

Trenton Parking Authority
Special Meeting Minutes
July 29, 2021
5:00pm

Chairman Watson called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm by reading The Open Public Meeting Act.

In Attendance: Chairman William Watson, Commissioners Harry Reyes, Andrew Worek, Anne LaBate, Scott Rice, Evangeline Ugorji and Samuel Tompoe

Absent: None

Interim Executive Director: Perry Shaw; KEJ Associates, LLC

Staff: Patrice Harrison; Office Manager

Legal Counsel: Michael Ash; Carlin & Ward

KEJ Associates, LLC: Kim Jackson; President

The Aubrey Group: Sarah Aubrey Selenski; President/Senior Professional Planner

Public: None

Chairman Watson said he met with Mike Ash, Perry Shaw and Sarah Aubrey Selenski; President/Senior Professional Planner of The Aubrey Group to discuss possibly applying for a grant from the US Department of Transportation. The grant is offered through The Areas of Persistent Poverty Grant Program, for up to \$850,000. These funds can possibly be used for any planning and engineering cost associated with redevelopment of the Broad and Front site. The Aubrey Group would be engaged to prepare the grant application. Chairman Watson first asked Sarah Aubrey Selenski whether she felt this grant would pertain to the Parking Authority and if so in what capacity. She was also informed of the \$1.5 million TPA has toward demolishing the Broad and Front Garage in preparation for future redevelopment. There have been thoughts of a mixed use redevelopment including residential, retail, office space and parking. The grant is geared toward public transportation; the application will outline transit benefits that will be proposed in the redevelopment of the space.

Commissioner Rice asked what percentage of the location would need to be allocated toward the areas outlined in the grant? Sarah Aubrey Selenski explained there is not an exact percentage they use. Applications are assessed on scoring system. They want to make sure the project is ready to move forward and does not stay dormant after the money is received. Commissioner LaBate mentioned other locations that could be considered in our application. Commissioner LaBate asked if other locations could be reflected in the grant application? Ms. Selenski said there does not need to be an exact project but a list of possible projects outlined in the application. Commissioner LaBate doesn't feel this grant would pertain to TPA.

Commissioner Ugorji said TPA is in the parking business not the transportation business. She believes the only association we have with transit is the bus stops surrounding the garage. Commissioner Ugorji questions whether the Authority was capable of involving itself in other aspects of transportation. Unless, TPA would like to delve into other areas of transit parking she feels this grant does not pertain to TPA. She asked for Kim Jackson's opinion concerning the subject.

Kim Jackson explained even though we are in the parking business, this business is expanding to include parking, transit and mobility. The redevelopment of this location would bring equity to the downtown and give us opportunity to include different transit possibilities such as bike parking and storage for example.

Commissioner Worek said after the garage is demolished TPA is planning to put a surface lot there until the redevelopment is done, maybe we can provide a shuttle for state workers.

Ms. Selenski will provide a list of previous grant recipients to the board.

Chairman Watson asked for a motion to approve the proposal from The Aubrey Group to complete the grant application in the amount of \$5,000. Commissioner Worek motioned to approve the proposal from The Aubrey Group to complete the grant application in the amount of \$5,000, seconded by Commissioner Reyes. Vote: 5 yes, 1 opposed, Commissioner Ugorji and 1 abstain, Commissioner LaBate.

Meeting adjourned at 5:37pm

Patrice Harrison
Board Secretary