



**DUTCHTOWN COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPECIAL BUDGET MEETING
MINUTES**

DATE: March 17, 2024

Attendance:

Directors Present: Caya Aufiero, Mel Brockley, Molly Rebmann, and Ann Smart

Directors Excused: Dwayne Nelson, Michael Powers, Fadumo Hassan

Directors Absent:

Guests:

Call to Order:

Caya Aufiero called the meeting to order at 12:16 pm and announced a quorum was present.

Caya presented the bank statement balance of \$249,964.

Caya presented a quick review of new vs repeat projects.

Budget Discussion:

1. Molly mentioned that cost of Virginia string lights project is likely to be more like 30-35k

Virginia string lights - we need to spend more than 10k to make infrastructure that invites more businesses but just do the 4700 block . Ann suggests that we grant /set aside \$35,000k on contingency that designs are approved by the board or a third party Randy Wilson at community design solutions, with the good faith paying the designer Randy Wilson, the initial \$3500.

2. Talked about the mural project already approved but never done. It's been on our budget for at least a couple years. Mural - we want to give them a few grand more than 10k if needed- it's a big mural- but they should ask for it- \$10,000- Yes

3. DTMS is requesting \$2000 for a board mixer- we think this excludes sober board members and other community members and orgs, and that DTMS should share the expense. We are more interested in funding a stay in place party to invite people to join and volunteer. Caya said it would be great to meet Board Members of other organizations like DSCC, Mt Pleasant Assn. And since the last mixer only had two CID Board members it would be better to open the event to other organizations as a community Board Building gathering. - \$750, as our half of a \$1500 budget- Yes

4. Mel suggests setting aside a budget to get a footrace funded i.e. trap run- How much would that be. Mel to research

5. Vacant lot maintenance requesting \$2000- we love this

6. Merry Menagerie – DTMS wants the event back for 8k but Rick Ruderer says it will cost 10k . DTCID wants to know if this is successful. Ultimately it is supposed to bring traffic to the local businesses (as well as being an entertaining holiday event for families). It wasn't well publicized, and we don't feel it brings value to the businesses. Or at least more of the footprint. Ann doesn't want to close the street because it chokes off business to merchants unless we have a LOT of foot traffic and its more broadly



attractive than to people with children, Caya thinks the event should happen because Merchant surveys request more events & it's a holiday event, but add more attractive aspects to it, like Music, fire spinning, Carriage rides, etc. Rick also got \$3500 for holiday decor but that was only for downtown,

We need professional decor. What if we spend the money on decorating the entire footprint? - Ann to research.

Let's request **more ads, no street closures, move animals to the NIC parking lot and Constantinos Parking lots,**– Yes-give them \$8000 this year if event is as-is.

7. Ann suggests separate line item for all year round decor for entire footprint. Lamp post banners. We discussed Neutral designs such as “Dutchtown Love” or “Make it Dutchtown” Not using any one organization’s logo or colors.

Caya has sample of banner products... Caya will share with Molly. Molly will contact Vendor about designs & prices for future expenditures

8. Movies at NIC. \$900 -Yes

9. Autumn chill - \$500 -yes

10. Small business Saturday - \$750- yes please

11. Mt Pleasant monument -\$16,000 -No, because it's not on our footprint

12. Agree we will pay for Metal Flower Art for concrete planters, for \$300 each in all 6 and Ann and Molly will plant sweet potato vines in them, if DTMS agrees. -\$1800 Yes

These are the Budget committee recommendations to the full Board for Grant Requests as of 3/17/24.

We ran out of time to discuss many other things already in the budget in one form or another, whether DTCID projects from last year, or administrative:

1. The most important category that we did not get to was Security
2. DTMS no longer wants Security to be under their purview, since it doesn't fit specifically into their 4 points. It **does** fit into the CID's Primary goals and is the number one priority for us. There will be no actual difference in how the program runs NIC would continue to oversee and implement the security program and technology.

John Chen from the NICstI recommends for this year's Security budget:

A. Curated Camera purchases (Wyze AI cameras)	2,500	
B. Camera Installations	2,500	
C. Flock Camera Annual Fees - \$2500 x 8	20,000	
D. Camera Program Education Marketing	1,000	
E. CRM/Mapping/Managing		2,000
F. Safer DT Coffee Hours	1,200	
G. Citizen Safety Related Projects (Pilot)	5,000	



- H. Safer DT Summit 1,000
- I. Reintroduction of 3rd Party Safety Patrol-
 - a. For selected holidays/times (Peacekeepers) 12,000