

**Minutes from the Board of Directors Meeting of
The Downtown St. Louis Community Improvement District
10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
March 20, 2020**

The Board of Directors of The Downtown St. Louis Community Improvement District (CID) convened via conference phone at 10:30 a.m. on Friday, March 20, 2020. A quorum of the CID board was present on the call and an attendance record is attached.

Ms. Kelley welcomed the directors and thanked them for their time. She shared that the recent arrival of COVID-19 to the St. Louis area is having a detrimental impact to the business owners and employees of our Downtown community. The stay-at-home orders and social distancing recommendations have resulted in widespread ‘suspension’ of regular business practices, leaving small business owners and employees especially vulnerable. In an effort to assist the owners and employees of small businesses, a SLACK Workspace has been created by Downtown STL, Inc. The purpose of the workspace is to drive collaboration and information sharing among the small businesses and restaurants located Downtown by creating a direct line of communication for Downtown St. Louis business owners to share best practices, updates, acts of goodwill and general information about the ongoing COVID-19 situation.

In addition to the SLACK Workspace, there is an opportunity to contribute to the St. Louis Community Foundation. This Foundation is currently engaged in an effort to provide financial assistance to small businesses impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and has agreed to administer a grant program on behalf of the District to provide grants to small businesses within the District’s boundaries. This grant program offers an important opportunity to support business activity throughout the Downtown St. Louis community during the pandemic which will advance the District’s efforts to attract and retain businesses and residents and encourage additional investment in the core of Downtown St. Louis. Ms. Kelley shared that any donation from the CID to the St. Louis Community Foundation would be used to support small businesses within the CID and would require that the businesses be established for a minimum of two years and have at least five employees. Ms. Kelley shared that the CID budget would allow for a \$100,000 donation toward the grant program.

The directors shared support of the contribution, but it was also brought to light that the need for assistance will continue for some time, even after the pandemic begins to subside. It was asked if this contribution will allow funds for financial assistance when we begin to come out of this situation. Ms. Kelley shared that with FY21 beginning on July 1, 2020 new funds will be available for consideration of allocation. Ms. Ingrassia (who, as an alderwoman, has been helping to form these grant and loan initiatives) shared that the grant/loan will only need to be repaid if the business receives replacement relief from the Federal Government. It was noted that it would be impossible to achieve perfection in this situation, but any assistance would help those in need.

After the discussion Ms. Kelley introduced A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE DOWNTOWN ST. LOUIS COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, INC., AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A DONATION TO THE ST. LOUIS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION; AND AUTHORIZING THE ACTIONS OF CERTAIN OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT. Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the resolution which was seconded by Mr. Coatar and unanimously approve by all directors on the call, with the abstention of Ms. Ingrassia.

This concluded the business of the meeting. Ms. Kelley thanked the board for their assistance and time with this matter. The conference call concluded at 11:09 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Cheli

The Downtown St. Louis Community Improvement District Board of Directors
March 20, 2020 Record of Meeting Attendance:

Present

1. David Bailey
2. Thomas Bergmann (left call at 11:01)
3. David Biales
4. Jack Coatar
5. Donna Erbs
6. Jill Falk
7. Amrit Gill
8. Garrick Hamilton
9. Christine Ingrassia
10. Missy Kelley
11. Mary Kitley
12. Mike Konzen
13. Renee Kriesmann
14. Karen Leverenz
15. Zachary McMichael
16. Vince Miller
17. Edward Pohrer
18. Laura Radcliff
19. David Sweeney

Not Present

1. Marlene Davis
2. Patty Hagen
3. Marc Hirshman
4. Tammika Hubbard
5. Tishaura Jones
6. Margaret McDonald
7. Seamus McGowan
8. Steve O'Loughlin
9. James Page
10. Kitty Ratcliffe
11. Vyas Suresh
12. Ellen Theroff

Members of the Public and Guests

Amy Murphy
Lisa Stump (Lashly & Baer)

Downtown STL, Inc. Staff

Trey Buffington
Michelle Cheli
Gabby Cherre
Kelli McCrary