

Summit Downtown, Inc.
Board of Trustees Meeting
July 29, 2020 8:00AM
Virtual Meeting with Video and Audio

Members Present: Matthew Strauss, Bob Conway, Leslie Herman, Nora Radest, Karen Schneider, Lauren Decker, Allison Daubel, Joe Hamilton, Tony Melchionna, Claire Toth, Ray Merritt and Greg Vartan. Staff: Nancy Adams and Amanda Lynn

Members Absent:

Guests: None.

Bob Conway called the meeting to order at 8:05 am.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Bob Conway

Minutes were presented for approval. Tony Melchionna moved that the May2020 minutes be approved. Claire Toth seconded, and the motion passed.

COMMITTEE/PROJECT REPORTS

Finance – Claire Toth

Budget showed current deficit but did not reflect July city payment. There are a number of categories with unspent funds, around 13-15k has been found. Motion put forth by Tony Melchionna to approve June financials, seconded by Karen Schneider.

Farmers Market: The Farmers Market is working extremely well with increasing turnout. Customers are very appreciative of the market being open, over 3000 people attending each week. Nora commented on success and her visits noted it all seemed to be flowing smooth and appeared to be going well. Karen brought up an issue about garbage dumpster being used by farmers market vendors,

Events: Arts & Cars event: Extended discussion about possible replacement event of Arts & Cars. Decision to not host anything at this time and avoid any bad press and keep our vendors and customers safe. Amanda discussed engagement contest running currently on Facebook and Instagram and the support of the downtown businesses in the promotion of the event. Noted an increase in the number of followers on our social media platforms over the last few months. Discussion of extension of Summit Street Sounds for the fall, Karen Schneider put for a motion and second by Ray Merritt to hold event on Thursday evenings for 6 weeks starting after Labor Day.

DCS/SDI Updates: Tony, Nancy & Aaron Schrager had their monthly downtown walk. Noted some weeds in the alley to be cleaned up. Discussion of some outdoor dining locations, including Ani Ramen's request for the use of parking spaces in Parking Lot #1. Board is not in favor of their use of the lot for additional dining. DOT has approved closure of Maple Street through August. David discussed the restaurants expressing desire to keep street closed until October. Nora expressed residents and restaurants overwhelming positive response to the closure. David brought forth an extended discussion about the Maple Street closure on the schools. Found that the market lights could be installed at just one junction and not multiple locations.

Summit Public Arts: Leslie spoke of importance of public art in this trying time. New installations in progress. Summit Public Arts is applying for nonprofit status.

Common Council Updates: David stated Broad Street redevelopment was still in discussion with no agreement reached as of yet, council is seeking input. Greg Vartan reported that while managing pandemic the city was still working on long term projects. \$39,000 Clean Communities grant was received to be used for SDI for trash cleanup downtown. Broad Street Garage repairs bid was approved and work will start August 3rd, job came in under bid and should be completed by August 23rd. Nancy asked about the alley behind Maple and Greg said it would be repaired.

New business: Bob Conway discussed the extended loss of power and if the board wanted to consider some kind of donation to cover any losses. Extended discussion about who was affected and them using insurance to cover costs. David brought up other businesses still in desperate need of funds. Extended discussion with Nora stating she was in favor of using additional funds still available to support businesses in need. Claire brought up if there was a way that was broader. Tony presented an idea of purchasing gift cards and gifting to each business to either send at their own business or a neighbor. Tony put forth a motion to spend \$15,000 on the purchase of

Summit Downtown VISA gift cards to be distributed to first floor merchants with similar criteria to the Sustain Summit fund. Second by David, motion passed.

Nancy updated the board on the installation of the market street lights which were pending approval of town engineer and the purchase of the lights. Just a matter of the timing lining up.

Tony suggested the closure of the parking spaces on Bank street for the extension of parklets for dining. Discussion about logistics of deliveries of goods.

Public Input: None

Nora Radest motioned to adjourned, Leslie Herman second. The meeting was adjourned at 9:32am.

The next Trustee meeting is September 30, 2020