

Pine Bluff Urban Renewal Agency
Called Meeting Minutes
August 7, 2019

The Pine Bluff Urban Renewal Agency held a called meeting on August 7, 2019 at The Baim Law Firm.

The following commissioners were in attendance:

Jimmy Dill, chair
Rita Conley
Lloyd Franklin, Sr.
Kirby Mouser

Commissioners absent:

Travis Martin

Also in attendance:

Leigh Cockrum
Dee Herring Gatlin
Donald Hatchett
Maurice Taggart, Executive Director (ED), PBURA
Ryan Watley

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Commissioner Dill.

ED Taggart stated a deadline for a National Endowment for the Arts Our Town grant is September 9, 2019. The City of Pine Bluff is submitting this grant to support the design development of a four-block long Delta Rhythm and Bayous ArtWalk in downtown Pine Bluff.

Simmons Bank has committed \$2M toward the ArtWalk. Other partners with the grant are Simmons Foundation, Arts and Science Center for Southeast Arkansas, University of Arkansas Community Design Center, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Henri Linton, Polk Stanley Wilcox and Go Forward Pine Bluff.

This is a planning grant. The train issue with horn and speed issues need to be addressed. The City is working with Union Pacific about the train issues as well as closing some of the railroad crossings.

Commissioner Franklin made a MOTION to participate in showing support in the National Endowment for the Arts Our Town grant. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mouser and was APPROVED.

Commissioner Franklin made a MOTION to fund a \$200K maximum match for the National Endowment for the Arts Our Town grant as long as it is in the downtown area. Commissioner Conley seconded the motion and was APPROVED.

Public comments were made.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

/s/ Leigh Cockrum
Leigh Cockrum
Recorder

/s/ Wm. Kirby Mouser
W. Kirby Mouser
Secretary