

Downtown Lansing Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Online Meeting
August 12th, 2021

Members Present: J.V. Anderton, S. Schriener, J. Tischler, K. Dorshimer, T. Benoit, J. Estill, A. Willis

Members Absent: C. Zarkovich

Board Advisors Present: B. Dowd, P. Spadafore

Staff Present: C. Edgerly

Guests Present: Fawn and Luke of Neva Lee's

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by J.V. Anderton at 11:40 am

II. Citizen's Comments: None

III. Correspondence: None

IV. Consent Agenda Approvals

- Agenda for August 12th, 2021
- Minutes from July 8th, 2021
- Committee Reports
- Monthly Financials - J. Tischler

K. Dorshimer moved to approve all Consent Agenda items. A. Willis supported. Motion passed.

V. Downtown Business & Development Update: Neva Lee's: They specialize in houseplants, but also have art and gifts and have been very well received and have had visitors from all over the state. Things are going very well so far. Due to COVID houseplants have become much more important to people, adding green to their home or office, and plants are a growth sector. Both owners have been a part of the industry for many years, so it only took them a few months to get from their house to brick and mortar.

VI. Downtown Maintenance Update & Report (Lake State): Lake State is out getting caught up because of the storms.

VII. Old Town Update (Ben Dowd, OTCA):

- Jazz Fest just happened and was a success and the social district has been really successful. Clients are loving that and the businesses are doing well with it.
- Construction headaches are still happening, but the city is being helpful.
- Art Feast is August 21st and there are around 100 art vendors as well as food vendors.
- Michigan Community Capital's development of the Temple is moving along and Ben is meeting with them today to see progress. They've become a good neighborhood partner.

VIII. Reports

Director Report – C. Edgerly

- Several events are upcoming: The new spaces that we were looking at are looking at fiber internet. The costs are \$400 per month for a five year contract with the city via Metronet. Cathleen will be following up with them, and T. Benoit will look into alternatives.
- We are still on track with construction and flooring will be going in next week, and starting next week Cathleen will start interviewing for a Marketing Specialist.
- The Mayor has asked for Cathleen to lay out our strategy for Downtown businesses moving forward.