



Thayer Street District Management Authority Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, February 7, 2017

MEETING MINUTES

The Thayer Street District Management Authority (TSDMA) board meeting was called to order at 8:54 AM.

1. Roll Call

Directors: John Luipold, Interim Chair; Albert Dahlberg; Paul Greisinger; Steve Lewinstein;
David Everett; Richard Dulgarian; Lauren Berk; Joanna Levitt & Donna Personeus, Executive Director.
Ex officio member: Edward Bishop; David Shwaery
Guests: Eric Weiss, PBPAC; Ginelle Lang, Brown University
Absent: Susan Mardo

2. Discussion and Vote to approve reinstating Steve Lewinstein to the TSDMA Board

After discussion a motion was made by Mr. Luipold, which was seconded by Ms. Berk, to reinstate Mr. Lewinstein to the TSDMA Board. The vote was unanimous by all attending Board members.

3. Presentation of Automatic Pedestrian Signals Program Implementation on College Hill. Request for Support from TSDMA. Discussion and Vote on Support.

Presenter: Eric Weiss, Chairman, Providence Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Commission

Mr. Weiss presented the proposed continuation of the successful Automatic Pedestrian Signal Downtown Providence program up to the Thayer Street area of College Hill. He explained that four signals would be affected at the intersections of Brook, Angell, Thayer and Waterman. Mr. Weiss reported the program improves safety for both cyclists and pedestrians, as well as continues the consistency of the program from downtown. Mr. Everett, former member of the PBPAC, agreed and recommended the TSDMA Board support the continuation of the program to the Thayer Street area. After discussion, Mr. Dahlberg made a motion to support City of Providence efforts to convert pedestrian crossing signals from actuated to automatic recall on College Hill. The motion was seconded by Ms. Berk. The vote for approval was unanimous by all attending Board members.

4. Discussion and Vote to Approve Minutes from January 3, 2017

Minutes from the January 3, 2017 Board meeting presented by Ms. Personeus were approved after a motion by Mr. Dahlberg, which was seconded by Mr. Greisinger. The vote was unanimous by all attending Board members.

5. Discussion and Vote on Financial Report as provided on February 7, 2017

Financial Reports were presented February 7, 2017 by Ms. Personeus and were approved after a motion by Mr. Lewinstein, which was seconded by Mr. Luipold. The vote was unanimous by all attending Board members.

6. Presentation of Brown University's Institutional Master Plan

Presenter: Ginelle Lang

Ms. Lang presented the Brown University transportation component of the Institutional Master Plan (IMP) to the TSDMA Board. The report data showed a 10% decrease in vehicle traffic from 2011 to 2016. Ms. Lang stated the full report is available online. Mr. Dahlberg asked Ms. Personeus to email the link to the full report to the Board. Ms. Lang confirmed the full IMP is scheduled to be reviewed by the City of Providence on February 28, 2017.

7. Executive Director Report

Ms. Personeus reported that she emailed her Executive Director report on February 3, 2017 to each Board member. There was not a request to add any items for further discussion to the agenda for today's meeting.

As requested in the Executive Director's Report, Ms. Personeus requested additional Big Belly ad panels for use by the Thayer Merchants over and above the 20 previously made available for merchant use. A motion to make additional ad panels available for Thayer Merchants was made by Ms. Berk, which was seconded by Mr. Luipold. The vote was unanimous by all attending Board members. A decision was made to use the remaining unused ad panels for TSDMA wayfinding signage to include the TSDMA website address, bus stops, parking lot and cyclist amenities.

Ms. Personeus reported she had received the CMB proposal for the FY 2016 audit and that the cost was twice what was expected. After discussion it was decided unanimously by all attending Board members to put the project out to bid. Ms. Personeus stated she would issue a RFP for the project and report back to the Board with the results.

Ms. Personeus recommended the Board create a Fundraising/Development Committee to identify and prioritize Thayer Street projects to match with grant funding opportunities. Mr. Luipold, Ms. Berk, Mr. Shwaery and Mr. Everett each agreed to be part of the committee.

8. Graffiti and Illegal Dumping Enforcement/Surveillance Cameras and Signage Update

Mr. Dahlberg asked Ms. Personeus to revisit past signage options and prepare examples and costs for the Board to review at the March meeting.

9. Merchants Report

There was no report given by the Ms. Mardo, the Thayer Merchant liaison.

Mr. Luipold reported that although traffic at the 450 Brook Street Parking Lot had increased, the increase had been due to monthly contracts, while the daily use has been much lower than expected. Mr. Luipold stated that the lot would not be a viable long-term solution for Thayer parking at the current rate of use. He stated the lot should be considered temporary based on its use at this time. Mr. Greisinger asked Ms. Personeus to email him contact information for the lot management.

10. Other Business

Construction & New Tenant Updates

Mr. Luipold reported that Insomnia Cookies is planning to open in March 2017.

Suboxone Treatment facility - Tillingham Mansion on Llyod

Mr. Dahlbert reported that he met with a member of the CHNA, one of the property owners and his lawyer at 150 Lloyd, location of the future Suboxone Treatment facility. They were told the facility would house two doctors offices on the first floor, and 2 residential units on the 2nd and 3rd floors.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 AM.