

SDCC Virtual Board Meeting Minutes October 12, 2020

Board Members Present: Molly Rater, Mickey Clark, Dan Hudspeth, JoAnna Schooler, Rachelle L'Ecuyer, Sharon Neumeister, Kim Freter, Dave Mastin, Karen and Jeff Stokes, Andrew Cawood, Jim Holzer

Board Members absent: Mike Stephens, Sheryl Davenport, Kathyryn Bulard, Marnita Spight

Staff: Mike Reid

Alderpersons: Heather Navarro

Guests: Andy Cross, Nicole Blumner

Call to order by Molly Rater 7:03 pm

Approval of the agenda

Approval of the minutes: Motion to accept by Kim Freter and Jim Holzer seconded. Minutes approved

Aldermanic Report by Heather Navarro:

Right of Way legislation is in the works to avoid placing small utility poles in front of private homes. There is a current moratorium but if no legislation passed utility companies will be able to place utility poles wherever they want

Traffic study report: There has been a lot of feedback with homeowners concerned that local streets will be opened. Heather reassured that this was not likely to happen. The more likely scenario is that speed bumps and enhanced cross walks will be installed.

Shafly library is available for absentee voting. She has been addressing concerns with Des Peres School polling place.

New stickers to be placed on trash receptacles explaining how to dispose of bulk trash. Recycling program is at risk and Trash to Energy Program (to create less greenhouse gas) in discussion.

Pearl Project letter of approval to St Louis Board of Adjustment:

Nicole Blumner gave background on the Pearl Project and the SDCC request for community support. SDCC has been waiting for a community Benefits Agreement for about one year. Nicole wrote a letter to the St Louis Post Dispatch this summer expressing our support for the Pearl Project. That letter was never published. The Pearl Company (now called Expo at Forest Park) is asking for a similar letter of support to be sent to their Board of Adjustment hearing on Wednesday of this week. In exchange the SDCC asked for a document committing to the Community Benefits Agreement (now called Funding Agreement). This document was provided today leaving out important details like amount of money they would contribute. The Board decided to table discussion of the Funding Agreement for now. Heather

Navarro explained that the Board of Adjustment meeting was called for a variance to change from A zoning to H zoning (multifamily with retail). A motion was made by Dave Mastin to approve a letter of Approval to the Board of Adjustment. The motion was seconded by Mickey Clark and the motion carried.

Financial Report: Mike Reid reported that the finances were in good shape and the Friend's Campaign was ahead of where it was last year at this time. A motion to approve the Financial report was made by Kim Freter and Dave Mastin seconded. The report was approved.

Committee Reports:

Delmar Commercial District: Rachelle Reported that a Korean Restaurant will be going up in place of the old Guerilla Foods. Two new businesses will be opening up on Delmar: House of Sheba (designer gowns) next to the Pageant and Wizard Wagon will be moving to 6174 Delmar. Shameem Hubbard helped with getting Blu Lounge customers to stop parking on the Trolley Tracks.

Beautification Committee: Andy reports that it has been dry but he has been keeping things watered. There will be no Halloween Party this year to provide for social distancing. 6100 blocks of Westminster and Kingsbury held scaled down block parties recently. Food drive is October 24th. The Wintermarkt committee will be meeting tomorrow to decide if the event should happen.

Grace UMC: Jeff and Karen Stokes reported that there will be a fall festival on 10/17 with notaries available and another notary event on Oct 24th.

Other committee reports submitted in separate documents

Executive Director Report:

Mike Reid reported that the Ambassadors Program is still in discussion. He is waiting to hear back from our insurance agent after several calls. Rachelle will provide a recommendation for a new insurance agent.

Mike has also received numerous emails about opening streets after the recent Traffic Study Meeting. No one has been in favor of reopening streets.

Letters have gone out to the FBC donors. We have received 14,000 of the 49,000 dollars needed (Wash U and Gary Boehnke) The monies are going into the general SDCC bank account but listed as the Brick Campaign line item in the budget.

Mike has been calling breweries for donations to a possible "Craft Beer Crawl" that could be added on to Wintermarkt.

Old Business: Mike Reid asked about the status of the Dog Park. Mickey reported that the Board approved the dog park in the past but the

committee has not been active. She will write the Pet Safe Grant. Kim Freter and Karen Stokes volunteered to be on the committee.

New business: None

Motion to adjourn at 8:08 pm passed

Minutes respectfully submitted by Molly Rater, SDCC Board President