

**Downtown Schenectady Improvement Corporation
Downtown Special Assessment District
Board Meeting Minutes
September 27,2022**

Attending: Heather Peterson, Ray Legere, Michael Burns, Jeff Morlang, Andrea Cortelyou, Mitch Ramsey, Paul Ambrose, Phil Wajda, Austin Fisher
Staff: Jim Salengo, Gail White, Amy Sonder
Absent: N/A

Downtown Schenectady Improvement Corporation

Meeting took place at Heather Peterson's office. Heather opened the meeting at 12:01 p.m.

1. **Consent Agenda** – Heather asked for approval on the consent agenda; discussion occurred regarding the Annual Meeting. The consent agenda was adopted unanimously
 - a) Meeting minutes from 8/30/2022
 - b) Executive Director's Report for 9/27/22
 - c) August 2022 financials

2. **Board Committee Reports**
 - a) *Governance Committee*: Heather reported that Jim's review has been completed and they will meet again in six months for an update on goals. Jim will set up a meeting in November/December to discuss possible board expansion.
 - b) *Finance Committee*: Jim informed the board how the meet & greet and tour with City Council members went on 9/26. Jim was asked to draft a letter to the Council signed by the board following up on availability for any of the ARPA grant funds we submitted.
 - c) *Beautification Committee*: Andrea stated that the October 4 meeting has been cancelled. Peter Blood, son of late local sculptor Robert Blood, will be in town in October. The committee hopes to meet with him. Heather indicated that she has secured 50 trees for the State Street planters for this year's IlluminoCity lighting program.
 - d) *Residential Committee*: Invitation was sent out but only one board member responded, so no meeting has been set.
 - e) *Outdoor Program Committee*: Austin stated that the GIS mapping project is coming along well. Gail was able to obtain a not-for-profit license, saving the DSIC \$350.00. We are at the point that we need to work with the system and see what is best for us. There will be a meeting right after this if anyone wants to stay.
 - f) *Special Events*: Wing Walk has only 123 tickets left to sell. The Fall Spooktacular festival is set for October 15 around City Hall. S.T.A.G.E. (Schenectady Together for the Arts Granted to Everyone) is back for Aladdin; this will provide 200 children associated with community nonprofits with free tickets see the show. We are looking to raise \$5,000 in sponsorships for this to happen. The Key to the City event with the cast of Aladdin is on October 3; that night, downtown's many LED lights will be lit up in purple and gold in honor of the show.

3. **New/Old Business** –
 - a) 2023 Budget Timeline: Jim noted we must present our budget to City Council in November. Our board must pass the budget at least the week before. He will confirm the timeline with the city and share with the board for planning purposes.
 - b) Jay Square: Discussion took place the progress of this project to turn the empty lot across from Schenectady City Hall into a public square.

Jeff Morlang made a motion to adjourn the DSIC meeting. Ray Legere seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 12:59 p.m.

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Heather Peterson opened the DSAD at 12:59 p.m.

No new business.

Phil Wajda made a motion to close the DSAD. Ray Legere seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.