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STATE OF NEW YORK
CITY OF YONKERS

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Minutes of
The City of Yonkers YEDC
Board Meeting
September 26, 2024 - 1:39 P.M.

At
470 Nepperhan Avenue, Suite 200
Yonkers, New York 10701-3892

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B E F O R E:

- MAYOR MIKE SPANO - Chairman
- DEPUTY MAYOR SUSAN GERRY - Vice Chair/Secretary
- MELISSA NACERINO - Treasurer (Excused)
- CECILE SINGER - President & CEO
- VICTOR GJONAJ - Member

I D A S T A F F:

- JAIME MCGILL - IDA Executive Director
- SIBY OOMMEN - IDA/YEDC Chief Fiscal Officer

P R E S E N T:

- LARRY SYKES, ESQ. - IDA/YEDC Counsel
- SHAWN GRIFFIN, ESQ. - Harris Beach PLLC
- ADRIANA BARANELLO, ESQ. - Harris Beach PLLC

BOARD MEETING

1
2 MAYOR SPANO: So we're ready to
3 begin. This is a meeting of the
4 Yonkers Economic Development
5 Corporation, the YEDC. Just let's
6 start with our roll call.

7 MR. OOMMEN: Mayor Mike Spano.

8 MAYOR SPANO: Here.

9 MR. OOMMEN: Cecile Singer.

10 MS. SINGER: Here.

11 MR. OOMMEN: Deputy Mayor Susan
12 Gerry.

13 DEPUTY MAYOR GERRY: Here.

14 MR. OOMMEN: Victor Gjonaj.

15 MR. GJONAJ: Here.

16 MR. OOMMEN: Melissa Nacerino
17 is excused. Mayor, we have a quorum.

18 MAYOR SPANO: All right, good.
19 I'm moving on to item two. Everyone
20 should have a copy of the minutes in
21 front of them for the May 28th,
22 2024 meeting. All members except for
23 Deputy Mayor Gerry can vote on this.
24 So are there any questions? Hearing
25 no questions, Cecile's made a motion,

BOARD MEETING

1 seconded by Victor. All in favor?

2 (A chorus of ayes.)

3 MAYOR SPANO: Any negatives?

4 The item is passed. Number three,
5 approval for the financials for May
6 to August 2024.

7
8 MR. OOMMEN: For the months of
9 May through August we received agency
10 fees of \$42,282. Our cash on hand at
11 the end of August was \$3.3 million.
12 Thank you.

13 MAYOR SPANO: Okay. Are there
14 any questions? Hearing no questions.

15 MR. GJONAJ: Nope.

16 MAYOR SPANO: Victor's made a
17 motion, seconded by the Deputy Mayor.
18 All in favor?

19 (A chorus of ayes.)

20 MAYOR SPANO: Any negatives?

21 Hearing none, the item is passed.
22 Jaime, resolutions for consideration.

23 MS. MCGILL: Sure. Only
24 resolution is a resolution
25 authorizing sponsorship for Yonkers

BOARD MEETING

1
2 Partners in Education gala,
3 Groundworks Hudson Valley gala, the
4 Untermyer Gardens Illumination
5 project. These are all sponsorships
6 that we have partaken in in the past.

7 MAYOR SPANO: Deputy Mayor's
8 made a motion -- hold on. Cecile, do
9 you have a question?

10 MS. SINGER: Yes, I have a
11 question about the galas, why we are
12 helping sponsor galas --

13 (The court reporter asks for
14 clarification.)

15 MS. SINGER: The Illumination
16 is excellent for Untermyer, that
17 benefits the city, and it has -- both
18 of these organizations are very
19 important to the city and do
20 excellent work. I'm not questioning
21 that. What I'm questioning is any
22 sponsorship of a gala is another
23 area. And the gala is to raise
24 funding for the organization, and so
25 --

BOARD MEETING

1
2 MS. MCGILL: So I will say that
3 these are very modest sponsorships.
4 We do often go back and ask them for
5 a reduction in sponsorships. They
6 give us the opportunities to be at
7 these events and networking, for the
8 IDA, for the administration, pushing
9 Yonkers forward.

10 And like I said, we do reduced
11 sponsorships typically. It does give
12 advertorial opportunities, we do get
13 to advertise with them.

14 MAYOR SPANO: Have we done
15 Yonkers Partners in Education before?

16 MS. MCGILL: We have.

17 MS. SINGER: Yes. They do
18 excellent work. It benefits
19 everyone. I am not questioning that,
20 or a sponsor in helping them with
21 anything else. I'm only questioning
22 the gala, that we selected galas --

23 MAYOR SPANO: Right, but the
24 galas -- but it's a fundraising
25 effort.

1 BOARD MEETING

2 MS. SINGER: Yes, yeah --

3 MAYOR SPANO: Fundraising for
4 their, you know, college ready
5 programs.

6 MS. SINGER: They have
7 wonderful programs, they do important
8 work in the city, and I would not
9 question anything except the
10 structure that -- whether there are
11 other ways to give them funding
12 rather than a gala. That's --

13 MAYOR SPANO: Okay, all right.
14 We'll look at it.

15 MS. SINGER: But since --

16 MAYOR SPANO: What do you
17 think, Larry, thoughts on this?

18 MR. SYKES: My thoughts, well,
19 as far --

20 MS. SINGER: Since it's
21 everyone's judgement that it's valid
22 and good, I will withdraw my question
23 and support the expenditure.

24 MAYOR SPANO: Thank you. All
25 right. So we will obviously take

BOARD MEETING

1
2 that up. Because this has been
3 somewhat of a tradition, and I think
4 they already are expecting that this
5 is going to happen, but for next year
6 we should have a bigger conversation.

7 MS. MCGILL: And we can write
8 these into the actual annual budget
9 so you can see them in advance and
10 review them at budget time as opposed
11 to taking some of these up as they
12 arise.

13 MS. SINGER: Right, because
14 there's so many things we can do
15 through that or relates to what they
16 do for students.

17 MS. MCGILL: We'll be sure to
18 include these in the budget so when
19 we get to that season we can review
20 that.

21 MAYOR SPANO: Yeah.

22 MS. SINGER: Right. So
23 anything that IDA does is fine, but
24 it just doesn't seem to be as worthy
25 of it.

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BOARD MEETING

MS. MCGILL: Understood.

MAYOR SPANO: We have a motion

--

MS. SINGER: But this year is fine. I withdraw my objection.

MAYOR SPANO: Thank you, Cecile. Is there a motion? Deputy Mayor's made a motion, seconded by Victor. All in favor?

(A chorus of ayes.)

MAYOR SPANO: Any negatives? The resolution is passed. Thank you. Any legal updates?

MR. SYKES: I have nothing.

MAYOR SPANO: Any other business?

MS. MCGILL: We should take on the vote to appoint Deputy Mayor Sue Gerry as secretary of the board and chair of the governance committee if that is what the board wishes.

MAYOR SPANO: Cecile, would you like to take that resolution up?

MS. SINGER: Yes. It would

BOARD MEETING

Thank you.

(Whereupon, at 1:46 P.M., the
above matter concluded.)

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BOARD MEETING
C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK)
: SS.:
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER)

I, NATHAN DAVIS, a Notary Public for
and within the State of New York, do hereby
certify:

That the above is a correct
transcription of my stenographic notes.

I further certify that I am not
related to any of the parties to this
action by blood or by marriage and that I
am in no way interested in the outcome of
this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
set my hand this 30th day of September
2024.



NATHAN DAVIS

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