

LOCUST CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT

Minutes of the Meeting of March 8, 2023

Board of Commissioners Present:

Michael Beckermann
Karen Drake
John Hayden
Jennifer Pruehsner

Commissioners not Present:

Ken Nuernberger
Nicole Lewis

Others Present:

Laura Keys
Victor Washington
Yulonda Carter
Jeanette Bax-Kurtz
Dana Dooley
Eric Thaelke
DeAnna Murphy
Theresa Hargrow-Simmons
Robert Wood
Marlene Davis
James Sherrell
William Zorn

The regular meeting of the Locust Central Business District ("LBD") was duly noticed and held on Wednesday, March 8, 2023 at 4:30 p.m. via web based tele/video conference Zoom Meeting hosted from the Locust Business District Office located at 715 N. 21st Street, Suite A, St. Louis, Missouri 63103.

A quorum of the Board of Commissioners being present, the meeting was called to order by Mr. Hayden at 4:34 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Hayden called for consideration of the minutes of the February 8, 2023 meeting of the Board of Commissioners which were provided to each Commissioner prior to the meeting.

Motion 03-23-01. Upon motion of Mr. Beckermann, seconded by Ms. Pruehsner, the Board approved the minutes of the February 8, 2023 annual meeting with Commissioners Beckermann, Drake, Hayden, and Pruehsner voting in favor.

Treasurer's Report

Ms. Bax-Kurtz provided the Treasurer's Report including written reports on assets and liabilities, profit and loss, budget to actual, and an aging summary report. She indicated that the cash balance at the end of February was \$255,000. Mr. Zorn noted that the a voucher to draw funds of approximately \$393,493 was submitted to the City this week.

Ms. Bax-Kurtz reviewed the profit and loss statement, also known as income and expenses, and noted that more is being expended on security this year, that the trash receptacle repair and replacement project is ongoing, and that street cleaning invoices are still not being received from the vendor. She also noted that the parking lot income is ahead of projections by \$555.80. She noted that one parking client is behind on \$80 of payments. Discussion ensued regarding security expenses.

Committee Reports

Security

Mr. Beckermann indicated there were no incidents reported in the last two weeks, but that David Schlafly reported additional break ins on the Tap Room parking lot via a letter dated February 25th. Mr. Beckermann shared a draft letter he wrote to the SLMPD regarding security. Mr. Beckermann noted that the soccer game went well, and that there was increased security at and around the stadium for that. He speculated that crime may have migrated west to near the Armory and the Foundry. Ms. Drake noted that there were four cars vandalized near Washington Avenue and T.E. Huntley and the Central Baptist Church during a choir practice.

New Business

Dana Dooley of HireLevel, which is located at 3016 Locust in the LBD, indicated that they can help recruit persons to fill the available position of Administrative Assistant at the LBD. They can provide an independent contractor for the LBD to fill the position who can then be hired directly by the LBD after fulfilling required hours. She noted that about 20% of the workers provided to clients end up hiring that person directly. Ms. Pruehsner indicated that looks good, but that the LBD is working to revise the job description for the position and that a new job description can be shared with Ms. Dooley when completed. Discussion ensued.

Alderwoman Marlene Davis indicated that the primary election for Aldermen is in April and that redistricting will result in just 14 wards down from the current 28. She noted that the ward boundaries will change, but that the LBD will still be in two wards. She also noted an opportunity to enhance lighting in the LBD, and that solar options have become increasingly affordable. Discussion ensued. Mr. Hayden thanked Ms. Davis for her service.

DeAnna Murphy, neighborhood improvement specialist, indicated that NIS personnel used to be assigned by ward but are now assigned by neighborhood. The role is the same, to act as an intermediary with regard to city services and as a community

outreach. They also coordinate with Operation Brightside and can assist in organizing volunteers for neighborhood clean-ups.

Mr. Hayden reiterated that the draw for funds of approximately \$393,000 was submitted to the City. He noted that the neighborhood during last Saturday's soccer game was very busy, populated and thriving with no negative reports or incidents reported. He indicated that New Life Landscaping helped to clean up after the event and asked Mr. Victor Washington for a beatification and outside maintenance update.

Old Business

Mr. Washington indicated that 24 of the 44 trash receptacles have been re-bolted to the sidewalk, and that welding repairs are set to proceed. He indicated that mulching will proceed in the next two weeks and that weed spraying is needed due to the lack of a significant winter weather. Discussion ensued regarding mulching and trash receptacles. Ms. Pruehsner noted that she sees improvement in the cleanliness of the streets and sidewalks since the receptacles have started being repaired.

Mr. Hayden asked if there were any public comments. There were none.

There being no additional business to discuss, Mr. Hayden called for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Drake moved to adjourn, Mr. Beckermann seconded the motion and the Commissioners unanimously approved adjournment of the meeting at 5:28 p.m.


Secretary, Board of Commissioners