Downtown Lansing Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
DLI Conference Room
February, 13th, 2020

Members Absent: JV Anderton
Board Advisors Present:
Board Advisors Absent:
Staff Present: C. Edgerly, S. Dhladhla, B. Kuiper

I. Call to Order
   Meeting called to order at 11:38

II. Citizen’s Comments
   -None

III. Correspondence

IV. Approvals
   -Agenda for Feb 13th, 2020:
   -Minutes from Jan. 9th, 2020:
   -Committee Reports
     J. Tischler moved to approve Agenda, Minutes, and Reports, TJ Bucholz seconded, MOTION PASSED.

V. Community Policing Update: (D. Reust): Officer Reust: Things are going well. Traffic increasing slightly. T.J. Buscholz brought up the discussion of panhandling and how to address increases that he has seen. Discussion took place regarding panhandling, homelessness in the human realm and respecting everyone, use of public space and recommendations should anyone get aggressive as well as how to address panhandlers as they approach customers within private businesses.

VI. Downtown Maintenance Update & Report: (Lake State) No one is present from Lake State due to the snow and cleanup. Overall they stay in constant communication with staff and are quick to address any areas that staff contacts them about.

VII. Reports

-Director’s Report- Cathleen Edgerly: Traffic Jam is tonight, starting at 4:30 p.m. This month highlights local artists through the Artist Umbrella and Curtainless Theatre. ‘Wine about Winter is next Wednesday’ at Edmunds from 4:30-6p.m. where everyone can share complaints and concerns about downtown. City leadership have been invited along with property owners, businesses, volunteers, etc.
The Board’s proposed budget has been shared with the City of Lansing department leaders for presentation to Council in April. Cathleen intends to work on an ongoing relationship with Council, providing quarterly updates.

Rotary Park: has been an ongoing talk with the city, who would like a part time staff person for the park. Cathleen is working on a draft agreement for the board to review before things move forward. DLI would provide staff and other organizations would provide the funding through the foundation.

**President’s Report- J.V. Anderton:** J.V. is absent, so C. Zarkovich gave an update. March 3rd at 8am is the next Business Huddle at the Nuthouse from 8-9am

**Monthly Financials-J. Tischler:** We have some percentages we look to be a bit behind on, but the reason is that between March and June the majority of funding will be coming in for several projects, so if the funding doesn't come in then, programs and projects will need to be altered or we will be at what appears to be a deficit. The same goes for a major sponsor, and sponsorships for events like Forks and Corks. We're essentially on track as expected because expenses and income from our activities come in spurts.

Motion to approve the financial updates and reports made by J. Tischler, seconded by K. Dorshimer. **MOTION PASSED.**

**VIII. District B Grant Applications:**

**Review and approval of OTCA’s 2019-2020 report and 2nd installment.** The Board reviewed OTCA’s request for the 2nd installment of last year's payment. J. Tischler moved to approve, TJ Bucholz seconded. **MOTION PASSED.**

**FY 2020 Requests:** The Board reviewed requests applications that were submitted. Two applications were received OTCA is asking for 18K, MICA is asking for 10K. Discussion took place regarding the number of applicants, funding availability, and future diversity in applicants. J. Tischler moved that we approve OTCA's full ask for 18K that they asked for. C. Nader Seconded. **MOTION PASSED.**

C. Nader moved to approve 2K for MICA and create an ask for other applications for the rest of the funding. J. Tischler seconded. **MOTION PASSED.**

Additional discussion took place that if no one else makes an ask for those dollars by the end of the fiscal year, C. Zarkovich made a motion for OTCA to get the remaining 2K to spend within grant guidelines. S. Schriner seconded. **MOTION PASSED.**

**IX. Website RFPs:** Two RFPs just came in, but they haven't been reviewed yet. A review team with C. Nader and J.V. Anderton will be put together to assess proposals.

**X. Forks and Corks:** March 24th is the event from 6-9pm. $7500 has been raised in sponsorship so far and WILX has provided in-kind media promotions. 14 restaurants are participating.
XI. Taste of Downtown Refresh: Promotions has been surveying and discussing with downtown restaurants what their concerns/frustrations/reasoning for not participating in the past were. A refreshed approach is being proposed which is more experiential and not just concentrated within one closed off block, as well as offering more “Tastes” than just food and beverage. A fresh Taste of Lansing includes partnership with the auto show that comes downtown, focuses on our downtown parks, pop-up artists and performances in vacant spaces, etc.

XII. Pocket Park Space: B. Kuiper: The rendering is just about finished. Walls are designed and produced from Detroit, furniture from Kalamazoo, and hopefully a mural can also be incorporated in the area. This "corner community space" will focus on community seating and placemaking. There is talk of activating the space with a ping pong event. There will also be native plants.

XIII. New Business

XIV. Adjourn: -Motion to adjourn made by K. Dorshimer, C. Zarkovich seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m.