

1 **City of New Bern**
2 **Redevelopment Commission Meeting**
3 **May 13, 2020- 6pm**
4 **Conference Call**
5 **303 First Street**
6

7 **Members Present:** Chair Tharesa Lee, John Young, Beth Walker, Steve Strickland, Maria Cho,
8 Leander Morgan

9 **Ex-Officio Members Present:** Alderwoman Sabrina Bengel, Alderwoman Barbara Best

10 **Members Excused (E)/Absent (A):** Kip Peregoy (A), Tabari Wallace (A), Co-Chair Jaimee
11 Bullock-Mosley (A)

12 **Staff Present:** Jeff Ruggieri, Director of Development Services; Alice Wilson, GIS Manager;
13 Amanda Ohlensehlen, Community and Economic Development Manager; D'Aja Fulmore,
14 Community Development Coordinator

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16 **1. Welcome and Call to Order**

17 Chair Tharesa Lee called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.
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19 **2. Public Comment**

20 No public comments were received. This meeting was held via conference call due to the
21 COVID-19 pandemic.
22

23 **3. Approval of Minutes: Approval of Minutes for 12/11/2019, 12/18/2019 and 1/08/2020**
24 **Meetings**

25 Commissioner Steve Strickland made a motion to approve the minutes for the 12/11, 12/18 and
26 1/08 meetings with no corrections needed. Commissioner John Young seconded this motion. All
27 commissioners voted unanimously in favor of the approval.

28 **4. Discussing Working Groups**

29 Jeff Ruggieri, director of Development Services began the discussion of creating working
30 groups. Mr. Ruggieri explained that the idea is to break down parts of the Redevelopment Plan
31 and create groups based off the various sections of the plan. Chair Tharesa Lee stated that she
32 believed three groups would be enough to consume a large part of the plan. Alderwoman Best
33 asked if these groups would only be for commissioners or if community members would be able

34 to serve also. Chair Lee responded that these groups could include community members but
35 ultimately must be led by the Commission. Commissioner Young stated that he felt the
36 Commission is already small and he had concerned about splitting up, explaining that he did not
37 feel it would be necessary. Commissioner Maria Cho agreed and stated that a better framework
38 could possibly be developed. Commissioner Strickland stated that splitting into groups is needed
39 to increase productivity. Commissioner Strickland explained that some level of division must
40 take place so the Commission could get more accomplished. Alderwoman Sabrina Bengel agreed
41 that it is time to move forward and start working, also noting that it would be great to identify
42 community partners.

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44 **5. New Business/Discussion**

45 Mr. Ruggieri told the Commission that letters have been mailed to residents regarding
46 neighborhood clean-up. Mr. Ruggieri stated that some residents had already began cleaning their
47 yards. Alderwoman Bengel asked about residents potentially wanting to sell property to the
48 Redevelopment Commission. Mr. Ruggieri responded, stating that at this time, City staff could
49 begin making a list of potential sellers, but the Commission is currently unable to buy at this
50 time.

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52 This meeting via conference call adjourned at 6:45PM.

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55 Date approved: 9/9/20

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59 Attest: [Signature]

60 D'Ale Fulmore, Recording Secretary

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Theresa Lee, Chairman