

City of Bowie
Financial Advisory Committee
Minutes
Regularly Scheduled Meeting July 6, 2022

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: On July 6, 2022, the Financial Advisory Committee held its regular meeting via Microsoft Teams. Members discussed issues listed on the published July 2022 Agenda. These issues included updates on the following projects: Economic Development Action Plan; Racetrack; the Sears building and the upcoming International Festival.

1. Call to Order: At 7:05 PM.
2. Roll Call and Introductions:
 - A. A quorum was established with the following members in attendance:
 - i. Patricia Peterson
 - ii. Carl Robinson
 - iii. Meglan Knights
 - B. Mr. H. Byron Matthews, Director, Bowie Finance Department is the Staff Liaison to the Financial Advisory Committee, and was in attendance. No visitors were in attendance.
 - C. The published July 2022 Agenda was reviewed, adopted and followed.
3. Old Business: Minutes from the June 4, 2022 meeting was finalized and approved.
4. New Business Discussed:
 - A. FAQs and answers:
 - i. Motion to add Review of FAQs to the FAC calendar as an annual exercise was passed. Any change that is related to the newly adopted budget must be cleared for posting by July 1. The next Budget adoption date is May 15, 2023. FAC members should ideally be prepared to decide on updates at the June 2023 meeting.
 - ii. The committee continued to brainstorm on whether to introduce new topics and content to the FAQ document. The intent being to reach a wider audience of casual citizens. .
Decision: Carl to sketch out a few questions as examples of what could be added.
 - B. Economic Development Strategy and Action Plan: Comments were due by 6/13/22. The committee took note of the plan but did not provide a formal written response.
Decision: FAC committee chair will attend the Stakeholder meeting scheduled for 7/12/22.
 - C. Branding survey: All members participated in the survey. This was an attempt to get citizen input to the rebranding project. No results are available at this time.
Decision: Byron to reach out to the Director of Communications for an update.
 - D. Racetrack Project: \$1.5 m of State funds is available for remediation. No updates available.
 - E. Sears Project: No updates available.

F. FAC meeting Agenda: The Agenda is due 2-weeks prior to the scheduled meeting. This allows Byron sufficient time to prepare to answer questions from the committee.

Decision: The August, 2022 Agenda is to be issued by 7/18/22. The Secretary is to provide draft minutes by 7/14/22.

G. Benchmarking: This was a task that the previous committee opted to do. Once completed, the expectation is that the committee will present it to the City Council.

Decision: Byron to share a copy of the last Benchmarking Report.

H. Economic Fallout from the explosion in the City of Bowie: The explosion occurred around 4:00 AM at the Larkin Chase Center. The city and First Responders acted swiftly to provide transportation and other assistance to those residents/seniors who were impacted. The City Gym as well as the Bowie Senior Center, were used as triage areas in the aftermath of the explosion.

I. International fest: This year, the International festival will be located in Olde Town. Application to participate is due by 7/22/22. Details and logistics of maintaining a booth will be circulated prior to the October 1, 2022. Participants must be present at the site by 8:00AM to take control of the booth.

Decision: Carl to look at the application and enlist members for specific time slots based on their availability. Byron to furnish necessary supplies to work out of the booth.

5. 32 Committee adjourned: At 8:04 PM. The next Committee meeting is planned for August 3, 2022 at 7:00 PM.

The foregoing minutes were approved by the Financial Advisory Committee, City of Bowie, Maryland, on 10/5/22.

Meglan Knights
Secretary