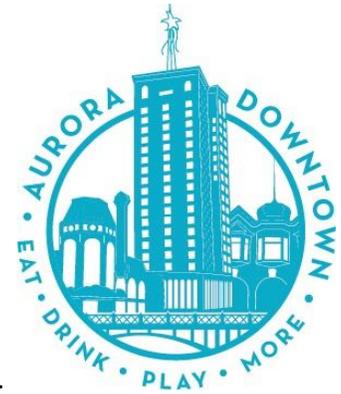


MINUTES

BOARD MEETING



Date: July 16, 2020
Facilitator: Kim Granholm

Time: 8:02 a.m. to 9:21 a.m.
Location: Virtual

1) The chair called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m. and roll was called

Board Members Present: Emily Beaupre, Scot Bode, Shannon Cameron, Kim Caponi, Karen Christensen, Brian Failing, Tim Frederick, Kim Granholm, Bart Grometer, Shannon Gutierrez, Kori Kasper, Jessica Linder-Gallo, Mike Mancuso, Miriam Meza-Gotto, Gina Salamone, Roger Schnorr, Kristine Walker

Board Members Absent: Cort Carlson, Jon Monsma, Jesus Sanchez, Jason Sunderland

2) The chair asked those members present if there were any conflicts of interest

Board members present did not disclose any existing or perceived conflicts of interest with items on the agenda.

3) Approval of the Minutes

Bart Grometer motioned to approve the minutes with one name correction; Shannon Cameron seconded the motion. The motion was carried unanimously.

4) City of Aurora Agreement

Deb Lang, Asst. Corporation Counsel addressed the questions presented to her by Aurora Downtown:

- There is not a separate statement regarding additional funds collected from ordinances. This is part of the whole city council budget. More analysis would be needed.
- Marty Lyons, Chief Financial Officer, will need to research if additional TIFs impact the Special Service Area.
- Section 3 of the agreement with the City of Aurora (re: banners, newsletters, morning mixers) can offer some flexibility depending on the current needs of Aurora Downtown.
- Clarification that CIP funds come from SSA One. The Public Project Proposal funds come from sources other than SSA #One.
- Regarding FOIA, the city of Aurora will not handle all FOIA requests for Aurora Downtown. They will only handle requests pertaining to funds given to Aurora Downtown through SSA #One. OMA questions will need to go through Aurora Downtown's attorney. The city will not handle since they are not directly involved.

5) Treasurer's Report

Roger Schnorr reported spending through June 2020 at \$69,000. This is lower than normal due to COVID related circumstances. While cash balances are getting low, we are expecting our first installment from the city in July with the second installment to be issued in the fall. Roger will continue to work with the city on any budget considerations.

6) Standing Committee Reports

Governance - Shannon Cameron distributed guidelines outlining the FOIA/OMA guidelines as a result of COVID-19. This includes the Governor's Executive Order allowing public bodies to meet remotely. Meetings should be recorded and kept for 18 months and all votes should be taken by roll call. Shannon gave several

options available for public comments. The following board members are up for reelection: Emily Beaupre, Tim Frederick, Jon Monsma, Mike Mancuso, and Roger Schnorr. Marissa Amoni will be distributing nomination forms on July 24th with a due date of August 24th. Shannon will be reaching out to businesses to explain the board's role and encourage nominations for a diverse, well-represented board.

Marketing - Marissa explained that Aurora Downtown has been actively promoting outdoor dining, sharing resources, and welcoming people downtown as businesses have reopened. The marketing committee will be partnering with Compass Mortgage to provide videos at no cost that will highlight various downtown businesses. An Eat-Drink-Shop campaign is also in the works.

7) **Special Committee Reports**

Business Attraction & Retention - Brian Failing reported that two grants have been approved by the committee and asked for the board's approval.

- La Quinta de los Reyes - \$3,500 grant for recovering awnings on the back of the building.

Karen Christensen motioned to approve; Bart Grometer seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

- AKA Dance - \$3,500 grant for dance floor installation and exterior signage.

Karen Christensen motioned to approve; Shannon Cameron seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

The next round of grant applications are due on September 1st.

Events - No report.

Streetscape - Gina reported that holiday lights will be removed from the trees on Broadway at the city's request. We will continue to contribute to the window painting. The star will also be returning this year. New lights have been purchased for New York St. The mural has gone through several stages of approval with the city. One more meeting remains before painting can begin. Gina and Marissa have met with several providers for large musical components that can be put on display for public use. Streetscape has also provided a number of outdoor dining grants to businesses to assist with these expenses.

By-law Review - No report.

8) **Manager's Report**

Marissa mentioned that Wednesdays at the Plaza Reimagined has been going very well. Different downtown venues have been featured. These are live streamed on Aurora Downtown's Facebook page and YouTube and will continue until August 12th. In person First Fridays will be back on August 7th. The trolley will also be returning and temperature checks will be taken.

9) **City of Aurora Updates**

Lot F (behind Aurora Fastprint) will be in the first phase of reconstruction. Construction will begin in 2 weeks and the lot will be closed during that time. The city is looking at accommodations for people who use that lot. The storm sewers are being redirected and will take some time. Lot E has been experiencing illegal dumping and letters have been sent to property owners asking them to use the new enclosure. Dusters need to be on wheels and no larger than 3x5 ft. Marissa will continue to reach out to property owners regarding this.

Broadway plans have been completed by the city and sent to IDOT to review. Flower pots are only allowed in the yellow areas due to cars, walking access. Any suggestions regarding this should be sent to Abby or Marissa.

Alex Voigt emailed Kim Granholm a map of the Hobbs TIF district borders and that will be shared with the board.

The city passed several changes in April to the liquor code that made it easier and more flexible for businesses to come into the area, specifically downtown. They are in the early stages of developing some new concepts in outdoor dining.

10) Public Comment

Scot Bode (PME Cake Decorating) expressed the efforts the city has made to the E parking lot. Business owners should comply with the trash guidelines in that area. Decor on Broadway should be done so with caution so owners do not take a financial loss once a plan for Broadway is established.

11) Upcoming Meetings

See the Aurora Downtown website calendar for a list of committee meetings. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on Thursday, August 20th at 8:00 a.m.

12) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:21 am.