

MINUTES

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

A virtual meeting of the Board of Directors (Board) of the City of Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) was held on Thursday, October 15, 2020 beginning at 7:35 a.m. **Board Members on the call were: Chair, Augie Chiasera; Chair Emeritus, Arnold Williams; Vice Chair, Jeffrey Hargrave; President, Colin Tarbert; Greg Cangialosi; Jeff Fraley; Carolyn Mozell; Henry Raymond; Michael Walton; Angela Wells-Sims; and Christy Wyskiel.**

Staff on the call were: Kimberly Clark, Nancy Jordan-Howard, Will Beckford, Jeff Pillas, Deb Tillet, Dan Taylor, Susan Yum, Larysa Salamacha, Dave Adamski, John Brock, Kate Howard, Stephanie Hsu, Ira Kowler, Joann Logan, Christina Moore, and Beverly Lanier (as Recording Secretary).

Also in attendance: Alice Kennedy, Department of Housing and Community Development; John Davis, Accelerate Baltimore Consultant; Due to COVID-19, all attendees are not noted as it was virtual and open to the public.

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

- I. Minutes of the BDC Board Meeting of August 20, 2020 were approved as written.
- II. Chairman's comments
 - i. Chiasera mentioned the following:
 - Referred to the attached summary of upcoming board meeting dates;
 - Recognized the recent promotion of Charisse Ford as Chief Marketing Officer with the Kellogg Company. Ford will remain in Baltimore and continue to serve on BDC's Board.
 - Officially welcomed Alice Kennedy, who will assume the BDC board seat assigned to the commissioner of the Department of Housing and Community Development, before voting on the following motion that reads as:

Whereas Michael Braverman no longer serves as a director of City of Baltimore Development Corporation and whereas the board desires to fill the vacancy left by Mr. Braverman's departure by electing Alice Kennedy acting commissioner of the Department of Housing and Community Development as a director to serve in accordance with section 2.02 of the amended and restated bylaws of the corporation. Now therefore be it resolved that Alice Kennedy, Acting Commissioner; of the Department of Housing and Community Development be, and she is hereby elected to serve as a director of the Corporation on a year-to-year basis by virtue of the office that she holds for the remainder of Mr. Braverman's one year term until the next annual meeting and until her respective successor is duly elected and qualified so long as she holds the office of Commissioner of the Department of Housing and Community Development.
 - Cangialosi motioned, Williams second, the vote was unanimous, and the motion carried.
- III. President's Report
 - i. Tarbert reported on the following:
 - A summary of COVID-19 Response initiatives including Design For Distancing installations; an additional \$2 million in small business aid to be distributed; and partnering with MIMA to translate available assistance in four different languages;
 - BDC launched more than \$7.5 million in new COVID-19 programs to assist more than 1,500 small businesses, encouraging members to shop and dine locally to support the small business community;
 - A request for proposal to upgrade the Pigtown Enoch Pratt Library, including additional mixed-use development was released;

- Pompeian Olive Oil’s acquisition of city property, converting a portion to a new park/playground;
- BDC will work closely with elected officials regarding food access in light of the closing of Save A Lot grocery store in East Baltimore;
- Addressed the reported decline of the Inner Harbor along with an update on its receivership status and that BDC continues to invest in the property.

IV. BDC Equity & Inclusion Initiatives

- An update was given by Tarbert on six of seven commitments;
- In the last few months, 50% of BDC loans were to African American-owned businesses;
- BDC continues to promote black-owned businesses on social media – Katia Hamilton, the owner and founder of Urban Reads Bookstore is one of nine;
- BDC will participate in a charette with Pennsylvania Avenue focused on doing a project there to bring black entrepreneurs into a creative space – part of a long-term strategy to build jobs and businesses in that corridor;
- The equity inclusion committee will hold its final meeting this month, followed by senior staff and ultimately, all staff training. Internal surveys were also completed to help gauge staff views on equity inclusion.

V. Presentation: Accelerate Baltimore

- Tillet provided an overview of what Accelerate Baltimore is.
- John Davis provided background information, explained the process and participants, and shared the results/outcomes.
- The opportunity to partner with the Mayor’s Office was extended.

VI. Baltimore Together (CEDS)

- Tarbert reported that BDC has been receiving feedback on the interim report;
- Will launch a website next month explaining what Baltimore Together is, along with key pieces of information and a way for the public to sign-up for updates and/or ask questions;
- Board members have been invited to participate, given access to the interim report, and can be briefed on the findings;
- The finalized report is expected first quarter 2021.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:32 a.m.