

**Downtown Schenectady Improvement Corporation
Downtown Special Assessment District
Board Meeting Minutes
September 28, 2021**

Attending: Heather Peterson, Jeff Morlang, Ray Legere, Richard Antokol, Michael Burns
Staff: Jim Salengo, Gail White, Amy Sonder
Absent: Aneesa Waheed, Chris Spraragen, Austin Fisher

Downtown Schenectady Improvement Corporation

Meeting took place in person at Heather Peterson's office at 1473 Erie Blvd. Heather opened the meeting at 2:03 p.m.

1. **Consent Agenda** – Heather asked for approval on the consent agenda. Consent agenda was adopted unanimously. The Executive Director's Report was pulled out for further discussion:
 - a) Meeting minutes from 8/31/2021
 - b) Executive Director's Report for 9/28/2021
 - c) August 2021 financials

Heather reviewed the pilot landscaping cleanup project on Erie Blvd. A small crew worked with David Siders and cleaned up the medians from the Nott Street circle to Alltown Fresh, as well as around Boulevard Bowl and in front of Clinton's Ditch. The city provided dirt and mulch as no cost. David volunteered his time to continue weeding the lower part of Erie Blvd. Jim indicated that about 30 Union College students will be working with David on cleaning up Gateway Plaza this Saturday during the John C. Toll Day of Service.

2. **Board Committee Updates** –
 - a) Outdoor Program – We currently have two full-time and one part-time employees in the outdoor program. We are looking to hire a new Outdoor Operations Manager and 2-3 more outdoor staff. The hiring committee for the manager position will be Jim, Jeff M., Ray L., and Chris S. Austin F. has volunteered to build a GIS mapping system to assist with outdoor program project scheduling. David Siders has been hired on a part-time basis for additional downtown landscaping cleanup.
 - b) Outdoor Program Warehouse – We have outgrown our current location on Fuller St. and need more room for our many vehicles, supplies, and decorations. Our current landlords, Ray & Jeff Legere, have a larger building on Mohawk Ave. (just off Front Street) that would suit our purposes well. **Ray left the meeting for the following discussion:** Discussion continued. The board gave Jim the go ahead to pursue lease details with Ray. Chris and Jeff have agreed to review the lease if needed.
3. **New Business** –
 - a) 2022 Budget Timeline – On November 15, 2021, Jim must present our 2022 budget to City Council. Jim will set up a couple of board planning sessions to prepare for this.
 - b) Heather & Ray talked about an event called Illuminocity that the mayor is spearheading, which is a month-long celebration of holiday lights in the downtown area. Business will pair with nonprofits in a friendly contest for cash prizes. More details to come.
 - c) The Schenectady Holiday Parade will take place this year on Saturday, November 20 at 5 p.m.

Ray Legere made a motion to adjourn the DSIC meeting. Jeff Morlang seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

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Heather Peterson opened the DSAD at 3:03 p.m.

No new business.

Richard Antokol made a motion to close the DSAD. Michael Burns seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 3:03 p.m.