

**DUTCHTOWN COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
May 28, 2020**

The Board of Directors (“Board”) of the Dutchtown Community Improvement District (the “District”) held its monthly meeting on May 28, 2020 at 5.34 PM CST at the Neighborhood Innovation Center, 3207 Meramec, St Louis Mo 63118

Attendance:

Directors present: Caya Aufiero, Brandon Jacobsen, Tony Duncan, Michael Powers

Directors absent:

Directors excused: Stevie Limmer

Guests present by invitation of the Board: John Chen, Joel Silliman, Nate Lindsey via Zoom, Linda Lawson-Mixon via Zoom

Open to the public

Call to Order

Interim Chairperson Caya Aufiero called the meeting to order at 5.34. 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. Caya welcomed everyone to the Annual Meeting of the DTCID.

Approval of Minutes

Caya Aufiero submitted minutes from April meeting. Tony Duncan moved to approve, seconded by Brandon Jacobsen. All in favor, the motion passed.

Secretary’s Report

Chair Ashley Raineri resigned effective immediately on May 5th, 2020. Vice Chair Stephen Bruce has moved out of the district and is no longer eligible to serve as a resident member. According to our Bylaws, the Secretary becomes the interim Chairperson in the absence of Chair and Vice Chair. Caya Aufiero will serve as Interim Chairperson. Nick Findley will take over as marketing committee chair.

Treasurer’s Report

- Total liabilities and equity \$176,056.91
- Net income \$38,134.67
- Ending balance \$146,067.54
- All invoices through April have been paid to Metro Sweeping, St. Patrick’s Center, Campbell Security

Committee Reports:

Maintenance & Beautification - Tony Duncan, Chair

- Tony Duncan contacted Ald. Shane Cohn to get broken trash cans replaced by City of St. Louis, process is ongoing slowly but moving forward. Having trouble communicating with Ald Cohn. Suggests that the board invite Ald. Cohn to a future board meeting. Caya will extend an invitation.

- Discussion of issues with vacant and boarded up buildings and exploration of possibilities to improve board ups with public art, new materials, etc. related to recent Arson and crime on Virginia/Idaho.

May also provide opportunities for marketing and crime reduction, could be an effective use of funds from all three committees. Nick Findley & Tony will look into potential options.

Safety and Security Committee – Stevie Limmer, Chair

-Nate Lindsey attended Mount Pleasant Neighborhood Association meeting on May 27th. Citizens voiced concerns about ongoing activity on Virginia Avenue and lack of feedback from St. Louis Police and potential increase in activity as summer arrives.

-Continue to consider alternatives the CID can pursue to increase safety and security. Caya re iterated a two pronged effort of Crime Deterrence and “Filling the Void” with Positive Activity as a manageable and cost effective neighborhood wide strategy, rather than trying to solve/stop crime was reiterated from a previous discussion. NOTE: the new Cure Violence is supposed to address systemic issues.

-Issues with Campbell Security continuing to patrol and bill for services in spite of call to cancel services in February. Board will research correspondence to clarify that services were terminated.

Representative from Campbell would like to attend board meeting to discuss alternative strategies.

- Caya has someone very interested in participating in Safety Committee. Contacted RE arson dumpsters in recent months west of Grand

Marketing- Nick Findley, Chair

- Nick Findley has transitioned the dtcid.org website to dutchtownstl.org/cid, uploaded all available notices and minutes. He will post notices and agendas to the Facebook page going forward.
- Michael Powers suggested building on the momentum of the Dutchtown Proud yard sign campaign and neighborhood unity during pandemic. He moved to spend up to \$1000 for additional signs and promotional video production. Tony Duncan seconded, all in favor, motion passed.
- Nate Lindsey reported that the Facebook event for May 20th’s DT2 After Hours received 5000 views with just an \$8 investment.
- DT2 will host a Drive-in Movie Night at the Habitat for Humanity headquarters on June 26th. Looking for corporate sponsors to cover costs of secondary officers, sanitation, movie licensing, etc. Nate Lindsey will issue communication to sponsors soon. The event is geared towards families and will run until approximately 10:45pm. Contingency plans for inclement weather were discussed. Nate Lindsey is contacting food truck operators to potentially be vendors at the event.
- John Chen discussed the transition of Urban Eats from cafe to kitchen incubator and marketplace to open soon. Currently contracting with three operations that will offer barbecue, pies and desserts, and creole soul food. Goal is to help establish small businesses in the neighborhood and hopefully grow them into larger standalone permanent locations in Dutchtown.

