



**DRAFT**

**DUTCHTOWN COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**DATE: March 25, 2025**

**Attendance:**

**Directors Present:** Caya Aufiero, Dwayne Nelson, Michael Powers, Ann Smart, Fadumo Hassan (via Teams Meet), Dainelle Fox (via Teams Meet) Mel Brockley (via Teams Meet)

**Directors Excused:**

**Directors Absent:**

**Guests:** Ahmad Faez- Prospective new Board Member, Shawn Stokes (legislative assistant for Alderman Cohn, Dallas Adams (via Teams Meet), LaTasha Smith (via Teams Meet) DTMS,

**Call to Order:**

Caya Aufiero called the meeting to order at 5:36 pm and announced a quorum was present. Introduction of guests to Board members.

**Secretary's Report:** Ann Smart

1. Board recruitment- open until April 8, 2025

**Treasurer's Report:** Dainelle Fox

1. Financial Statements – Treasurer's Report, Balance Sheet, Bank Statement
  - a. Profit and Loss: \$-5,704.31, Total Assets: \$243,873.33, Bank balance of \$188,513.55
2. May – We will be asking City Assessor for current assessments

**Introduction of Ahmad Faez:**

Ahmad is interested in serving on the CID Board. He also owns Prestige Motors on S. Grand and Montanna since 2017. He is part of the first generation of Afghan immigrants that moved here and built a strong community with community centers (RESALAT Community Center), mosques, multiple grocery stores and more.

**Approval of February 2025 board Minutes:**

Michael moved to approve the February board minutes and was seconded by Dwayne. Motion unanimously carried.

**Approval of March 19, 2025, Draft Budget Meeting Minutes.**

Budget Meeting Minutes were approved unanimously.



## **New Business:**

1. Housekeeping: Default meeting policy
  - a. After COVID, it is the board policy to meet in person instead of Virtual. It is understood that people occasionally need to join virtually when In -person isn't possible.
2. Draft Budget - Next steps:
  - a. A request will be sent out for more written information on the Tabled Grant Requests
  - b. In May the Budget Committee will meet again.
3. There was discussion about Removing the individual Tabled Grant Requests (waiting for more information from the requester(s)) and making it 1 total amount set aside for those if approved.
  - a. Shawn said the Aldermen understand that this is the draft budget, and it will give them an idea on their budget. They understand that no budget is perfect, and they understand that the final budget is more of a guideline and not necessarily set in stone. He also mentioned that leaving the Tabled Grant Requests as itemized would appear better to the Alderman as well as the Public.
  - b. Michael suggested changing the category from Grant Expense (tabled) to Grant Request.
  - c. Dainelle suggested making a buffer fund for Economic and Beautification and to cut the budget for Safety – specifically the cameras. She was also concerned about the budget for snowplows and again mentioned taking funding from the Camera Program and wanting it on the draft budget.
  - d. Ann said that this Draft Budget is much more detailed than most CID's budgets, according to our attorney and that DTCID Board is very conscientious in Budgeting.
4. Michael moved to approve the draft budget as proposed with the Tabled Grant Expenses re-labeled as Grant Requests and was seconded by Ann. Motion carried.

## **Current Budget:**

- a. LaTasha said she was confused about the frequency of some reports being quarterly versus End of project. She asked if the CID Board Members assigned to the Grants are responsible to reach out and collect the information and to stay in touch.
  - b. Ann Smart replied that when the approval notice goes out, the requirements are listed there. It is not the responsibility of the CID to continue to ask for the reports. It is the responsibility of the awardees to file them. In addition to the initial email with the awards with status report instructions, two reminder emails went out asking for status reports, one at end of year last year and one in January, so the CID could know what money is still needed to fund. Caya pointed out that on the current budget, the first line item was allocated money for the grants with unknown progress.
  - c. Tasha will have the DTMS board start submitting reports on the Grants.
  - d. Michael suggested that they add the requirement for the grantees to attend 2 CID Board Meetings to give report updates.
  - e. LaTasha invited Board Members to attend to give a short description of the process.
5. MMSC Annual conference – Save the Date- 7/22-24, St Charles



- a. DTCID will pay for registration but not lodging if anyone chose to stay in St. Charles for the conference. Caya is doublechecking that policy.

#### **Old Business:**

1. Magnetize:
  - a. Respond to the survey and share with friends. It will be tallied in April.
2. Commercial District Banners / Metal Banners
  - a. Michael is waiting for Kyle's design of the vinyl banners for collaboration. He is also awaiting placement approval from the city. He will have the Metal banner designer create several potential designs. Once the CID has 3 or 4 design choices, we will poll the street to help us choose final version to go up.
  - b. Latasha Smith said the DTMS plastic Banners samples should be in, in about a week a

#### **Announcements:**

1. For the good of the neighborhood:
  - a. After Hours is monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday from 5.30pm-7.30pm. April 10 event will be at the Brand New - Gallery 7 Auctions at 3309 Meramec, 2 doors West of Urban Eats.
  - b. Safer Dutchtown Coffee Hour is hosted at the Neighborhood Innovation Center every month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday from 9am-10am for Merchants and from 10am until Noon for everyone else. Since Merchants don't really attend, the time may just change to
  - c. Your Place Diner has upcoming dates: 3/26/25 – Soul Covers, 3/27/25 – Comedy Night at Intertwine, Saturday – Karaoke at your Place, Sunday – Comedy Show at Your Place.
  - d. The Mom Up! Market will be May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at The Wink! And The Wink! Annex for Mother's Day shopping. There will be a pop-up market and fashion show on the 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Annex with new clothing from JeniLyn's Boutique and thrifted styles from HER CHOICE (Debut at The Wink!).

#### **Adjournment:**

Ann moved to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Michael at 6:30pm, Motion unanimously carried, the Next meeting is **April 22nd, 2025** (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>

Minutes submitted by Terry Coleman