



Thayer Street District Management Authority Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

MEETING MINUTES

The Thayer Street District Management Authority (TSDMA) board meeting was called to order at 9:02 AM.

1. Roll Call

Directors: Dean Martineau, Chair; John Luipold; Paul Greisinger; Albert Dahlberg, Susan Mardo; Steve Lewinstein; Lauren Berk; Amanda Giessler; David Everett & Donna Personeus, Executive Director.

Ex officio members: David Shwaery; Edward Bishop

Guests: Richard Dulgarian, Avon Cinema; Katie Silberman, Brown University; Kelly Mitchell, Brown University DPS Police Officer

2. Discussion and Vote on the Board Meeting Minutes from June 7, 2016

Minutes from the June 7, 2016 Board meeting were approved with edits after a motion by Ms. Berk, which was seconded by Mr. Greisinger. The vote was unanimous by all attending Board members.

Minutes from the June 7, 2016 Public Hearing were approved after a motion by Ms. Mardo, which was seconded by Ms. Berks. The vote was unanimous by all attending Board members.

3. Discussion and Vote on Financial Report as provided on July 12, 2016

The Financial Reports were presented July 12, 2016, and approved after a motion by Mr. Greisinger which was seconded by Ms. Mardo. The vote was unanimous by all attending Board members.

4. Chairman's Report

Mr. Martineau spoke to the increase in graffiti that Thayer Street has been experiencing. Ms. Personeus reported she had sent photos of the graffiti tags to the PPD and had contacted Brown University asking for the video from our surveillance cameras to be reviewed and was waiting to hear back. There was mention of a large cat eye on the back of the building with Mike's Calzones. Ms. Personeus said she would notify our graffiti removal vendor and request its removal. Mr. Martineau reported that he had contacted DPW regarding the City lights at the tunnel entrance on Fones Alley. He felt that area was very dark without the lights. He reported that DPW is having a problem turning them back on. Ms. Personeus said she had also been in touch with DPW regarding the tunnel lights. Mr. Martineau reported DPW told him the power supply is not currently working. There was mention that the city is changing over streetlights on College Hill to new LED lights that are brighter with the light directed more towards the street.

5. Executive Director Report

Ms. Personeus reported that she emailed her Executive Director report on July 6, 2016 to each Board member. There was not a request to add any items for further discussion to the agenda for today's meeting. Ms. Personeus reported that the FY 2017 Tax Assessment invoices were ready and would be mailed as soon as the FY 2016 Annual Report was printed, and could be included in the mailing packet.

6. Board Leadership Discussion and Vote on Officers for FY 2017

After a short discussion Mr. Dahlberg made a motion to continue the current TSDMA Board Leadership of Mr. Martineau as Chairman and Mr. Luipold as Treasurer and Secretary for the 2017 FY, which was seconded by Ms. Berks. The vote was unanimous by all attending Board members.

7. BigBelly Ad Panel Project Cost Discussion and Vote

Ms. Personeus presented the estimated cost of producing (graphic design and printing) 40 posters for placement in the 40 BigBelly Ad Panels (2 per unit). After discussion the Board suggested 20 panels to be for TSDMA usage and 20 panels to be for Merchant usage. It was decided for a committee to meet to create a Big Belly Ad Panel program with the merchants in mind and report back to the Board. Ms. Personeus said she would coordinate the committee meeting.

8. Fones Alley Improvement Discussion

Ms. Personeus presented a wishlist of improvements to Fones Alley that came out of her meeting with Leslie of the La Creperie for review and discussion. Mr. Everett reported that he had begun speaking with Mr. Knight at the DPW regarding turning the street from a two-way street to a one-way street. He also stated that he would be reviewing the width and other requirements required to make that change. Mr. Everett also mentioned the possibility of TSDMA securing a city grant for a neighborhood improvement project like Fones Alley. He stated this bond for the grants would be on the ballot in November. He suggested speaking with our counselman about it to see if the Thayer Street District would qualify.

9. Merchant Report

Ms. Mardo reported she had a lunch meeting with Mr. Smiley regarding changing the Food Truck radius from 200 ft to 400 ft for the TSDMA. She stated she would follow up with him. She also spoke to him on the plan to temporarily extend the outdoor seating into parking spaces during the summer season. She is still working on this for next year's summer season. She also mentioned that Hope Street received a grant for their new street lighting and would be interested in pursuing this for Thayer as well. Ms. Berk agreed that she would like to see nice street lamp posts on Thayer Street. Ms. Mardo also reported that Mr. Smiley confirmed to her that Wickenden would be getting meters sometime during September through November and that Hope would not. She is pursuing extending the meters on Thayer to 4 hours and having Saturdays be free.

10. Other Business

Kelly Mitchell, retired Lieutenant with the Middletown Police Dept. and now a Police Officer with Brown DPS, introduced herself to the TSDMA Board. She stated that she would like to work closely with the TSDMA and plans on attending future Board Meetings. She requested that Ms. Personeus forward the photos she sent to the PPD to her for review. She will work with her contacts to help us catch the taggers. Ms. Personeus suggested that she receive a map showing the current video surveillance coverage in the Thayer Street District. Mr. Lewinstein suggested posting signage stating video surveillance as a detrant. Mr. Dahlberg stated he would follow up with the Brown employee assigned to the video surveillance,

who is currently on vacation.

Ms. Personeus reported that the TSDMA letter in support of the Application of Insomnia Cookies for a 3:00 am closing had been both mailed and emailed and she had received a confirmation of receipt. She reported that the CHNA would be sending a letter in opposition of the 3:00 am closing time.

Mr. Luipold reported the BV license for the new tenant, 275 Thayer, had been approved with a 1:00 am closing and with none of the TSDMA requested conditions included.

Mr. Greisinger reported that the 183 Angell property that is being redeveloped will have a new tenant, a Chinese BBQ serving beer and wine only. The company is based in Boston, MA. The demographic for the business customer base is 50-60% Chinese. He has invited the business owner to present their business plan to the TSDMA at the August 2016 meeting. Mr. Greisinger also mentioned that the current tenants, G Spot and Bedlam, would be leaving.

Mr. Greisinger reported that 249 Thayer is moving forward and they would be before the Zoning Board this Wednesday.

Mr. Luipold reported that the Brook Street properties buildings had been razed and the short-term redevelopment of the property for a parking lot was continuing to move forward.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM.