

Downtown Lansing Inc.
Board of Directors Special Meeting Minutes
Online Meeting
April 25th, 2021

Members Present: S. Schriener, J. Tischler, C. Zarkovich, JV Anderton, A. Willis, J. Estill, T. Benoit.

Members Absent: K. Dorshimer

Board Advisors Present:

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Staff Present: C. Edgerly, S. Dhladhla, Julie Reinhardt

I. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 2:33 p.m. by J.V. Anderton.

II. **Citizen's Comments:** None

III. **Action / Discussion Items**

- a. **DLI Office Lease:** The packet included pros and cons for multiple locations throughout downtown, as well as the pros and cons for staying in the existing space. Staff provided an additional summary with their recommendations for the ideal space.

J. Tischler made a motion to begin negotiating a lease for 112 S. Washington Square, S. Schriener supported. Motion passed. Additional conversation took place and the motion received a friendly amendment with staff being directed to move forward with negotiating the terms of the lease with Mr. Gentilozzi at 112 S. Washington Sq.

- b. **American Recovery Plan Priority Funding:** The City of Lansing is slated to receive around \$51 million of recovery funding. A. Willis and DLI staff prepared a list of priorities and created a request for \$1 million of that funding to support Downtown Recovery, as well as hiring full time staff to support businesses via the incubator, providing small business support programming, especially centered on filling gaps o help white box spaces and bring available properties to affordable lease levels.

Staff recommended that infrastructure be funded by the city's funding, rather than DLI funding, as we already raised private funds to help with some lighting infrastructure. Discussion ensued. Cathleen will work to be sure that interested parties are all on the same page. The board gave approval to send these recommendations on to LEAP as well as a request to the City.

- IV. **Other New Business:** Welcome again to our new Board members who will be appointed tonight, and good luck with the social districts conversation tonight.
- V. **Adjourn:** JV Anderton moved to adjourn, and S. Schriener supported. Meeting adjourned at 3:23p.m.