

City of St. Louis Downtown Development Authority

Minutes of Regular Meeting: April 20, 2023

Present: Bailey, Coty, Eilts, Giles, Kubin, Peterman, Lewis, Nannan also Hansen

Absent/Excused: Near, Flegel, Saurman

Meeting called to order by Peterman at 12:15 p.m.

Hansen reported that Steve Near has had to resign from the DDA Board because of his busy schedule and difficulty to attend meetings. The Board accepted his resignation with regrets. Dr. Near has served for over 20 years on the DDA Board.

Hansen mentioned that former downtown business owner, volunteer and DDA Board member Jim Schwartzmiller had passed away.

Minutes of meeting of January 26, 2023 were reviewed.

Moved by Kubin, supported by Coty to approve the minutes of January 26, 2023 and place them on file. All Ayes/Motion Carried.

Financial statement presented through March 31, 2023.

Moved by Bailey, supported by Lewis to approve the financials through March 31, 2023 and place them on file. All Ayes/Motion Carried.

Quarterly Report from Hansen (attached) including Downtown Properties and Project Activities; Properties Available for Purchase/Rent; Streetscape Improvements/Maintenance and Signage; Promotion/Advertising and Events

Moved by Giles, supported by Bailey to accept the January 20 Quarterly Report and place on file. All Ayes/Motion Carried.

DDA Façade Grant Program – 4Seasons Gym applied for replacement of back entry doors; \$4,020 project cost; eligible for \$500 Façade Grant

Moved by Lewis, supported by Kubin to award a \$500 Façade Grant to 4Seasons Gym for their recent improvements. Ayes: Bailey, Coty, Giles, Kubin, Peterman, Lewis, Nannan, Nays: none, Abstain: Eilts

Hansen will e-mail the Façade Grant information again to downtown business people since this time of year more people may be considering outside improvements.

Planning for 2023

Continuing to work on Available Properties list. Several already being addressed.

Physical appearance of the downtown was discussed including:

Signage – still considering something on Commercial Bank corner, VFW mitten sign and Kubin's Furniture west wall

sandwich signs – will look into prices

maintenance or replacement of street furniture on M-46 – will look into possibility of painting the existing black metal furniture; both replacement and restoration/sandblasting and powder coating were extremely expensive

possible sites for picnic tables – will speak to St. Louis Optics about the grass area between them and Jim’s Barber Shop and possibly Gratiot Integrated Health

banners – need approximately 35 banners for M-46 and possibly other select spots downtown; cost for each banner approximately \$40

Moved by Bailey, supported by Giles to purchase such banners, cost not to exceed \$1,500. All Ayes/Motion Carried.

improvement of yellow bollards – consensus was to purchase sleeves to cover bollards rather than pay to have them wire brushed and painted; cost per sleeve is approximately \$40

Moved by Coty, supported by Nannan to purchase as many bollard sleeves as necessary for the DDA area. All Ayes/Motion Carried.

street and parking lot line painting – Hansen will meet with DPW Director Calvin Martyn to determine scope of work, dates, etc.

fire hydrant painting – Hansen will discuss with Giles & Coty and determine pricing

Reviewed the idea of a small deck/pocket park in the area west of The Shop Graphics & Design. Area currently is being used as a staging area for a fiberoptic cable installation to LINK Learning. Coty suggested contacting Greenside Up to propose some designs for board to view. Also need to review property ownership in that area, the former City Hall building, as The Shop and City each have property there.

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 PM.

**NEXT MEETING DATE IS
THURSDAY, JULY 27, 2023
AT 12:15 PM IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN ST. LOUIS CITY HALL**