



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

Tuesday, January 5, 2020

Our TSDMA Meeting was held via Zoom.us

<https://zoom.us/j/97137568938?pwd=MTZVbG1yVit6UG9SaUswcHhsamxqQT09>

MEETING MINUTES

The Thayer Street District Management Authority (TSDMA) board meeting was called to order at 9:01AM.

1. Roll Call

Directors: Paul Griesinger, Chair; Joe Mardo; John Luipold; Albert Dahlberg; Lauren Berk; Jason Sweeney; Richard Dulgarian; Alexis Kievning; and Donna Personeus, Executive Director.

Ex officio: Ed Bishop

Absent: Joe Thibodeau

Guests: Audrey McClelland; Glenn Baskin

2. Discussion and Vote to Approve the Minutes from December 1, 2020

Minutes from the December 1, 2020 meeting, presented by Ms. Personeus, were approved after a motion by Mr. Griesinger, which was seconded by Mr. Dahlberg. The vote was unanimous.

3. Discussion and Vote to Approve the Financial Reports as provided on January 2, 2021

Financial Reports were presented January 2, 2021 by Ms. Personeus and were approved after a motion by Mr. Luipold, which was seconded by Ms. Berk. The vote was unanimous.

4. Chairman Report

Mr. Griesinger updated the Board that the holiday lights were installed and that the feedback had been positive from businesses on the street. He mentioned that businesses were still struggling and asked Ms. Personeus to continue to provide Thayer businesses with information on second round COVID related financial relief programs.

5. Executive Director Report

Ms. Personeus informed the Board that David Greco of Ocean State had come to her with concerns on being able to continue to provide snow shoveling services for the TSDMA. He was having trouble securing workers due to our low hourly rate. Mr. Griesinger asked Ms. Personeus to schedule a meeting for them to discuss the situation with him.

Ms. Personeus emailed her Executive Director report on January 4, 2020 to each Board member. Mr. Dahlberg said he had not received it. Ms. Personeus said she would resend the report out to the Board directly after the meeting ended.

6. Update on Thayer Street Lighting

Ms. Personeus followed up on Mr. Griesinger's holiday light update that stating, she would be scheduling a follow up meeting with the City to secure future holiday lightings in the first quarter of 2021.

7. Social Media Report from Audrey McClelland

Ms. McClelland presented her social media report to the Board. Highlights of her report included an influencer update and the planning of a second social media training session via Zoom for Thayer businesses. This training was tentatively scheduled for the third week in January.

8. Update on Thayer Street Infrastructure Plan

Mr. Dahlberg updated the Board on the letter sent to Bonnie Nickerson and the meeting with himself, Mr. Griesinger, Mr. Mardo, Ms. Day and Ms. Nickerson in attendance. Our letter was found to be satisfactory in order to trigger a study. It was recommended that a study be commissioned to help clarify the scope of the project(s) needed. Mr. Dahlberg reported that Ms. Nickerson would look for funds and he would write to Ms. Nickerson to set up regular meetings to layout next steps. The Board needs to keep pushing. The City must feel pressure from the TSDMA.

9. Update on Status of Thayer Street Businesses during Coronavirus Crisis/Merchant Report

Businesses continue to struggle due to COVID and are looking forward to having the students back on campus.

10. Other Business

Mr. Griesinger reported that a replacement tenant was in the works for WOW BBQ, and Metro Mart was close to completing their expansion into the Froyoworld space.

It was reported that Jesse Berman had sold the Army Navy building.

Mr. Luipold stated that Brown's freshman class would start arriving on campus Friday, January 8th with Brown having approximately 5,000 students on campus this semester, 3,000 in dorms and 2,000 off campus. Students will be in quarantine for approximately two weeks and will be tested twice a week for COVID, with staff testing once or twice a week. Progress throughout the semester will depend on the results of the testing.

Brown's Wellness Center/dorm is due to open in Fall 2021 and traffic around the building is not scheduled to change until September.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:17 AM.