



ARPA Advisory Committee

1315 S. Washington Avenue
Council Chambers – Room 205
989.399.1311
March 9, 2022
MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

City Clerk Janet Santos called the meeting to order at 5:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Christina Jones, Amy Spadafore, Renee Johnston, Veronica Horn, James Hernandez, Jeffrey Bulls, Hurley Coleman, Jr., James Doane, Calvin Talley, Tina Swanton, Valerie Toney
Excused: Kevin Albosta
Absent: Sharon Leamon-Case, Grady Homes, Jr., Fenobia Dallas

Clerk Santos welcomed the members. She announced that Guidehouse has been contracted to facilitate the committee in the ARPA process. Clerk Santos introduced David Sernick of Guidehouse and turned the meeting over to him. Mr. Sernick introduced his team, Melissa Castro and Walter Aguilar. Mr. Sernick had each committee member introduce themselves.

Committee members Fenobia Dallas and Sharon Leamon-Case entered the meeting at 5:06 p.m.

Mr. Sernick continued with a presentation that covered several topics of organizing the committee's process. He explained the expectations for Guidehouse and how they will assist with obtaining additional funds and/or matching funds for our goals. They will be submitting the required reports and provide advice on compliance to the ARPA final rules. The expectations of the committee members are to serve as an advocate and education to the community.

Mr. Sernick turned the meeting over to Melissa Castro. Ms. Castro facilitated the committee on the establishment of organizational rules called "Team Norms." The "Team Norms" are to be followed by the committee members. All members were in consent of the "Team Norms" as discussed.

Ms. Castro led a discussion on establishing a meeting schedule. The committee consented to 5:00 p.m. on a Tuesday or Thursday. Dates will depend on the availability of Council Chambers. City staff will confirm dates available and provide them to Guidehouse for review at our next meeting.

ELECTION OF CHAIR PERSON

Ms. Castro asked if anyone was interested in serving as Chair. Five members expressed an interest in the position. They were Fenobia Dallas, Amy Spadafore, Jeffrey Bulls, Renee Johnston, and Hurley Coleman, Jr. Voting was done secretly by each member writing their choice on paper and submitting it to Ms. Castro.

Mr. Sernick announced a 15 minutes recess at 5:58 p.m. to allow time for voting and tally of results.

Mr. Sernick reconvened the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Ms. Castro announced the election results and that Renee Johnston was elected Chair.

Mr. Sernick continued his presentation and discussion with the committee. Clarification was given regarding Revenue Loss calculation and uses. This will be the next step that City Council will need to take action on. The Revenue Loss amount will reduce the amount the committee will have to work with. Discussion was held on restrictions of ARPA funds use, the 2021 community survey results, the priorities set by Council during their 2021 session and city staff ideas.

PUBLIC INPUT:

Members of the public that addressed the committee were George Copeland, and Kevin Jones.

MISCELLANEOUS:

The next meeting will be March 23 at 5:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Mr. Sernick stated that he will share background information on Guidehouse and their experience.

ADJOURN:

Mr. Sernick adjourned the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Recorded by,

Janet Santos, MiPMC/MMC
City Clerk