

Downtown Lexington Management District
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, January 6, 2021
Zoom Telephone Conference

Present Board Members: Clay Angelucci, Thomas Petit, Vice Mayor Steve Kay, Jim Frazier, Liza Betz, Councilmember Hannah LeGris, Stan Harvey, Kevin Atkins, Taunya Phillips, Juan Castro, Scott Davidson, Dougie Allan, Woodford Webb

Advisory Board Members: Beverly Fortune

Other Persons Present: Laura Farnsworth (DLP), Terry Sweeney (DLP), Taylor McDonald (DLP) Harrison Stiles (DLP), David Warren (Block-By-Block), Kate Savage (Arts Connect), Jomo Thompson (Resident)

The meeting opened at 8:32am.

Jim Frazier welcomed the board and opened the meeting. There were two items for approval on the consent agenda:

1. Approval of the minutes from the November 4 meeting. There was a motion by Thomas Pettit to approve, and a second by Kevin Atkins. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Approval of the Financial Statements. Jim Frazier noted that the account balance was \$177,064.70. Funds from the tax roll are being received, with an estimated \$200,000 to still be collected. This will put the balance in the upper 300s, which is down approximately \$100,000 from the initial budget. Several of the hotels have been revalued by the PVA, making that difference occur. That said, Frazier does not anticipate an additional devaluation moving forward. Smart budgeting will allow for bills to be paid, including grant payouts. Frazier also noted that the \$20,000 paid to LexArts for a project in 2020 was returned to DLMD. Vice Mayor Kay noted that there had been seven payments total to DLP, and asked for clarification. Terry Sweeney noted that there were six monthly payments, and a sponsorship payment for State of Downtown, being paid per the MOA signed in July. There were also questions about the PBID management software that was used during the renewal to track properties. Sweeney is in the process of cancelling the system now that the District has been renewed. Kevin Atkins requested that a column be added that describes the expenses. There was a motion by Thomas Pettit to approve, and a second by Liza Betz. The motion passed unanimously.

Property Improvement and Reopening & Recovery Grant Update

Taylor McDonald updated the board the 34 applications total for approximately \$77,173 of the \$80,000 allocated by the board for the COVID grant. They will be paid in the following week. Uses include PPE, outdoor dining tables, inventory restock, payroll (so long as it doesn't overlap with PPP funding) and more. It leverages over \$200,000 of reopening expenses. There are 9 active grants ready to be funded when DLMD revenue is received. One Property Improvement grants has been approved, and one is pending.

Rotating Public Art

Kate Savage has installed a third exhibition in January. She noted that the second artist featured may have led to a commission during the Breeders' Cup. The space is being referred to as The Windows Gallery on Main Street on the northeast corner in Triangle Center.

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DLP Update

Terry Sweeney noted that DLP continues to work hard to support downtown businesses, including marketing campaigns and reimaged events and programming.

Laura Farnsworth provided an update regarding events and programming. First, she noted that the Triangle Park Ice Rink will be closing for the season on Monday, January 18. At this point in the season, ticket sales for the rink have dropped significantly, and it is appropriate to close at this time, as expenses continue at the same rate regardless of use. Additionally, plans are in the works for the DLP/DLMD co-sponsored events, Annual Meeting and State of Downtown. Which being sensitive to COVID19, those events will ideally have an in-person format, with availability for an online viewing following the events. Finally, plans are in the works to start Thursday Night Live in June, again in a COVID19 environment permitting.

Jake Gibbs' Plaque

The plaque has been approved and ordered, but help is needed from the City to get permission to install it in the sidewalk.

On Street Report

David Warren noted that numbers are down from 2019, but the staff continue to keep everything clean. Homelessness continues to be an issue. The Fifth Third Pavilion has again become a place for people to sleep. DLMD staffing will be adjusted to provide safety escorts and deter panhandling as necessary. He also noted that if they see any QR code stickers, please inform the DLMD staff so they can be removed. They lead to negative websites and some have been known to have razor blades underneath.

Public Forum

No public comment was entered.

The next meeting of the Downtown Lexington Management District will be held on Wednesday, March 3, 2021.

With the boards work complete, the meeting was adjourned at 9:16am.