

Downtown Lexington Management District  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Wednesday, July 2, 2025  
McBrayer

**Present Board Members:** Dennis Anderson, Kevin Atkins, James Brown, Bryanna Carroll, Juan Castro, James Frazier, Beverly Fortune, Hannah LeGris, Thomas Pettit, Mary Quinn Ramer, Rachel Savane, Ron Tritchler, Lawrence Wetherby

**Present Advisory Board Members:** Liza Betz, Diane Massie, Fausto Sarmiento

**Others Present:** David Warren (Block-By-Block), Allen McDaniel (Downtown Lexington Partnership), Laura Farnsworth (Downtown Lexington Partnership), Maria Folio (Downtown Lexington Partnership), Laura Boison (LEXPARK)

### **Call to Order**

Chairman J. Frazier called the meeting to order with quorum at 8:32a.

### **Approval of May 7 Board Minutes**

K. Atkins made a motion to approve the minutes. T. Pettit seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.

### **Community Partner Updates**

VisitLEX – M. Ramer announced that VisitLEX has completed a successful fiscal year. Highlights include the first time the sales team booked 100,000 hotel nights in the city. It was recently announced that tourism in Kentucky had a 14.5 billion dollar economic impact, Fayette County accounted for 1.7 billion, 12% of that total.

LexPARK – L. Boison informed the Board that LexPARK was beginning a capital improvement project for their garages totaling 4.5 million dollars. These are renovations to sustain the garage properties. Additionally, staff have been meeting with leadership from Lextran to ensure safe and humanitarian conditions on High Street during the Transit Center garage project.

Downtown Lexington Partnership – A. McDaniel stated that DLP is having a great year, including the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of Central Bank TNL in collaboration with Commerce Lexington. He also mentioned that he will be attending the IDA conference later this year, a major part of which focuses on peer organizations and those similar to DLMD.

### **Financial Updates**

J. Castro provided the financial update. June through August are historically low on the income side, but the newly opened CD has started to provide interest. While the month of June shows a loss, the year to date shows a great profit, believed to be due in part to the efforts surrounding the DLMD renewal. \$50,000 is also earmarked for enhanced security efforts, if

needed. 2025 ended the fiscal year in a much better position than 2024, which was also a very strong year. Looking at the budget vs. actuals, the year ended better than the budget projected. The DLMD is in a healthy financial position as it starts the newly ratified 10 year term. T. Pettit made a motion to approve the financials, R. Tritchler seconded the motion. The financial report was approved unanimously.

### **Block-by-Block Report**

D. Warren provided an update on the Ambassadors. He questioned the possibility of having furniture that has been placed on the sidewalk moved in a more timely manner by the Division of Waste Management. Additionally, he is working on having older trash cans replaced. Finally, the Board requested that four operating shifts be staffed on July 4 to enhance visibility and the efforts of the Ambassadors. Warren said all staff members wanted to work on the holiday.

### **LFUCG Update**

Councilmember Hannah LeGris provided an update that Waste Management was working on the issue of waste cans throughout the downtown area. Phoenix Park was scheduled to open in late July-early August, and once complete will include soft surfaces around the play areas and astroturf in the pet park. LeGris also encouraged the Board to seek out the Downtown Master Plan consultants at the upcoming Fourth of July Festival, as they will be set-up and beginning their engagement with the community.

Councilmember James Brown continued the LFUCG update, informing that funding for the downtown connector (trolley) has been approved in the recently finalized budget with a pilot to begin in spring 2026. He mentioned that his office was also in contact with Lextran to ensure safety on the High Street loading area during the Transit Center renovation. He concluded with the announcement that the Corridors Commission, in conjunction with 250LEX, has recently installed plantings around the Historic Courthouse on Main Street.

### **Chairman's Report**

Chairman J. Frazier and A. McDaniel reviewed the rosters for the Property Improvement Grant and Art Grant programs. All from the Board are welcome to join, so long as a quorum is not reached. With the new fiscal year beginning, it is anticipated that applications for both programs will begin to be received.

Chairman J. Frazier requested the Downtown Lexington Partnership staff in attendance momentarily leave the board room, as a conversation was to be had regarding the upcoming RFP for management services.

With the work of the board complete, the meeting was concluded at 9:37a. The next meeting will be held at 8:30 a.m. on September 3 at McBrayer.