

**Housing and Third Ward Revitalization Task Force  
Minutes  
June 12, 2023  
6:30 p.m.**

The Housing and Third Ward Revitalization Task Force held virtually on Monday, June 12, 2023 via Zoom. The meeting commenced at 6:44 p.m. and adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

**Voting Members Present:**

Byron Price – Chair  
Linda Peoples-Jones  
Patricia McQueen  
Ariel Gardner  
Craig Hughes  
Christina Dancy  
Susan Murray  
Mayela Zambrano

**Voting Members Absent:**

Christopher Flood

**Staff Present:**

Brooke A. Smith, Deputy City Manager/Dir. of Economic Development

**Others attending:**

Representatives from Yard & Co.  
Representatives From Collabo

**Yard & Co – Meet and Greet – Discussion Only**

Representatives from Yard & Co and Collabo introduced themselves and their team members, explain what each entity does and what role they will play while working with the city.

After introductions, Kevin Wright (Yard) shared a presentation and discussion was had between the consultants and the task force members on the role and goals of the task force.

Deputy City Manager Smith paused the presentation to note that the agenda was not being followed, and requested that the Chair or Vice Chair circle back and call for public comments.

**Patrick Fox, 1309 Purdue Avenue**

Mr. Fox said he was interested to see how Yard & Co. can add value to this process. He noted that he had reservations about using funds intended for the third ward for the consultant without the city putting up funds from other accounts. He said he wanted to impart upon Yard, as a resident from the 3<sup>rd</sup> ward, that the burden on what they are able to achieve is high, noting that every dollar spent on their services is a dollar that will not be spent to improve the lives of the residents of the third ward. He said he wanted Yard to hear this from him as a resident to impart the gravity of what the expectations are. In reference to Susan Murray's comments on disinvestment in the third ward, he said he wanted to make sure to mention that the purpose of these funds is not to fill the gap that exists because the city has not invested as it should have, the purpose is to improve the

housing of the residents in the third ward and that is it. He wanted to share that limited scope because it is important that this initiative is successful.

There were no other public comments, so Deputy City Manager Smith turned it back over to Kevin Wright to resume his presentation and discussion with the task force members. Kevin discussed the phases of the process, a tentative schedule for moving forward, and how communication with the task force would be had.

### **Task Force Member Comments**

*Patricia McQueen* – Patricia stated that she would send a handout to Deputy City Manager Smith tomorrow and she wanted the task force to think about the investor-buyer situation in the third ward and what kind of programs this task force can recommend promoting homebuyer programs. She referenced NACA and a program in Washington D.C. since the 1980s. She discussed the importance of thinking about starting these types of programs.

### **Next Meeting – July 17, 2023**

### **Adjourn**

Motioned by Mayela Zambrano, seconded by Christina Dancy to adjourn. Carried by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.