome and Overview

Mr. Long highlighted the meeting agenda. Board and staff members introduced themselves.

Executive Director and Staff Reports

Mr. Rogers provided staffing updates. Ms. Van Oeveren had her baby, and SBGP is hiring for a new Operations Manager.

Mr. Rogers provided an update on the Key Bridge recovery. It is not yet clear that any specific help is needed from SBGP, but SBGP will continue to assess what role, if any, it might play in supporting recovery efforts and needs in its communities.

Mr. Rogers reported on the successful MBRI groundbreaking event and thanked Ms. Emmanuelle and everyone who helped with the event. He also shared updates on the MBRI, including active sites, design work, invasive species management, and next steps for the first site. He also provided updates on the Westport waterfront park, potential funding applications, and the Chesapeake Watershed Restoration Academy.

Ms. Asbell provided updates on Community Grants and highlighted several projects. There are 65 active Community Grants, including 24 recently awarded. Orientation for the most recent cycle of grantees is scheduled for June 2024. Ms. Asbell also reported on SBGP's capacity building work. Since February 2024, SBGP has held three workshops and a quarterly networking meeting with 83 participants. SBGP also continued providing additional support for Cherry Hill Development Corporation and Federal Hill Main Street working with their executive directors and boards. Mr. Rogers noted the impressive and evolving scope of Community Grants work.

Ms. Emmanuelle provided communications and outreach updates, including a reminder about the Operations Manager job posting and the upcoming Community Grants cycle and Support Sessions. She also reported on the success of the MBRI event, thanked everyone that helped with the event, and reviewed a list of speakers and attendees. She shared recent press coverage of the MBRI event and Community Grants awards.

Ms. Pitkow reviewed ethics requirements and outstanding compliance. All board, proxy, and staff members completed the annual financial disclosure filing for calendar year 2024 by the deadline. All ethics requirements are currently met.

Committee and Officer Reports

Governance and Nominating Committee

Ms. Pitkow reported that the committee has not met since the last Board meeting. Information about the upcoming Board application cycle will be forthcoming.

Communications Committee

Mr. Badmington reported that the committee has not met since the last Board meeting and provided an update on the website redevelopment project. He and Ms. Emmanuelle are drafting the RFQ for the website vendor, which SBGP plans to release in late May.

Finance Committee

Ms. Mead reported on the May 9, 2024 committee meeting, which included the FY24 audit entrance meeting.

Ms. Pitkow reviewed the March 2024 financial statements and reports.

Program Committee

Mr. Smock reported that the committee has not met since the last Board meeting.

Strategic Planning Committee

Mr. Rogers reported on the May 7, 2024 committee meeting and ongoing projects. In response to questions from Mr. Long, Mr. Rogers shared that the date of the grocery store opening in Mt. Clare Junction is still to be determined as they are still waiting on permits from the City. Mr. Rogers is awaiting an update on the B&O Railroad Museum project.

Public Comments

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

Other Business

Mr. Long reviewed the schedule of upcoming meetings.

Adjournment

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