



**Thayer Street District Management Authority
Board of Directors Meeting**

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

MEETING MINUTES

The Thayer Street District Management Authority (TSDMA) board meeting was called to order at 9:03 a.m.

1. Roll Call

Directors: Dean Martineau, Chair; Albert Dahlberg; John Luipold; Susan Mardo; Edward Bishop; Paul Greisinger; David Shwaery; Steve Lewinstein; Margit Liander & Donna Personeus, Executive Director.
Guests: Katie Silberman, Brown University; Brett Smiley, City of Providence

2. Discussion and Vote on the Board Meeting Minutes from July 7, 2015

Minutes from the July 7, 2015 public hearing meeting were approved after a motion by Mr. Luipold, which was seconded by Mr. Greisinger. The vote was unanimous.

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3. Discussion and Vote on Financial Report as provided on August 4, 2015

The Financial Reports were presented August 4, 2015, and approved with edits after a motion by Mr. Luipold, which was seconded by Mr. Greisinger. The vote was unanimous.

4. Report and Discussion from Board of Directors Nominating Committee

Mr. Luipold reported that the nominating committee met and formed a list of TSDMA members to approach. Mr Luipold stated that a meeting with a Gilbane representative for 257 Thayer is scheduled next week. Ms. Personeus reported that she had spoken to Mr. Bronhard regarding his interest in joining the board. Mr. Bronhard due to health concerns is not available at this time, however he offered his attorney to sit in his place. After a brief discussion, the board could not consider Mr. Bronhard's offer because the by-laws require attendance by board members. Ms. Personeus reported that she will continue to approach TSDMA members and report back next month.

5. Executive Director Update

Presentation of TSDMA 2015 Annual Report, Current Audit Update; Graffiti Removal Update; Parklet Maintenance Update; Tree Wells Project Update; Thayer Window Art Gallery Project Update; Bicycle Repair Station Update; Report on Neighbor Days Concerns; Upcoming Event: Fall Artisan

Ms. Personeus presented a proof of the 2015 Annual Report for review. She stated it will be included with the FY 2016 tax assessment invoice mailing. Mr. Luipold offered to print it through the Brown Print Shop with his department covering the cost. Ms. Personeus reported she was unable to locate a vendor contract for the current audit. The Board asked her to proceed without it. Ms. Personeus stated that reported graffiti removal on the street had increased, with most of the graffiti being of a smaller nature. She also asked to be contacted immediately if graffiti in the shape of an eye with a triangle around it is seen on Thayer.

Ms. Personeus reported that she is currently waiting for an estimate to finish the tree well project. She reported that she and Ms. Liander had met with a member of DPW on Thayer to review the possibility of the City making improvements to the sidewalks in key problem areas at the same time as the tree wells are being improved. Ms. Personeus reported the Thayer Window Art Gallery Project is moving forward. Mr. Martineau is currently working on donations for the building supplies that are needed. Ms. Personeus reported that the bicycle repair station will be ordered this month and there might be enough budget left to also purchase a bicycle rack. Ms. Personeus asked for approval to purchase the rack if the budget allows. The board approved as long as the purchase would not exceed the original budget. Ms. Personeus followed up on the concerns related to the Neighbor Days Event from Mr. Bourne of 257 Thayer that had been reported to her by Ms. Mardo at the last meeting. Ms. Personeus reported that she had called Mr. Bourne and he said the overturned porta john was their construction station near the corner of Euclid and Brooke and he was not sure what time in the evening that it happened. He also clarified the garbage that he was referring to was the amount of black trash bag liners that were filled and left next to the tippy trash containers overnight. Ms. Personeus mentioned in the future she would schedule a special garbage pick up at night with our vendor to assure this does not happen again. Ms. Personeus reported that the Fall Festival is on schedule for September 20th.

6. Parking Initiative (Brown University) Update

Mr. Luipold reported he is working on the contract with Mr. Handy, our legal counsel as well as the vendor on the details of the agreement. Mr. Luipold stated they were addressing concerns on security issues related to credit card payments. He also stated that the lots would have to be cleared by 3AM so that Brown would be able to plow in the winter and the spaces would be open in the morning for usage by Brown during the week.

7. Infrastructure Update

Mr. Dahlberg reported that the 257 Thayer security project should be going live this month. There had been a delay due to the wrong wiring being installed at 257 Thayer. He had been told by Mr. Bourne of Gilbane that this problem should be resolved this week. Mr. Dahlberg updated the board on the status of the food truck ordinance revisions. He stated at this point food trucks would not be able to park and serve within 200 ft of a food establishment, they will have to comply with meters and that this will have better enforcement. Ms. Liander stated she would be open to creating a map that showed food truck where they could park in the district. Mr. Smiley reported that the City of Providence will be expanding the metering through the city to the following areas: Federal Hill, Wickenden, and Hope. Ms. Liander provided a printed copy of the final proof of the Thayer Business Guide for review. She asked all edits to be emailed to her directly.

8. Business Parking Permit Update

Ms. Liander reported parking applications were picked up during the last Thayer Merchant Association

meeting and employees are starting to park between 8AM-6PM and 6PM-3AM.

9. Merchant Report

Next Meeting August 5 @ 9:00 PM at Kartabar

Ms. Mardo reported on additional feedback from the Thayer Merchants regarding the Neighbor Day Event, stating the Merchants would want major changes to the event to continue it including the month in which it is held. Ms. Mardo reported that the time in which the Merchant meeting takes place will be moved to 9:30 AM after trying 3:00 PM with no additional participation. Ms. Mardo reported the Merchants will be sponsoring a Holiday Stroll on AMEX Small Business Saturday and will not be closing the street for the event. She also stated that the Merchants wish to pursue lighting the street with Holiday Lights again this year, but in the different manner. They are reviewing options.

10. Other Business

Mr. Luipold reported that he, Mr. Martineau and Ms. Personeus would be meeting with representatives from Big Belly to review options in reducing our trash costs. Ms Mardo mentioned that the meter 2 hour limit is hurting the Avon and restaurant business, with both business types requiring more than 2 hours. preferring 3 hours. Mr. Greisinger questioned how to bring leadership to the Merchant Group and suggested the possibility of bringing in a resource to help the group.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:29 am.