

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, August, 2020 beginning at 7:33 a.m. **Board Members on the call were: Chair, Augie Chiasera; Chair Emeritus, Arnold Williams; Vice Chair, Jeffrey Hargrave; President, Colin Tarbert; Michael Braverman; Greg Cangialosi; Miriam Fuchs; Jeff Fraley; Carolyn Mozell; Henry Raymond; Paul Taylor; Michael Walton; Angela Wells-Sims; and Christy Wyskiel.**

Staff on the call were: Kimberly Clark, Nancy Jordan-Howard, Will Beckford, Jeff Pillas, Susan Yum, Dan Taylor, Larysa Salamacha, Kristin Dawson, Christina Moore, Patrick Terranova, Kyree West, Ira Kowler, Kate Howard, Andy Cook, Nikki Davis, John Brock, Stephanie Hsu, Ryan Rattanni, and Beverly Lanier (as Recording Secretary).

Also in attendance: 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 7:33 a.m.

- I. Minutes of the BDC Board Meeting of June 18, 2020 were approved as written.
- II. Chairman's comments
 - i. Chiasera mentioned the following:
 - A motion was made at the previous meeting to make Equity, Inclusion and Diversity a standard part of the agenda. Tarbert will give the update on this topic;
 - A motion was also made to issue a statement around equity, inclusion, and diversity. The statement was published following the board meeting in June, and covered by the Baltimore Business Journal.
- III. President's Report
 - i. Tarbert reported on the following:
 - The 2020 Census – stressed the importance and impact on the city's allocation of federal funds;
 - BDC will partner with the GBC for the Mayor's Recognition Awards. Nominations are being requested with a focus on businesses that have been a part of the COVID response;
 - Baltimore made the Inc 5000 list with 11 companies, four of which are new to the list.
 - Thrive, an early-stage life science company specializing in early cancer detection, received a second round of funding. We want to make sure they continue to have a significant presence here.
 - BDC was named a 2020 Champion of Manufacturing in Maryland due to the success of Made In Baltimore's response to COVID with ramped up production of locally made PPE, with city funding;
 - Sprouts grand opening of their first store in the Baltimore area, attended by the President & CEO, Mr. Sinclair.
- IV. BDC Equity & Inclusion Initiatives
 - An update was given by Tarbert on five of seven commitment – the first being a standard agenda item.
 - In the last few months, 50% of BDC loans were to African American-owned businesses, and 75% to minority owned.
 - 17 different promotions were posted to social media of black-owned businesses;
 - A map of black owned businesses with 4,000 views also posted; along with a short film of meetings with grant recipients.
 - An equity & inclusion committee was formed to ensure that our Baltimore Together initiative (CEDs) would be developed through a racial equity lens. There was great participation and feedback. BDC is

also working internally to put in place processes along with analysis to ensure that we establish equitable practices.

V. BDC COVID-19 Response

- Tarbert reported on The Baltimore Business Journal article focused on BDC's work with Black-owned businesses
- A video of Kimberly Ellis, a grant recipient and owner of Breaking Bread Restaurant was presented.
- Taylor presented on the progress and breakdown of grants provided to small businesses which included \$3.4 million awarded to 364 businesses with a focus on minority and women-owned businesses.
- It was also noted that in working with the health commissioner, special assistance will be needed by the restaurant/hospitality sector to balance public safety and sustainability.

VI. Design for Distancing

- Moore provided updates on the initiative with the first phase completed.
- 16 projects across the city are receiving design for distancing installations and interventions.
- Progress with the Mount Vernon, Hamilton Lauraville Brooklyn, Bel Air Edison, and Hollins Market were presented.
- Terranova provided expected completion dates; expounded on collaboration with design teams and neighborhoods; and responded to questions on permanency and flexibility with challenges such as weather.

VII. Business Development Update

- Dawson reported on expansions of existing Baltimore Businesses including: Emergent BioSolutions Galen Robotics, Hex Ferments, Streets Market, Motzi Bread, Mount Royal Soaps, Whole Foods, Gypsy Queen and 604 Wines;
- Sprouts Market, Olive and Compare Foods recent move to Baltimore was also mentioned;
- The extension of the partnership with LYFT to mitigate the issue of access to healthy foods was noted.

VIII. Baltimore Together (CEDS)

- Tarbert provided an outline of initiative objectives along with projected completion dates.
- The first equity & inclusion meeting, facilitated by Nonet Sykes, Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer, Atlanta Beltline project, had great participation and input.
- An interim report has been distributed to stakeholders for feedback and on track to be finalized for public consumption in 30-45 days.
- Key stakeholders will be briefed to provide feedback before finalizing. We are still on target to deliver this fall with the flexibility to extend or make changes as the impact of COVID dictates.

IX. New Business

Patrick Terranova and Bernard Smith were acknowledged for their service and wished well in their new endeavors.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:39 a.m.