



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

Tuesday, January 7, 2020

MEETING MINUTES

The Thayer Street District Management Authority (TSDMA) board meeting was called to order at 9:00AM.

1. Roll Call

Directors: Paul Griesinger, Chair; John Luipold; Lauren Berk; Joe Mardo; Alexis Kieving; Jason Sweeney; and Donna Personeus, Executive Director

Absent: Albert Dahlberg; Richard Dulgarian

Ex officio members: Edward Bishop; Stephen Lewinstein

Guests: Megan Lewis, Brown University Real Estate; Katie Silberman, Director of Community Relations
Brown University Office of Government & Community Relations; Susan Mardo, Andreas

2. Discussion and Vote to Approve the Minutes from the December 10, 2019 meeting

Minutes from the December 10, 2019 meeting, presented by Ms. Personeus, were approved after a motion by Mr. Luipold, which was seconded by Mr. Sweeney. The vote was unanimous.

3. Discussion and Vote to Approve the Financial Reports as provided on January 7, 2019

Financial Reports were presented January 7, 2020 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 discussed the need to secure a solution for the holiday streetscape lights to ensure enough time for installation for the 2020 Holiday season. He reported that the engineer's structural report had been completed. Mr. Griesinger stated he was hoping to secure at least three locations on the street where property owners would be willing to work with the TSDMA to install the lights. He asked Ms. Personeus to reach out to Aldo Pesare to obtain a copy of the engineer's report with their recommendations. Ms. Kieving was asked to follow up with the city on the status of lighting the snowflakes at the top and bottom of the street.

5. Executive Director Report

Ms. Personeus emailed her Executive Director report on January 6, 2019 to each Board member.

Ms. Personeus notified the Board of the legal letter she had just received describing an incident on the parklet. She informed the Board that she was in communications with TSDMA legal counsel regarding the legal notice. Mr. Bishop, owner of E.F. Bishop Insurance, the TSDMA insurance agent was notified during the TSDMA Board

meeting of the new claim. Ms. Personeus asked a representative of Brown to check their video footage to see if they had video of September 13, 2019 incident.

6. Discussion on One Way Conversion of Fones Alley

Ms. Personeus informed the Board that cars are traveling at unsafe rates of speed in both directions on Fones Alley. She asked the Board if they would be interested in revisiting making Fones Alley a one-way street. After discussion, the Board decided speed bumps might be a better solution. Ms. Kieving said she would reach out to City Planning and get back to Ms. Personeus on best manner in which to pursue getting approval for speed bump installation.

7. Discussion and Vote on Letter of Support for 21 Euclid/Brook Phase 2

After discussion, Mr. Luipold made a motion to have the TSDMA Board draft a letter of support for the 21 Euclid Street phase 2 development project provided that Mr. Baskin submit a written, professional management plan to the City that details how he will respond to noise, health and safety concerns on the property, the availability of staff and hours of on-site management, removal of trash and recycling, and exterior maintenance, which was seconded by Mr. Sweeney. The motion passed with five in favor, and Ms. Berk's abstaining

8. Discussion and Vote on Big Belly Solar Compactor Contract

Ms. Personeus presented the Board with Big Belly Solar's extension proposal. After discussion, the Board asked Ms. Personeus to reach out to a competitor, e-cubed, for a proposal before scheduling a follow up meeting with Big Belly.

9. Continued Discussion on Procurement Protocol and Vote

Mr. Griesinger asked the item to be put on hold until he and Mr. Dahlberg had an opportunity to discuss further.

10. Continued Discussion on Holiday Skyline Lighting for 2020

Refer to #4 Chairman Report

11. Presentation of Suggested 2020 Thayer Street Calendar of Events

Ms. Personeus presented a schedule of 2020 TSDMA sponsored events for Board members to review and discuss at a future date.

12. Discussion on Future Thayer Street Public Art Projects and Grant Applications

Ms. Kieving stated she would be in touch with Ms. Personeus regarding Art Grant application deadlines.

13. Discussion City of Providence Grant Application for Thayer Street Planning/Infrastructure

Mr. Griesinger stated he would set up a meeting with Mr. Dahlberg and Mr. Luipold and the appropriate representative from the City of Providence to review the options available to the TSDMA.

14. Merchant Report

Ms. Berk explained that traffic on the street was slow since the students had left for break. Ms. Mardo mentioned the lack of parking continues to be an issue for Andreas. She stated her customers were frustrated by new one-way streets and reduced parking options caused by current construction. The Board asked Ms. Keiving to provide a report on the income generated by the meters on Thayer Street in comparison to other meter locations.

Mr. Luipold stated that Brown University would be making their Lot #11 (located between/behind 307 Thayer Street and 297 Thayer Street) available for paid public parking Tuesday-Fridays 5P-9P and Saturday 5P-11P. He said the lot would become available at some point in late February 2020 and early March 2020. When asked if the parking lot would also be available on Saturdays and Sundays during the day, and Sunday night, Mr. Luipold said it was being considered, but a decision had not yet been made.

Ms. Berk mentioned local students were still causing issues on the street. She reported that rocks had been thrown at RIPTA buses near the tunnel entrance by Hope High students. Ms. Personeus suggested inviting the Chief of Police to attend the next TSDMA Board meeting. The Board asked her to extend an invitation.

Mr. Griesinger stated he would like to see the TSDMA Board hire a retail consultant with expertise in looking at neighborhoods like Thayer Street. Mr. Griesinger, Mr. Luipold and Mr. Mardo were to research options and report back to the Board.

15. Other Business

There was no other business to report

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

During our TSDMA January 7, 2020 Board Meeting,

Mr. Luipold made a motion to have the TSDMA Board draft a letter of support for the 21 Euclid Street phase 2 development project provided that Mr. Baskin submit a written, professional management plan to the City that details how he will respond to noise, health and safety concerns on the property, the availability of staff and hours of on-site management, removal of trash and recycling, and exterior maintenance, which was seconded by Mr. Sweeney. The motion passed.

Attached is the letter and Mr. Baskin's management plan for review and approval.

All those in favor.... just an yes or no vote please no online discussion.

Please vote:

YES - you approve the motion

NO - you do not approve the motion

Vote: Passed 5-0

Yes: Mr. Griesinger, Mr. Luipold, Mr. Sweeney, Mr. Mardo, Mr. Dahlberg

No: 0 "No" votes received

Did not vote: Mr. Dulgarian, Ms. Berk, Ms. Kieving

(email voting attached for the record)