



DUTCHTOWN COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

**MINUTES**

DATE: 9/26/2023

**Attendance:**

**Directors Present:** Caya Aufiero, Michael Powers, Molly Rebmann

**Directors Excused:** Ann Smart

**Directors Absent:** Fadumo Hassan, Dwayne Nelson

**Guests:** Rick Ruderer, Shawn, Shane's LA, Mark Washington, NIS, Mel Broccoli and Michelle S., Tiffany Minx Advisory Board member

**Call to Order:** Caya Aufiero Called the meeting to order at 5:38pm and announced a quorum was not present and welcomed guests.

**Approval of previous board minutes:** Not able to approve August Board Minutes since there was no quorum. Postpone til October meeting.

**Secretary's Report: Ann Smart** – no report

**Treasurer's Report:**

- a. Financial Statements – Treasurer's Report, Balance Sheet, Bank Statement  
Net Operating expenses: 22,152.40  
Total Assets 238,706.89
2. Guest Presentations if any: Rick Ruderer: Merry Menagerie Market
  - a. Presentation (5:45pm – 6:10pm):
    - Holiday Street Event scheduled for December 9th – 40 different species of animals about \$5000 of \$7500 – budget is about \$10K – Rick working on sponsorship and booths to make up the difference of revenue.
    - Invited by 50 Roses including numerous other non-profit organizations to join Merry Menagerie Markets
    - Booth or tents will be set up determined by the size of the organization and promote the organization's purpose. In the next few weeks, contacting businesses.
    - For safety reasons, Rick proposes closing Meramec for safety of children, animals, and people in general.



- Agreement will be sought from merchants, city, rerouting of buses. There will be petting passes for children to mark off what animals they have petted. Rick will submit a special request by September 29<sup>th</sup>. Animal availability Noon to 4pm. Vendors to set up by 9am. \$500 dollars allocated for street décor. Rick also has personal decorations for event.
- CID can use some money for String lights and ornaments were discussed to add for holiday decorations.
- Marketing is set up to start in Mid to late October for December 9<sup>th</sup>. Any additional food vendors besides Urban Eats. Adult Daycare center was mentioned to be approached to if they would like to be a part of the holiday festival, for use of the space and residents. Caya will contact them.

#### **Old Business:**

- a. 10/24 -IN PERSON MEETING: All Board Swearing In & Happy Hour- St Louis Registrar Amber Sims. Board members to be sworn in on the 10/24/23 – In person meeting with all board members. There will be drinks and appetizers.
- b. Business Member Surveys- progress report- Ann & Fadumo (both absent) Not in yet.
- c. Community Relations Firm progress- Ann & Caya submitted all the required documents and met with their team to discuss next steps. They are working up a plan. Next steps reside with Kolbeco. Kolbeco will be used to market and promote Dutchtown CID's purpose before renewing CID in 2026.
- d. October State of the CID Members Cocktail Night has been postponed until Spring.
- e. Other Branding progress – Virginia Pocket Park,- Agreement still in process. Trash hauler- Magnets made for Truck to use when in district.
- f. October 13<sup>th</sup> – VAL Volunteer Day, Dutchtown Fall Fest (Two store fronts nighttime open houses – businesses include Your Place Diner, Wild Fruit, Sign of the Times and the soft viewing of Tasha & Chip's Wine Bar) They may change the name to October Chill instead of Dutchtown Fall Fest. It is located on the 4700 Virginia Block – Volunteers needed to help set up.

Trash Hauler – New contract to help clean Dutchtown streets and trash cans – they provide special requests (starting regular schedule October 1<sup>st</sup>).

- a. Monthly/Qtrly Reports on Grants

#### **DESIGN**

- i. Destination Mural (at Greenfield Carpet)- **Michael** Design is still being discussed.



- ii. Crosswalk Painting/Planters- **Ann**
- iii. Meramec Pocket Park- **Michael, Caya** Showed Pics- 95% done and Halal bldg owner has agreed to do the overhead stringlights. It will come in under the \$5000 budget.
- iv. Meramec Roundabout- **Michael**- No new information to report
- v. "Keep It Clean" event- **Fadumo (PAID)** Supplied Check and CID Vests to DTMS
- vi. Virginia Pocket Park- **Caya**- Still working on agreement between the 3 Parties Pocket Parks, DTMS and DTCID. Our attorney has it now

#### **ECONOMIC VITALITY**

- vii. Façade program- **Fadumo**- not present for update.
- viii. Monthly Networking Events- **Molly** – Second Thursday of October. Habitat Restore in October, Creative Expressions in November

#### **PROMOTION**

- ix. Summer Vibes- **OPEN (PAID)**
- x. Meramec Menagerie- **Fadumo, Michael**- See above- DTCID is now responsible for the event. Caya will meet with Rick this week.
- xi. Virginia Spring Fling- **Dwayne (PAID)**

#### **SAFETY**

- xii. Curated Cameras & Marketing- **Molly**- no report
- xiii. Speed Bump Pilot- **Molly**- spoke to Shane previously didn't think it's a good idea
- xiv. Curated Camera Installation- **Dwayne**- no report
- xv. Flock Camera Installation- **Dwayne**- no report
- xvi. Safer DT Summit- **Molly** – October 28th
- xvii. 3200/3400 blocks String lights - **Caya** – still working on this and hope to have in place by 12/9/23

#### **New Business:**

- a. New Board Members /Advisory Board - Possibly looking for one board member in each category – Voting and Non-voting members.
- b. Resignation- received an email from Margarita Ortega due to family obligations



- c. Trash Contractor Status report- Caya/Ann
- d. Joint DTCID/DTMS Mixer 10/21- Ann/Caya- Who can attend? So far: Caya, Michael, Tiffany. Molly does not think she can but is looking at calendar again. Caya will call each person individually.

**For the good of the district:**

- a. After Hours, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays, 5.30-7.30pm: Habitat Restore - Thursday, October 12
- b. Sign of The Times 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Party Oct 13<sup>th</sup> 6-10 pm
- c. VAL Volunteer Day 10/13, 9 AM registration, 10-2.30, Lunch and happy hour afterwards

**Action Items:**

**Discussion:**

- Cleveland High School Project- gathering input at this stage
- Crusoe's (closing or not?) - Unknown
- Grants awarded for CID and future grants for CID- need to go get some
- New Italian restaurant at Feasting Fox - to open in February, Caya met with owner, Mike Cahill
- Lutheran Housing project - unk
- St. Alexis closing.

**Next meeting:**

1. Adjournment and next meeting **October 24th, 2023** (4<sup>th</sup> 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> Meeting closed at 6:59pm.

**DUTCHTOWN COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

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

Minutes submitted by Vincent Mercurio