



REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2022
SAM KING ROOM
2:30 P.M.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jim Bojo (Chair), Elaina Beeman, Bill Collins

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sammy Rich, Meredith Ulmer, Joe Smith, Artagus Newell, Brice Wood, Doug Walker, Jake Hager, Charles Love

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Chairman Bojo called the meeting to order. The minutes of the May 25, 2022, Redevelopment Committee meeting were approved by common consent.

UPDATE - MARTHA BERRY TAD:

Sammy Rich reminded the group of the current parcels included in the proposed TAD #5 and asked the group if they were ready to move forward to take the proposal to the full commission. Commissioner Collins stated that he had concerns because one of the Rome City Commissioners is a real estate agent that has property listings for sale in the area and felt that the committee should not move forward at this time. Commissioner Beeman agreed with Collins that she had the same concerns. Rich reminded the group that this commissioner would, as would any commissioner, have the option to recuse him or herself from voting on any decision and reiterated the need for the TAD in this area, to clean up and improve the corridor. Beeman asked to be reminded of the number of parcels included and asked if the TAD could be created in phases. Rich stated that the 132-acre proposed area included 41 parcels and explained that TAD districts were best established at one time because of the administrative challenges faced if done on an incremental basis. After more discussion surrounding ethics, Collins stated that the situation “would take care of itself” and felt that the committee needed to move forward making the best decision possible based on the facts presented. Beeman made a motion to approve the proposed TAD #5 which was seconded by Collins. The proposal will go to the full commission for a vote. Rich stated that Geoff Koski from KB Advisory Group could present the proposal at a caucus meeting before the commission vote.

UPDATE - NORTH ROME TAD:

Rich discussed with the group the proposed North Rome TAD boundary lines as discussed in the previous meeting. He also reminded the group that there has been interest from an investor in building a hotel on a parcel adjacent to the Thankful Baptist Church and a parcel that will become The Varsity. Rich asked the committee if they wanted to extend the boundary southward to include the parcels to the east of MLK Blvd which would include Spider Web Drive and parcels south to CVS. Charles Love spoke in favor stating that he felt the hotel would be welcomed by the residents of North Rome and supports including parcels on Spider Webb Drive in the proposed TAD. Rich will update the boundaries as discussed and submit the changes to Koski's group to update the TAD proposal. City Planners, Artagus Newell and Brice Wood, briefly updated the group on available funding initiatives that could be utilized to protect and restore significant historic sights. Because of African American and Asian American histories in North Rome, funding opportunities such as these could work in conjunction with the TAD to improve the area.

BROOKWOOD AVENUE PROPERTY:

Rich explained to the group that Sandra Hudson from the Northwest Georgia Housing Authority had requested to take back ownership of city owned property located on Brookwood Avenue. The city purchased the property from the Housing Authority years ago with funding provided by FEMA to purchase structures in flood plane areas. With approval from FEMA, the property can be conveyed back to the NWGHA. Hudson plans to develop the property into a playground area with possible splash pad/spray ground. A motion was made by Collins to approve and seconded by Bojo.

Chairman Bojo adjourned the meeting at 3:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kelley Parker". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kelley Parker
Assistant to the City Manager