

BOARD MINUTES
Monday, January 4, 2021 5:30 p.m.

The FHRA Board met in public session at 9001 E. 59th Street, Lawrence Government Center Public Assembly Room, Lawrence, IN at 5:30 p.m. Meeting was called to order by Mr. Jeff Vest. A quorum was met.

Members present in person: Jeff Vest, Karen Horth-Powers, Jason Fenwick, and Russell Brown
Staff Present: Aletha Dunston, Heather Millikan

New Business:

First item of new business was election of board officers. Mr. Vest asked for a motion to approve the new slate of officers. Mr. Brown stated as acting chair he would like to nominate Jeff Vest as President, Karen Horth Powers as Vice President and Jason Fenwick as Secretary Treasurer. Ms. Horth Powers seconded the nominations. The board voted unanimously for approval of the new board officers.

Mr. Vest stated the dates for the 2021 board meetings needed approval. He stated except for tonight's meeting and the February meeting, all meetings are held on the third Monday of the month at 5:30. Mr. Vest asked for a motion to approve the 2021 calendar. Mr. Brown made the motion for approval and Ms. Horth Powers seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Next item on the agenda was Resolution 2021-01. The Resolution was tabled until the February 8, 2021 meeting. Mr. Vest said the FHRA and Board would continue to work with Fort Harrison Partners, LLC and hopefully come back in February with a final agreement or continue to work towards a final agreement.

Update from Executive Director:

Ms. Dunston stated that she wanted to recap some of the 2020 wins even with the strange year we all had.

- 1) The FHRA and City of Lawrence was awarded the Rising Tech City Mira Award by Techpoint for all the tech companies that are thriving at the Fort
- 2) Construction began on the new 260-unit apartments by Cityscape Residential that have been renamed The Otis at Fort Ben.
- 3) Twenty-two homes were built at phase 3 of the David Weekley Homes project
- 4) The PX road construction was completed on Lawton Loop East
- 5) Released a Call for Offers for the PX building for redevelopment
- 6) Celebrated a groundbreaking for the Hilton Tru Hotel on Otis Avenue
- 7) An agreement was signed with the Indianapolis Marion County Public Library for a 25,000 square foot branch that will be between 56th, Otis, Melnor and Lee Roads
- 8) The FHRA relocated its office to the historic Sterrett Center
- 9) The #FoodattheFort campaign was launched to help the locally owned restaurants get more exposure
- 10) Construction is underway at the Fort Ben Cultural Campus and the FHRA is working as a partner
- 11) The historic theater was upgraded and is currently completing an addition. Along with that, the former communications building was relocated from Lawton Loop East to Post Road.

Ms. Dunston stated that as mentioned a PX Call for Offers was put out on the old PX building at 5745 Lawton Loop East. She stated it is a bit different than just a straight sale. The Call for Offers is due on January 29th and the FHRA has asked for the redevelopment community or local people to put together a proposal of what they would like to do with the building. Of importance is the financial capacity to get the project done and a timeline to do it as well as the overall planned investment to make sure it is a realistic budget. You can go to the FHRA.org website or email at info@fhra.org for more information on this project.

Mr. Trace Yates of Lawton Loop West Drive asked who Fort Harrison Partners, LLC were and if they are a tech company. Ms. Dunston said it is the group they are formed under. Mr. Yates asked about the three parcels involved in the resolution and if the third was for parking. Ms. Dunston stated the way the property is proposed is to divide parcel J-east into 5 parcels. One for a restaurant, one for tech, one will be the library and two with a potential option at the center of the property. Mr. Yates asked if there are firm commitments in place. Ms. Dunston stated it is still being negotiated and that is why it was pushed to February. Mr. Yates asked if the negotiations fall thru does the Fort Harrison Partners, LLC still have the option on those parcels. Ms. Dunston stated generally the FHRA has put in the option to retain the property if the developer does not meet the performance they agreed to.

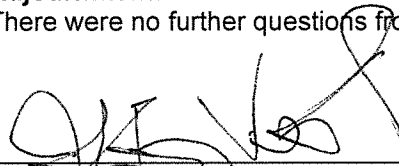
Mr. Brown stated that he wanted to congratulate the City of Lawrence on the Winterfest. He said as a resident of the Fort it was great to be able to walk down and see all the activities and all the people it brought in. It was a great opportunity for the City and vendors and a great use of Civic Plaza.

Mr. Vest agreed it was a huge success and was happy when the Parks Board decided to bring an ice skating rink to Lawrence. Mr. Fenwick also agreed and stated that because of the Winterfest success the Fort and Civic Plaza is now being showcased on Fox59 weather reports. It has been a great success for Lawrence and in putting it on the map.

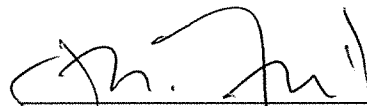
The next public meeting will be at the Lawrence Government Center Public Assembly Room on February 8, 2021 at 5:30 p.m. Masks are required to attend.

Adjournment:

There were no further questions from the public and Mr. Vest adjourned the meeting.



Jeff Vest
President



Jason Fenwick
Secretary-Treasurer