

**DUTCHTOWN COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 25th, 2020**

The Board of Directors (“Board”) of the Dutchtown Community Improvement District (the “District”) held its monthly meeting on June 25th, 2020 at 5:37pm at the Neighborhood Innovation Center, 3207 Meramec, St. Louis Mo., 63118 .

**Attendance**

**Directors present:** Caya Aufiero, Brandon Jacobsen, Tony Duncan, Stevie Limmer LaChance

**Directors absent:** none

**Directors excused:** Michael Powers

**Guests present by invitation of the Board:** John Chen, Nate Lindsey, Fadumo Sheikh Hassan, La Gwenda Sims, Shahla Sarlak, Nick Findley, Alderman Shane Cohn via Zoom

**Open to the public**

**Call to Order**

Interim Chairperson Caya Aufiero called the meeting to order at 5:37pm. Nick Findley acted as secretary. The Chairperson announced that a quorum of the directors was present, and that the meeting, having been duly convened, was ready to proceed with its business.

**Approval of Minutes**

Caya Aufiero submitted minutes from the May meeting. Stevie Limmer moved to approve, seconded by Tony Duncan. All in favor, the motion passed.

**Secretary’s Report**

No correspondence was received over the past month.

**Treasurer’s Report**

Brandon Jacobsen is working with John Chen to acquire a new version of QuickBooks. Payments were issued to Peacemakers Security (\$1600 for services), A Big Difference (\$200 for signs), and Chip Smith (\$800 for video). Tables, chairs, and umbrellas were purchased for the district at a cost of \$3272.

**Committee Reports**

**Safety & Security** Stevie Limmer, Chair

Peacemakers Security patrolled the CID from June 2nd–June 7th following unrest throughout the City. They reported issues with loitering and prostitution and checked in at stores. They worked 4 hour shifts and provided GPS reports of travel and stops.

Nate Lindsey: Dutchtown South Community Corporation hosted a virtual meeting on the topic of public safety. There were discussions of the CID’s relieving Campbell Security of their duties, as well as alternative approaches to and practical solutions for security. DutchtownSTL.org will be listing alternative resources for non-emergency situations.

Tony Duncan: Concerns over recent homicide and fatal fire within the district and concentrated criminal activity along Virginia. The St. Louis Police have not communicated well.

Ald. Shane Cohn: Discussed with every chief and captain the need to be informed of incidents in his ward. Didn't receive updates from SLMPD even when he served on the Public Safety Committee. He finds out about homicides and other incidents through the news and reports from neighbors. Communication issues are handled differently from district to district and depending on who the captain and neighborhood liaison officer are. Our neighborhood liaison officer, Steve Burle, was asked to attend this meeting but was not present. What we can do to address problems ourselves: address vacancy to get more eyes and ears on the street to deter drug dealing, prostitution, etc. and the associated violence; neighborhood patrols/meet-and-greets to encourage positive behavior; send nuisance issues to Neighborhood Improvement Specialist Christian Saller; add additional lighting on Virginia.

Shahla Sarlak: Calls to police have been ignored. In some cases her identity has not been kept anonymous and she has been harassed by people she has reported to police.

#### **Maintenance & Beautification** Tony Duncan, Chair

Tables, chairs, and umbrellas have been purchased to be placed in the district, particularly on Meramec Street. Will add color to the streets along with the 500 flower bulbs planted last fall. The tables and chairs will be inviting and indicate activity to people on the street. Tables and chairs will need to be kept secure by shop owners bringing them in at night. More plantings will take place in the fall.

Reached out to Mark Swain to discuss recruiting local artists to paint murals on boards of vacant buildings. Painted boards could be auctioned off once buildings are developed, with proceeds being split between the artists and the district.

#### **Marketing & Development** Nick Findley, Chair

Discussed with Caya Aufiero a potential storefront improvement pilot program. Caya has contact with a group specializing in store design. The district could possibly provide matching funds to help improve storefronts.

Draft designs for street pole banners will be sent to Tony Duncan.

Discussion of UrbanMain's facade components program and the Dutchtown Drive-In Movie night at Habitat for Humanity, sponsored by the CID, on June 26th.

