

MINUTES

Of the Board of Directors Of the City of Baltimore Development Corporation

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors (Board) of the City of Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) was held on Thursday, September 27, 2018 beginning at 7:35 a.m. at the Corporation's offices at 36 South Charles Street, Baltimore, MD. **Board Members present at the meeting were: Chair, Augie Chiasera, Chair Emeritus, Arnold Williams, William "Bill" Cole, Michael Braverman, Greg Cangioli (via phone), Elda Devarie (via phone), Charisse Ford (via phone), Miriam Fuchs, Jeffrey Hargrave, Henry Raymond (via phone), Colin Tarbert (via phone), Paul Taylor, Michael Walton (via phone) and Angela Wells-Sims.**

Staff present were: Kim Clark, Executive Vice President; Nancy Jordan-Howard, Chief Operating Officer; Jeff Pillas, Chief Financial Officer. BDC Staff: Will Beckford; Susan Yum; Deb Tillett; Dan Taylor; and Beverly Lanier (as Recording Secretary).

Also in attendance: Jalal Greene, Chief Operating Officer, Department of Housing and Community Development; Adam Bednar, *The Daily Record*; Melody Simmons, *Baltimore Business Journal*

The meeting was called to order by the chair, Augie Chiasera at 7:35 a.m.

- I. Minutes of the BDC Board meetings were approved as written.
- II. Chairman's Comment
 - i. Chiasera thanked Nancy Jordan-Howard for sharing pertinent articles with the Board and asked that BDC continue the practice.
- III. President's Report
 - i. Cole reported on Baltimore Integration Partnership's (BIP) recently published white paper, *Collectively We Rise: The Business Case for Economic Inclusion in Baltimore*, and expounded on our participation with anchor institutions to help drive small business growth in the City. Hopkins Local follows this concept.
 - ii. Cole mentioned Made in Baltimore, an effort started in the Planning Department by Andy Cook who created the program to help small manufacturers and makers brand themselves as "Made in Baltimore". Made in Baltimore will transition to BDC for the grant period and work closely with BDC teams.
 - iii. Cole mentioned the Opportunity Zone initiative and the possibilities it will bring to the area. A dedicated coordinator will be hired to ensure that Baltimore maximizes this opportunity.
 - iv. Cole also reported that our last CEDS report (a five year comprehensive economic development strategy) was last submitted in January, 2015, and will soon expire. We will start the 9-12 month coordinated process of developing the CEDS for the next five years. Larysa Salamacha will lead.
 - v. Cole provided an overview of the current CEDS along with recommendations. Cole also mentioned that with BIP efforts and the recent hiring of a fulltime equity position, we are well-positioned for fostering economic inclusion.

- vi. Cole mentioned an article in the *Daily Record* referencing progress made on the Westside of downtown. BDC has been trying to dispose of those properties for more than twenty years and is winding down to a few properties left.
- vii. Williams asked about opportunity zone strategies and processes, noting that some municipalities have successfully navigated the initiative.
- viii. Cole explained the process thus far; acknowledged the success experienced by other municipalities; and added that Baltimore's Enterprise Zones and Focus Areas positions the City for success.
- ix. Cole announced that The Arch Social Club, one of the oldest clubs for men of color in the country, is up for a \$1million vote-based award from National Geographic and American Express. This award would have a transformative effect on the Pennsylvania & North Avenue Communities. All are encouraged to vote.
- IV. Michael Braverman provided an overview and objectives of the Department of Housing and Community Development, including current RFPs. Braverman spoke about 1) agency transition, 2) new resources, and 3) strategic investment.
- V. The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 a.m.