Old Business

3935 S. Grand deed restriction

Dutchtown South Community Corporation, the STL Vacancy Initiative, and Legal Services of Eastern Missouri are pursuing legal action against the owners of the mixed use building at 3935 S. Grand. DSCC proposes that a deed restriction be placed on the property at sale and is asking for DTCID involvement. Additional discussion to be held in closed session.

New Business

2020-2021 fiscal year budget draft

Addition to budget: Renewal of the NIC Stl (Neighborhood Innovation Center) User Fee Agreement at the same rate as previously. The renewal includes use of the space and all the previous uses, plus the addition of teleconferencing software and other technology. Renewal of the NIC Stl contract is for 12 months at a cost of \$1200 to be paid upfront. Michael Powers moved to agree to the contract. Brandon Jacobsen seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed. Brandon will issue a check to NICSTL.

Transcription services

John Chen is looking into transcription services or technology to create transcripts or minutes of board meetings.

2020-2021 fiscal year budget

The budget must be approved by May 31st, 2020. We left the budget flexible this year so that not every detail is a line item and we can fund needs as we see they will best serve our constituents. The budget can be amended at a later date if needed. Discussion of budget allocation for the Dutchtown Growth Manager position and possible need to allocate funds differently. Michael Powers moved to approve the budget. Tony Duncan seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed. Caya Aufiero will send the budget to Ald. Shane Cohn to be forwarded to the appropriate city departments.

CID expansion to 4200 block of Louisiana Avenue

Joel Silliman, resident and block captain on 4200 block of Louisiana, speaks to desire of block residents to join the CID. Initially at the CID inception, there was insufficient support to include the block in the initial petition, many new homeowners are interested. He estimates 60-70% of homeowners would sign the petition. Discussion of procedures required of board and other actors to begin the process of extending the CID. There is a statutory requirement that the CID board must approve of the extension. Brandon Jacobsen moved to approve the pursuit of the addition of the 4200 block of Louisiana Avenue to the CID. Michael Powers seconded the motion. All in favor. The motion passed.

Recruiting new board members

- Discussion of recruiting new directors and reassigning officer roles of existing board members. Seeking board members that reflect neighborhood diversity, are stable and committed to the footprint, have professional, political, or fundraising experience. Caya Aufiero requests that current directors submit recommendations for potential new directors.

- To maintain stability as we continue to recruit new directors for the board, Caya Aufiero will serve as interim chair. Brandon Jacobsen will continue as treasurer. The official Annual election of officers can be held at this meeting or at a subsequent meeting according to our bylaws. To meet the Board needs, the election of officers is tabled.

Action Items

1. Caya Aufiero: submit 2020-21 Budget to Alderman Cohn
2. Caya Aufiero: extend an invitation to Alderman Cohn to attend next Board meeting
3. John Chen: explore transcription services
4. Stevie/John/Nate: follow up on other Crime and safety volunteers and measures in lieu of CSG
5. Nick Findley: discuss video and other marketing options with Chip
6. Nick & Tony: Better Board up options
7. Board and residents: Continue discussion on addition of 4200 Louisiana to CID
8. Brandon will issue a check to NICSTL for Membership renewal
9. Brandon Jacobsen & John Chen: acquire online version of QuickBooks
10. Board: pursue potential sponsors for June drive-in event

Adjournment and next meeting

- There being no further business to come before the meeting, upon a motion duly made by Michael Powers, seconded and unanimously carried, the meeting was adjourned at 7.43 PM

- The next meeting of the Dutchtown CID board will be Thursday, June 25, 2020, 5:30 pm at NIC STL, 3207 Meramec

Minutes submitted by: Nick Findley