

Minutes

Legacy Decatur Board

Legacy Decatur Board
November 9, 2020
Via Video Teleconference

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tony Powers. Board members attending in addition to Mr. Powers: Andrea Arnold, Mark Arnold, Ed Bowen, Mark Ethun, Patti Garrett, Allen Mast, Peggy Merriss, Paul Mitchell, Brian Smith, and Meredith Struby.

The minutes of the September 24, 2020 executive board meeting and regular board meeting were presented. Peggy Merriss presented a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Patti Garrett seconded the motion. The motion was adopted with Brian Smith and Meredith Struby abstaining.

ACTION ITEMS:

The board was asked to consider an amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding – Small Business Loan Program. Andrea Arnold gave a summary of the request. The City planned to use a portion of the CARES Act funding they received to convert the original small business loans to grants. As a partner in the original small business loan program MOU, Legacy Decatur needs to adopt the amendment allowing the loans to be converted to grants.

Additional funds from the CARES Act will be used to fund a second round of financial assistance to small businesses in the form of grants. This second round will be open to sole proprietor businesses and small non-profits in the City of Decatur. Ed Bowen will continue to represent the Legacy Board on the committee reviewing applications. He expressed excitement to see a second round of funding made available to assist small businesses but explained that they expect applications to exceed available funds make a lottery selection system likely.

Brian Smith presented a motion to approve the requested amendment to the original MOU. Mark Arnold seconded the motion, and it was approved by unanimous consent.

The board was asked to authorize the chair to sign lease assignment documents transferring existing leases for the Legacy Park Administration Building from the City of Decatur to Legacy Decatur board. There are currently five tenants: Decatur Education Foundation; Global Growers; Decatur Book Festival; Furnish with Love and L'Arche. New leases will be prepared and presented to the board in January for adoption.

Brian Smith presented a motion authorizing the Chair to sign lease assignments. The motion was seconded by Andrea Arnold and was adopted by unanimous consent.

ADDITIONAL BUSINESS:

The board approved a resolution certifying the purpose of the September 24, 2020 executive session was for the purpose of discussing personnel matters and authorizing the Chair to execute an affidavit. Peggy Merriss presented a motion to approve. Ed Bowen seconded the motion with was adopted by unanimous consent.

Patti Garrett updated the board on plans to commission a public art installation on the Old Courthouse Square in honor of Congressman John Lewis. This is a joint effort between DeKalb County, cities located in the county and the Decatur Arts Alliance. Community-wide fundraising will be required. She requested support of the Legacy Decatur board to provide the needed 501c3 vehicle and on-line donation platform if needed. There was general discussion related to support of the project and its alignment with the mission and values of the organization. There will be more specific agreements outlining how money will be raised and the approval process for spending funds raised, should this partnership be required. Allen Mast presented a motion of support and authorizing Ms. Garrett to offer this partnership option at the next meeting of the committee overseeing this project. The motion was seconded by Brian Smith and approved by unanimous consent.

There were a few updates provided about the most recent newsletter and the fundraising efforts on behalf of the Season of Giving program.

The meeting was adjourned, and the first session of the board's annual retreat was opened for discussion.