

Downtown Schenectady Improvement Corporation
Downtown Special Assessment District
Board Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2022

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

Downtown Schenectady Improvement Corporation

Meeting took place via Zoom. Heather Peterson opened the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

1. **Consent Agenda** – Heather asked for approval on the consent agenda. The outdoor program was pulled out for further discussion. Following discussion, the consent agenda was adopted unanimously.
 - a) Meeting minutes from 11/21/2021
 - b) Executive Director’s Report for 1/25/2022
 - c) December 2021 financials

Jim introduced David Kosineski, owner of True Juice Café at 251 State Street. He requested to attend the board meeting so he could get a better feel for what the DSIC does and how we operate.

2. **Events & Promotions** – After contacting the County Health Dept. for a recommendation, we have rescheduled the Soup Stroll from January 29 to February 26 to get further past the current COVID surge. We are also working on Restaurant Week and plan to move it to April to take more advantage of outdoor dining. The Creative Placemaking Communities Summit will be held in Schenectady from April 20-23; the DSIC and others on a planning committee are helping with coordination. David K., who sits on the board of the Electric City Co-op, provided a brief Co-op update.
3. **Board Committee Updates** –
 - a) **Confirm Committee Updates** – Ray Legere will be on the Governance Committee and Chris Spraragen will be on the Finance Committee. Discussion of filling current board vacancies and the terms that expire this year. We will re-visit associate memberships for businesses just outside the district. Jim met with the new GM at Rivers Casino; we will be sending them an annual sponsorship proposal.
4. **New Business** –
 - a) **ARPA Funding Proposal** – Amy Sonder worked with a variety of organizational partners on a proposal to the city for American Rescue Plan funding for placemaking and public art in downtown and other neighborhoods. The city is forming a committee to review all proposals.
 - b) **Walter Supley** – Richard Antokol informed the board that Walter Supley, owner of the DSIC’s long-time design agency The Creative Advantage, had passed away and recommended we do something to acknowledge him. All agreed.

Jeff Morlang made a motion to adjourn the DSIC meeting. Michael Burns seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 12:48 p.m.

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Heather Peterson opened the DSAD at 12:49 p.m. No new business.

Richard Antokol made a motion to close the DSAD. Austin Fisher seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 12:49 p.m.