

LOCUST CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT

Minutes of the Meeting of November 13, 2024

Board of Commissioners Present:

Michael Beckermann
Julian Davis
Karen Drake
John Hayden
Jennifer Pruehsner

Commissioners not Present

Nicole Lewis
Ken Nuernberger

Others Present:

Kimberly Beck
Alderwoman Laura Keys
Marlene Davis
Beverly Logan
Lisa Otke
Officer James Harris
Paul Henkhaus
Victor Washington
Ann Kittlaus
Yulonda Carter
William Zorn

The regular meeting of the Locust Central Business District ("LBD") was duly noticed and held on Wednesday November 13, 2024 at 4:30 p.m. via web based tele/video conference Zoom Meeting hosted from and also held in person at the Community Meeting Room in the Salvation Army building at 2900 Washington, St. Louis, Missouri 63103

A quorum of the Board of Commissioners being present, the meeting was called to order by Mr. Hayden at 4:44 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Hayden called for consideration of the minutes of the October 11, 2024 regular meeting of the Board of Commissioners which were provided to each Commissioner prior to the meeting. There was one correction to the draft minutes.

Motion 11-24-01. Upon motion of Ms. Pruehsner, seconded by Ms. Drake, the Board approved the corrected minutes of the October 11, 2024 regular meeting with Commissioners Beckermann, Davis, Drake, Hayden, and Pruehsner voting in favor and none opposed.

Treasurer's Report

Mr. Hayden indicated that there will be no Treasurer's report as the Treasurer and Ms. Bax-Kurtz are not present.

Mr. Hayden did note that KEB did finish their audit report for 2022 and 2023 and noted that Treasurer Nuernberger and Ms. Bax-Kurtz and Ms. Carter did a good job in helping get that completed.

Committee Reports

Security

Mr. Beckermann provided the security report to the Commissioners. He indicated that it has been quiet in the District with no email or calls, and reiterated that the SLMPD website now contains weekly and monthly statistics and reports.

Ms. Kittlaus indicated that efforts to get Dream Nightclub shut down were successful. She reminded the Commissioners that it was a problem property that had been operating without permits.

Paul Henkhaus of Gold Shield Security indicated that the City's enhanced patrols for downtown police patrols lapsed, so car cloutings have again increased. Mr. Hayden inquired about the new Gold Shield vehicle and compliance with the new contract with Gold Shield. He also noted that the new Gold Shield vehicle with flashing red and blue lights is in service and that the high visibility security vehicle which has police and Gold Shield markings is a nice security enhancement and crime deterrent to benefit the people who live, work and play in the LBD. He noted that staffing for secondary security shifts also picked up with the new rates in the latest LBD contract with Gold Shield.

Officer Harris provided a crime report for the 4th District. He indicated that all of the incidents were larceny from vehicle related and that the dates and times varied.

Beautification

Mr. Washington gave an update on ongoing efforts to keep the District clean. He reported that he did get some new employees. Mr. Hayden noted that he saw the parking lot gate ajar. Mr. Washington attempted to fix it, but indicated it seems to be an installation issue. Ms. Carter indicated she will call Alpha Fence.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. Kittlaus gave her Director's report to the Commissioners. She indicated new sidewalks are coming soon to areas in the LBD with broken or missing sidewalks thanks to Alderman Aldridge. She indicated that East West Gateway have new plans to do smaller plans as compared to earlier Great Streets projects. She indicated that applications are due next week and requested board approval to make application. Discussion ensued.

Motion 11-24-02. Upon motion of Ms. Pruehsner, seconded by Ms. Drake, the Board approved the Executive Director completing and submitting an application

for a Great Streets project with Commissioners Beckermann, Davis, Drake, Hayden, and Pruehsner voting in favor and none opposed.

She indicated that there is a dining map of the area created by Eric Thielke that she circulated to the Commissioners. Discussion ensued about possible uses of the map and inclusion on the LBD website. She indicated that the strategic plan is done and that she and Ms. Carter are learning how to update the LBD website. She indicated that there is positive feedback regarding the new LBD website generally. She indicated that the Board of Aldermen is having another committee meeting about special taxing districts and that Alderman Aldridge is the chair of that committee.

Old Business

Mr. Hayden indicated that the 2nd clean-up has been cancelled, and that he hopes to reschedule it in January.

New Business

Ms. Carter indicated that the letter about parking lot rate increases went out, and she indicated that the new office computer equipment has been ordered.

Mr. Hayden thanked Ms. Beck for hosting the meeting at the Salvation Army community room. Ms. Beck gave an overview of the facilities and programs available at the midtown campus including veterans' housing and a 16-bed treatment and outpatient facilities. She indicated they have an Affinity Healthcare clinic as well as a mobile unit and two other residential facilities in both north and south St. Louis. She indicated that the Tree of Lights Campaign is kicking off on the 23rd with a tree lighting ceremony on from 3-6pm at Kiener Plaza.

Alderwoman Keys and Marlene Davis provided additional updates. A discussion about green spaces in the LBD ensued.

Ms. Otke will forward Greenline and Brickline updates to the LBD office for circulation.

There being no additional business to discuss, Mr. Hayden called for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Pruehsner moved to adjourn, Ms. Drake seconded the motion, and the Commissioners approved adjournment of the meeting at 6:24 p.m. Commissioners Beckermann, Davis, Drake, Hayden, and Pruehsner voting in favor and none opposed.


Secretary, Board of Commissioners