

# *City of St. Louis Downtown Development Authority*

Minutes of Regular Meeting: February 17, 2022

Present: Bailey, Flegel, Lewis, Giles, Near, Coty, Saurman, Kubin, Peterman also Hansen

Absent/Excused: Eilts

Positions to Fill: Worden, McDaid, Morrow

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

Election of officers was held.

Moved by Near, supported by Kubin that the following slate of officers be approved:

Chairperson – Peterman, Vice-Chair – Lewis, Secretary/Treasurer – Bailey.

All Ayes/Motion Carried.

Hansen reported that Lenore Worden, Carla McDaid and Scott Morrow have stepped down from the DDA Board; board discussed potential replacements; Hansen mentioned the difficulty lately with business owners being able to get free for meetings; suggested looking at places like Schnepf, GIHN, etc.; board agreed and Hansen will put together a list of names for the next meeting

Minutes of meeting of February 25, 2021 were reviewed.

Moved by Giles, supported by Bailey to approve the minutes of February 25, 2021 and place them on file. All Ayes/Motion Carried.

Financial statement presented through December 31, 2021.

Moved by Kubin, supported by Giles to approve the financials through December 31, 2021 and place them on file. All Ayes/Motion Carried.

Financial statement presented through January 31, 2022.

Moved by Flegel, supported by Near to approve the financials through January 31, 2022 and place them on file. All Ayes/Motion Carried.

Façade Grant applications – Jim’s Barber Shop has an application in for reimbursement of painting costs and Roots Salon has one in for their new sign; Hansen discussed both applications.

Moved by Giles, supported by Near to approve a DDA Façade Grant to Jim’s Barber Shop in the amount of \$111.30. Ayes - Bailey, Flegel, Giles, Near, Coty, Saurman, Kubin, Peterman; Abstain – Lewis. Motion Carried.

Moved by Kubin, supported by Bailey to approve a DDA Façade Grant to Roots Salon in the amount of \$500.00. All Ayes/Motion Carried.

Downtown Properties and Project Activities:

Former Clark Gas Station – 220 West Washington (M-46) – interior renovations have been completed; owner having trouble with supply chain being able to provide new pumps, etc.; still plans to open it as an Exxon station

Roots Salon – 119 North Mill Street – Whitney Stearns of TEASE Salon now owns this historic building and opened the new Roots Salon; lots of beautiful interior improvements

New Business – 133 North Mill Street – has been rented and will have a new service business before long

Health Central – 219 North Mill Street – owner/operator Jamie Morrow opened Health Central recently; see their Facebook page for details

Bigby Coffee – 135 West Washington Street – project has all their permits and interior work is well underway; exterior signage installed recently

Subway – 102 West Washington – new sign installed recently in addition to new signage on storefront; interior renovations still scheduled as well

Corner Market building – 202 North Mill Street – currently empty but there has been some interest lately

Tony's Restaurant site – 518 West Washington Street – one prospect was interested in bringing his fencing business there but current costs made it unaffordable for the time being

#### Properties Available for Purchase/Rent:

Baptist Children's Home building – 214 North Mill Street – realtor informed us that papers were signed and they were just waiting on the purchasers to close on it; still waiting on more information

Common Threads Quilt Shop building – 109 North Mill Street – latest price quoted was \$95,000; room for two storefronts there

Sunshine Resale Store – 305 North Mill Street – owner now says she's not currently interested in selling the property

Former City Hall building – 110 West Saginaw Street – has one space available to rent where New To You resale shop was

Former Dalis to the Rescue building – board had questions about the appearance/condition of the place and what was going on there

#### Streetscape Improvements/Maintenance and Signage:

Hansen requested DPW have the War Memorial Monument cleaned this spring; this is usually done every few years and it looks like it's due

#### Promotion/Advertising and Events:

Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt – Saturday, April 16 – Parkside Assembly has agreed to organize and run this after a few years off; 11 AM to 2 PM in and around Downtown St. Louis

I Love My City Day – Sunday, May 1 – St. Louis Ministerial Association brings this back after two years off due to Covid; looking for tasks/work to do for their many volunteers; Coty suggested painting fire hydrants downtown

Internet and Social Media Improvements – upgraded Business Directory on City website and created SHOP LOCAL flyer with that address; upgraded Constant Contact e-newsletter; passed along Facebook procedures and addresses to downtown businesses

Gratiot Downtown Art Expo banner project – entering its 10<sup>th</sup> year; brochures and entry forms passed out; deadline for art submissions is March 1

Event Dates – 2022 St. Louis Events Flyer handed out; Fireworks date changed from July 2 to July 16 because of supply chain and worker problems from the fireworks company; planning activities in Clapp Park that day and hoping for ideas for downtown as well; possible craft sale, classic car show, bike show, etc.

Hansen met with St. Louis Farmers Market people recently and they mentioned again ideas to do some things together with the downtown businesses. Suggestion by DDA board for businesses to hand out reminders and also to consider a DDA/Downtown booth at the Market

City has begun planning for the W.T. Morris Memorial Swimming Pool season; excited that we may be back to a regular schedule this year post-Covid

Hansen mentioned that his goal this year was to get informational materials to DDA Board ahead of time so that meetings can be used to move forward with ideas and projects. Planning for committees to be assigned some tasks to help some things happen.

Meeting adjourned at 12:52 PM.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE IS  
THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2022  
AT 12:15 PM IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL**

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