### **Old Business**

#### **Campbell Security dispute**

Campbell Security has been paid through April 17th but they believe they are owed \$3560 for services through the end of May. No contract was in place, but having difficulty locating any other documentation that the CID requested services be stopped. Citizens in the district have brought up complaints about service provided by Campbell.

#### **CID expansion on Louisiana**

SLDC has provided assessment estimates. Petitions can be drafted and the CID expansion can possibly be presented at the fall session of the Board of Aldermen.

#### **Election**

The Board presented a new slate of Officers for election By unanimous vote, the following Board has been installed for 2020-2021:

Brandon Jacobsen: Chair

Caya Aufiero: Vice Chair

Stevie Limmer: Treasurer

Michael Powers: Secretary

## **New Business**

### **Approval of new board members**

Fadumo Sheikh Hassan and La Gwenda Sims have been approved for directors positions on the board.

**Fadumo** owns and operates the Tawakal Halal store on Meramec Street. **La Gwenda** owns and operates Honey Bee Plus Child Care on Virginia Avenue. Brandon Jacobsen moved to approve the appointments of both. Tony Duncan seconded the motion. All were in favor, the motion passed

They join Tony Duncan as the seventh member of the Board..

### **Marketing video**

Chip Smith has been contracted to produce a video to promote the neighborhood. The video is near complete and will be introduced at the drive-in movie on June 26th and promoted via DutchtownSTL.org and other social media channels. The draft version of the video was presented to the board.

### **Guests: Ald. Shane Cohn**

A developer is interested in Cleveland High School. The Board of Alderman is considering an expansion of the Port Authority area to include Cleveland and the light industrial area near Gustine Avenue. Inclusion in the Port Authority district would allow for tax incentives, credits, and grants.

**Nate Lindsey:** The drive-in movie scheduled for June 26th will provide visibility and impact within the CID. 60 or more cars are expected to attend. Several other sponsors within and without the neighborhood have contributed. Additional movie nights are planned throughout the summer. A sponsorship of the movie nights in the amount of \$1000 is requested from the CID. Tony Duncan moved to approve a sponsorship, Stevie Limmer seconds the motion. All are in favor. The motion is approved.

## **Action Items**

### **Nick Findley:**

- **Add new Monthly Committee Meeting dates to Website & Publish in advance to FB.**
- Connect with Sara Schipkowski to start the pilot program to redesign the Halal storefront so we can get that glass in door and at least a minimally improved storefront done in time to coincide with an Event launch of the Bistro Tables on Meramec in Late July.

- Work with **Tony Duncan's Beautification committee** to create the timeline and event itself
- **Email/Text** invites to new/prospective committee members for 1st monthly committee meeting (2nd Thursday) Or maybe later bc of Holiday? (corrected)

**Tony Duncan:**

- Work with one or more of his new committee members (**Legina & Teresa?**) to determine which stores should host the Bistro sets/umbrellas to create the best effect on Meramec, and then to create an agreement with each and an onboarding date for delivery and training prior to the "installation" RE OPENING or COLORS OF HOPE on Meramec or somesuch event
- Work with **Nick Findley's Marketing committee** to create the timeline and event itself
- **Email/Text** invites to new/prospective committee members for 1st monthly committee meeting (1st Thursday) (corrected)

**Brandon Jacobsen:**

- Work with **Stevie** to transfer all the previous info and prepare next months financial report
- **Email/Text** invites to new/prospective committee members for 1st monthly Safety committee meeting (3rd Thursday)
- Set meeting w Kathy McMullin RE Scribe position

**Caya Aufiero:**

- Transfer Organizational Agendas, etc knowledge to **Brandon**.
- **Caya, Stevie & Brandon:** Arrange mutual time to go to PNC bank to Update signatory Cards, Get Credit cards for Chairpersons.

**John Chen:**

- Order Quickbooks now so **Stevie** has time to work w **Brandon**

**Stevie LaChance:**

- Schedule time to work with **Caya** or **John** to find missing emails to Campbell Security
- Work with **Brandon** to transfer financials to new QB

**Next Meeting and Adjournment**

The next meeting of the Dutchtown Community Improvement District Board of Directors will be held on Thursday, July 23rd, 5:30pm at the Neighborhood Innovation Center and via Zoom. Tony Duncan moved to adjourn the meeting, Stevie Limmer seconds the motion. All are in favor. The meeting is adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Nick Findley