

CID Board of Directors Meeting
March 12, 2024
8:30 AM

In attendance: Curtis York, Emily Thenhaus, William Lieberman, Sara Levin, Jason Deem, Jessie Chappell, Kaveh Razani, Brennan England, Effrem Grettenberger, Ley Woods

1. Call to Order 8:46
2. Approval of January Board Meeting Minutes
Motion: Jessie. 2nd: Brennan. Motion passes.
3. Administrative Housekeeping
 - a. Financial Reports
St. Louis Community Foundation check is running late. Sales tax is overall good, up 22% at this time of fiscal year
 - b. Accept Resignation from Kate Burrus
Motion: Will. 2nd: Kaveh. Motion Passes.
4. Executive Director Report
Visitors guide coming. No update on parking lots from Treasurer's Office.
5. Old Business
 - a. Missouri Dept of Conservation Grant Approval
Funding two planting beds for 90% cost share. Does require maintenance of the planting beds for a minimum of 10 years.
Motion: Jason Deem 2nd: Kaveh Motion Passes.
 - b. Love Bank Building Art
Damon Davis design is recommended by the committee. Emily shared additional information from Damon addressing questions from directors .
Motion: Kaveh. 2nd: Jason. Motion passes. 6 yay. 2 abstentions.
6. New Business
 - a. Love Bank Opening Budget & Date: Sunday April 21st 12-4
Emily proposes a \$3000 max budget for the grand opening celebration of the park, to cover music, sound, food, drink & promotion.
Motion: Jason. 2nd: Kaveh. Motion passes.
 - b. Lo-Fi Sponsorship.
The events committee proposes at \$3000 sponsorship of Lo-Fi 2024.
Motion: WJL. 2nd: Kaveh. Motion passes.
 - c. Landscaping Contract 2024
Emily shared the updated bid from Brake Landscaping for 2024, which increased roughly \$250 from last year. In line with policy, the CID will do an open call for landscaping services every two years (in 2025). Brake's contract has been expanded to include park maintenance. Emily will check about irrigation maintenance.

Motion: Jason. 2nd: Kaveh. Motion passes.

d. Access Control & Security Invoice for Love Bank Park

Directors discussed adding vibrancy to park design and canopy, improving view of chain link fence around the park exterior.

Estimated \$20k for access control to building, security cameras, internet.

Motion: Kaveh. 2nd: Ley. Motion passes.

7. Open Conversation with Hispanic Business Community

- a. Members of Cherokee Street's Hispanic business community attended the meeting to discuss recent crime incidents, ways to improve public safety, ways to break down barriers between the Hispanic community and the CID and what is needed for May 5th. Representatives were present from Diana's Bakery, El Torito, Economic Shop and Carrillo Western Wear, along with translation services by GLOBO.

Business owners expressed support for adding more security patrols on the street, and highlighted the lack of outreach from the police department - when compared to the former beat officers that were on the street and built relationships with businesses. Directors and business owners discussed secondary policing options and the costs associated. Business owners in attendance expressed regret that they weren't given access to the bids or more of a say in the CID's decisions around policing.

Emily shared that the CID is working with GLOBO to ensure that at our meetings going forward, Spanish-English interpreters are available and to ensure more information is available in both languages. Business Owners expressed the desire to feel like a united community and for a welcoming environment from the CID - compared to past experiences with the Cherokee Station Business Association. Board members reiterated there are open seats on the CID board that we hope to fill with Hispanic community members and recognized the lack of representation from that community in our meetings and deliberations.

A few business owners expressed interest in joining the board, but want to make sure that if input from Hispanic businesses is collected that it's taken seriously and acted upon. They shared that public safety - including security and improved lighting - should be the foundation and priority for our community improvement efforts.

Board members asked what modes of outreach would help improve communication to Hispanic business community and business owners recommended starting with face to face outreach.

Regarding events, business owners underscored the need to have additional security on May 5th, and to potentially explore street closures. They recognized the importance of the special events planned for that holiday but also called for more to be done to celebrate Mexican Independence Day on September 16th.