



DUTCHTOWN COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES
June 26, 2024

Attendance:

Directors Present: Caya Aufiero, Mel Brockley, Dwayne Nelson, Ann Smart, Fadumo Hassan (via Teams Meet)

Directors Excused:

Directors Absent: Michael Powers

Guests: Shawn Stokes via Teams Meet (legislative assistant for Shane Cohn), Kathy McMillan, Kingsland Court; Patty Russell, Kingsland Court; Jennifer Hoyt, Kingsland Court; Andrew Boyle, Read A Book STL; Brian Cheli, Read A Book STL; Ashley Porter; Patricia Porter; Danielle Fox, Kingsland Court; Jennifer Dickson, Kingsland Court; Mark Senechal, Kingsland Court; Ellen Cheli, Read A Book STL; John Chen (NIC/Safety Committee)

Call to Order:

Caya Aufiero called the meeting to order at 5:40 pm and announced a quorum was present. Introduction of guests.

Approval of previous board minutes:

Ann offered an amendment to the May minutes. Dwayne moved to approve previous board minutes as amended and was seconded by Mel. Motion unanimously carried.

Secretary's Report: Ann Smart

1. Annual Operating Budget- State Financial Report letter
 - a. Reminder letter received
2. Assessors Reports Via Email
 - a. Reports for the month received

Treasurer's Report: Ann Smart

1. Financial Statements – Treasurer's Report, Balance Sheet, Bank Statement
 - a. Net Operating expenses: \$17,375.56
 - b. Total Assets: \$275,934
 - c. Bank balance of \$249,964.08
2. State Financial report Annual Operating Budget (AOB) filed with State Auditor
3. Donations for Carriage/ Shuttle- Creative Expressions, Greenfield, Kim Poor in June – Total \$640
 - a. The carriage ride program is not going forward because the vendor is not responding.

Carriage Ride Q&A



1. The Trial shopping shuttle on June 8 was not promoted. Will try again on the July 13th
2. Merchants will be participating with store promotions
 - a. Debuting the water bottle filler at the NIC
 - b. Live music on street
3. Traffic was calmed during the preliminary trial of carriage rides
 - a. Weather will be a consideration in future carriage or shuttle services

Guests - Kingsland Court Concerns: Patricia Porter (resident)

1. Kingsland Court is no longer getting trash pickup services
 - a. Change in vendor resulted in service missing Kingsland Court. Service will be restored immediately.
2. Kingsland Court gate was vandalized, resulting in the loss of the decorative brass foxes. Masonry repairs are needed. Residents would like DT CID to pay for the repairs.
 - a. Bids from masonry company to fix the stone cap (without the Fox) \$4000 / \$1900
 - b. Shane (ward funds) built the gate 12-15 years ago
 - c. It has been in disarray since last summer
 - d. Will not replace the foxes due to expense
 - i. Note that the custom mold for the foxes still exists
3. Can they get a third bid?
 - a. It is very difficult to bet bids
 - b. Caya will give the information for a third bid to Patty.
4. The board will vote on whether to pay via the maintenance budget

Other Guest Topics

1. How to join the board? Caya discusses the need to update the process to be more inclusive and transparent.
2. Issue with trucks parking near Amberg Park
 - a. DT CID cannot do anything about that. Please call the CSB and/or the Alderman.
 - b. Details

