

Downtown Lansing Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Online Meeting
April 9th, 2020

Members Present: S. Schriener, C. Zarkovich, TJ Bucholz, JV Anderton, K. Dorshimer
C. Nader, J. Tischler

Members Absent:

Board Advisors Present:

Board Advisors Absent:

Staff Present: C. Edgerly, B. Kuiper, S. Dhladhla

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 11:35 am.

II. Citizen's Comments

-None

III. Correspondence

-None

IV. Approvals

-Agenda for April 9th, 2020:

-Minutes from April 2nd, 2020:

-Committee Reports

J. Tischler moved to approve Agenda, Minutes, and Reports, TJ Bucholz seconded, motion passed.

IV. Action Items

- a. Review of current financials and emergency budget adjustments: At the emergency meeting we discussed whether we have the option to shift more of our budget in order to help Downtown Businesses. Staff scoured through the budget to see what we might be able to do. Cathleen summarized the following changes that she and Board Treasure, J. Tischler discussed including:
 - A. Eliminating the adopt-a-spot coordinator position
 - B. Reduced Conference/Travel costs for remainder of FY as National Main Street Conference has been cancelled
 - C. Perennial Plant Costs: While we're moving forward with hanging baskets as they were ordered and growing since January – and cancelling order would break the contract while also hurting as small business, no new perennial purchases will be made
 - D. DLI Will absorb ROW patio permit charges and waive them for restaurant.

E. Revenue decreased from Forks & Corks event that was moved to September. Board will evaluate A FRESH Taste in May, but costs and revenue will be impacted.

F. Small Business Grants: Lake Trust is assisting in fundraising (they approved repurposing up to 15K of the previous “Make it Downtown” lease assistance funding) with a Patronicity campaign set up through DLPI. The goal of fundraising 30K has been set to help with small business grants and downtown’s recovery, and the campaign would launch today.

-Make it Downtown Lansing's review team will still be making the decisions about who will be getting the funding, etc.

-The E.V. Team will help to set the final criteria for applicants.

-The Board discussed business types that would be eligible to apply including: Restaurant, Retail, Attraction Based, Personal Services were all discussed as businesses to include, rather than law firms, lobbying firms, etc. Consideration of what funding businesses have also received was also discussed. Number of employees will also be part of consideration.

J. Tischler moved to approve the amended budget for the new grants, K. Dorshimer seconded. MOTION PASSED

JV Anderton moved to delegate to staff and the EV team to set parameters as to who qualifies for the Patronicity campaign (with K. Dorshimer's amendment to keep the board updated consistently, TJ Bucholz seconded. MOTION PASSED.

VI. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn made by K. Dorshimer. C. Zarkovich seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:13.

1. Lansing City Council Resolution #2020-055 suspended the Council rule requiring physical presence at meetings for the duration of the declared state of emergency. Michigan Executive Order 2020-15 provides temporary authorization of remote participation in public meetings and hearings.