

# MINUTES FROM THE BETHLEHEM REVITALIZATION AND IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY (BRIA)

June 6, 2019  
3:30 p.m.

1.0 Call to Order

A meeting of the **Bethlehem Revitalization and Improvement Authority (BRIA)** was held at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 6, 2019 at Town Hall located at 10 East Church Street, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Kelly called the meeting to order.

2.0 Roll was taken as follows:

Authority: Joseph Kelly  
Ann McHale  
Donna Taggart  
John Filipos  
Mark Jobes

Solicitor: Edward Andres

Staff in attendance: Alicia Miller Karner  
Denise Rider

3.0 Public Comment on Current Agenda

None

4.0 Approval of Minutes dated April 4, 2019

There are no additions or corrections. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. McHale and seconded by Mr. Filipos. Ms. Taggart and Mr. Jobes were not in attendance at the April 4, 2019 meeting and abstained from voting. The minutes were then approved as presented.

5.0 Treasurer's Report

Mr. Filipos reported that there were compliance, project, audit and legal costs. Mr. Kelly requested a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Ms. McHale and seconded by Taggart. The Treasurer's Report was then approved as presented by Mr. Filipos.

6.0 Old Business

None

## 7.0 New Business

### 7.1 Decertification of Property

Ms. Karner stated that the Bethlehem Parking Authority (BPA) recently acquired parcel P6 2 2-13 from Sands BethWorks which is located at the corner of 2<sup>nd</sup> and Polk Street. This was acquired so the BPA could build a parking garage. The BPA is requesting to decertify the parcel because they received RACP funding. Ms. Karner noted that state law prohibits the use of both CRIZ and RACP funding. It was also noted that parking lots and parking garages are not the best use of CRIZ for generation of increment. Ms. Karner added that this meeting was publicly advertised as required by the Commonwealth. Ms. Karner then referred to the CRIZ Transfer Worksheet that the Commonwealth requests the BRIA complete. Ms. Karner will be sending the CRIZ Transfer Worksheet along with a photo and an affidavit from the BPA stating that they are willing to remove parcel P6 2 2-13 from CRIZ designation. Ms. Karner then asked if the Board had any questions. Mr. Jobs asked about the timing of construction by the BPA. Ms. Karner noted that she is not aware of the timing as there are several predevelopment activities occurring. Ms. Karner indicated that the acquisition process took years longer than anticipated. Ms. Karner stated that she believes it was pre-approved for land development at the end of 2014. Mr. Kelly then asked if there were any other questions. Being no additional questions from the Board; Mr. Kelly noted that properties have been decertified in the past and that BRIA has the ability to bank property until a new location that will benefit from the additional acreage is targeted. Ms. Karner noted that there was a resolution that was distributed with regards to the decertification of parcel P6 2 2-13. Being no further questions; Mr. Kelly requested a motion to approve the decertification of parcel P6 2 2-13. A motion to decertify the parcel was made by Ms. McHale and seconded by Taggart. The decertification of parcel P6 2 2-13 was then approved as presented.

### 8.0 Regular Meeting Time Change

Ms. Karner referred to a memo from Mayor Donchez dated May 6, 2019 requesting that the BRIA consider moving meetings to later in the evening for the convenience of the public and also consider live streaming the meetings. Mr. Kelly indicated that a majority of BRIA meetings typically consist of staff and believes that the BRIA can provide special meetings if there are know matters of public importance. Mr. Kelly also noted that he has no objection with live streaming the meetings. Ms. McHale believes this is a great idea for high school students to see how their government is working. Ms. Taggart, Mr. Filipos and Mr. Jobs are in agreement with Mr. Kelly's views. It was noted that there may be issues with finding a location at a later time due to additional meetings that are also held in Town Hall. This potential issue can be addressed when the time comes.

9.0 Solicitor's Report  
None

10.0 Executive Director's Report  
None

11.0 Next Meeting Date – July 18, 2019

12.0 Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Mr. Filipos and seconded by Ms. Taggart to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved at 3:53 PM.

Signed by: 

Print Name: ANNA T. McHALE

Print Title: Vice Chairperson

Assistant Secretary