New Business

1. Board Member Recruitment Process
 - a. Prototypes have been created for flyers, ads, and distribution channels



- b. There has been an informal recruitment process (same as DT2) where we would reach out individually. Recently understand need to broadcast openings more broadly. We are likely to get a more choices of candidates.
 - c. Caya looked at other organizations regarding the “call for boardmembers”
 - i. Caya presented draft copies of board recruitment collateral
 - ii. Caya strives for diversity in the board
 - d. Mel does not want to tokenize. Mel states that the board needs enthusiastic people and does not think we need to advertise in Spanish. Does not want to be discriminating
 - e. Ann understands and agrees that the size of the board limits the ability to maintain a fully diverse board as a main objective
 - f. Shawn Stokes interjects regarding board recruiting. He loves the concept of diversity but cautions on the legality of the process. Must be in line with what is in the bylaws. We don’t necessarily have the legal authority to choose certain characteristics.
 - g. Caya comments that there was nothing wrong with informal way we have recruited board members previously but believes a new process this will benefit the organization.
 - i. Caya sent a link regarding board composition. How can the board assist Caya in getting this done quickly?
 - h. Timeline and plan needed to move quickly.
 - i. All applicant submissions by the next meeting
 - ii. Number of applicants to consider? Five would be ideal but would be happy with three.
 - iii. Flyers, social and press release. Linked In.
 - iv. Mel proposes feedback on recruiting collateral by Monday.
 - v. Design will be donated by Caya by end of next week.
 - i. What is the process to apply? Link to official application? Caya will ask Michael to let us know when applications are received.
2. CRM - Mel wants a contact list for people of the CID.
 - a. Action item. Need to determine which CRM to use.
 - b. John understands the new budget and will work with Mel to move this forward.
 - c. Mel expressed pleasure that there are so many guests at the meeting. (Note that Kingsland CID was abandoned when the DT CID was activated.)
 3. Meramec Magic - Street wide event on July 13, 11-5



- a. UE, WINK and Wink Annex sponsor Meramec Magic the 2nd Saturday of every month.
- b. Other Shops on the street will also be having promotions
- c. Shopping Shuttle pilot
- d. Bands

Old Business:

1. Grant Notification Letters, New Grantee Partner Pairings - Ann Smart
 - a. Letters to go out this week
 - b. Reviewed grant summary spreadsheet
2. Safer Dutchtown Summit Review- (June 15)
 - a. Report from John Chen of the NIC STL. (Partners with CID to handle technology part of the safety.)
 - b. Connected Dutchtown officially launched at the Summit
 - i. This was the 3rd year and the room was full
 - ii. Concentration on community building and cooperation with law authorities
 - iii. Ongoing efforts to address root problems
 1. Youth orgs Vacancy Initiative variety of organizations
 - iv. Speakers included Dennis Maraz and Adam Lane (Treasurer)
 1. Keynote speech was on Economic Empowerment
 - v. John reviewed NPR reports on crime and why so many are not resolved. (
 - vi. Need volunteer teams
 1. Need to recruit incident response coordinator
 - vii. DOJ Program announced for Federal Crime Task Force
 - viii. Need to continue to build ecosystem to address problems
 - c. Brian Cheli commented on economic instability
 - i. Low-cost human need service and offering to help to unhoused populations. We are missing homeless organizations and mental health organizations in Dutchtown.
 - ii. John commented on the need to build out the neighborhood talent pool
 1. We are here to create opportunities, but it does not just happen. All of us need to spread the word. All need to play a role.
 - iii. Ellen Cheli commented about not calling the police on the person who has been harassing and stealing from Meramec Street merchants.



- iv. John commented about people connectivity...someone must do it. (Why not you? Nobody is coming to do this for us.)
 1. Caya – there will be mental health training. Caya will send information on the training.
 2. John – Safer Dutchtown is about community engagement.

Announcements:

1. Safer Dutchtown Coffee Hours- at the NIC, Monthly 3rd Saturday, 10-11
 - a. \$5000 in budget for safety related projects.
2. After Hours, 2nd Thursdays, 5.30-7.30, July 11 – Sign of the Times Tattoo Shop

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM, Next meeting is **July 23rd, 2024** (4th Tuesday of each month) The meeting will be open to the public at the Neighborhood Innovation Center (NIC STL) 3207 Meramec, 63118 & online at <https://dutchtownstl.org/cidmeeting>

DUTCHTOWN COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

3207 Meramec Street, St. Louis, MO 63118 <https://dutchtownstl.org/cid>

Minutes submitted by Ann Smart