



DOWNTOWN
LANSING INC.

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

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

Members Absent: C. Zarkovich

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

- I. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 11:32 am by J.V. Anderton.
- II. **Citizen's Comments:** None
- III. **Correspondence:** None
- IV. **Approvals:**
 - a. Agenda for July 9th, 2020: K. Dorshimer moved to approve. C. Nader supported. MOTION Passed unanimously.
 - b. Minutes from June 25th, 2020: TJ Bucholz moved to approve. K Dorshimer supported. MOTION passed unanimously.
 - c. Special Board Meeting Committee Reports: TJ Bucholz moved to approve. C. Nader supported. MOTION passed unanimously.
- V. **Old Town Commercial Association Update:** Art Feast has been cancelled and replaced with sidewalk sales for OT businesses.
- V. **Reports**
 - a. **Director's Report – Cathleen Edgerly:** Fresh Taste –Lift Up Local week kickoff starts Monday, buy passports at freshtaste.org and a few more volunteers are still needed. She's also involved in the meetings and conversations surrounding social districts, drinking zones as well as to-go situations that will be brought up to Council.

MEDC/LEAP have new funds to help businesses through the Small Business ReStart program and LEAP's website has a link with all of the info, with \$5.5 million available for small businesses and non-profits. Promo is ready to cancel Forks and Corks and Trick or Treat on the Square and Breakfast with Santa. Board discussion took place and while board agrees with cancelling all events, they would like to not offer up Promotions idea of passing Brunch with Santa to Silver Bells as it was an event that started within DLI and the Promotions team.

As we look at committees and board structure, we should focus more on recruiting members of

the community so that we have more diversity and reflect more of Lansing. A subcommittee was suggested by C. Nader to recruit more diversity and more investment in the committees.

President's Report- JV Anderton: Not much to add this month outside of other reports and discussion in action items.

Monthly Financials- Jim Tischler: Monthly reports are accurate with nothing out of the ordinary. The city transferred the 178K after the packet had been posted and that was the reason for the amended agenda. More in action items.

Motion required to place reports on file: J.Tischler moved to put on file, K. Dorshimer supported, motion passed.

VII. Discussion/Action Items:

a. Board Re-Appointments: JV Anderton's board seat was up in June, but he has heard that the Mayor intends to reappoint him. It appears that C. Nader is in the same boat. There are no updates from the Mayor's office yet, but that's what we expect.

b. Budget FY 2021 Discussion & Resolution Requesting Restoration of Fund Balance (J. Tischler): The shifts in the budget are out of our control, and basically our income has been deferred. A revised budget was adopted involving the general fund and there is a resolution: the city advanced and we adopted to transfer in the general fund monies. Our current adopted budget reflects that we would have less than 100% of the fund balance than prior to these transactions occurring. The net situation means that our new fiscal year is short and has changed to about 14K. The City intends to make DLI whole, and there is a proposed resolution from us to the city acknowledging this shortfall and asking for assurance that we will be restored to the full fund balance of the original adapted budget. The resolution was amended to be more clear based on board suggestions. The board wants to discuss with the city before we present the resolution to make sure we're all on the same page.

Motion to approve the resolution as amended: J. Tischler moved, TJ Bucholz supported. Motion passed.

c. Website Update (C. Nader): No new communication from them, C. Nader is going to call and discuss pushing this forward with Rambletype as project is behind.

d. Arts Council District B Grant Application (C. Edgerly): The Arts Council has asked for District B funding. More discussion is needed regarding the future of this District's grant funding within the DLI organization. C. Nader asked to table that until a later date. And ensure that the Board continues to look at options regarding District B funding. C. Nader moved to divide this year's remainder of funding as follows: \$500 to the Arts Council and \$1500 to the OTCA. J. Tischler seconded. Motion passed.

e. A FRESH Taste - Lift Up Local Week Activities (Staff): The event has pivoted to really support downtown businesses in a way that the community would feel comfortable focusing on local curbside, e-commerce, passports, etc. Info and passports are available at: afreshtaste.org. Basically we're working on ways to assist our small businesses. Cathleen spoke with Linda Vail at the health department and significant changes have been made from the proposed plan to ensure that this is as safe as possible while still showing that there is stuff open downtown and there are ways for community members to be safe and smart to interact with their neighborhood. We are still lacking for our parklets and outdoor seating spaces so these will be added as part of the week's activities. We're reaching out to anyone who may

have resources. We need about 300 square feet and a barrier for the south side. Drive-in tickets are sold out.

VIII. Adjourn: S. Schiner moved to adjourn at 12:34pm. TJ Bucholz seconded.
MOTION passed.