



Downtown Somerville Alliance, Inc.

August 8, 2022 Meeting Minutes

6:00 PM - Office Evolution

Mike Kerwin called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm on August 8, 2022.

Kevin Sluka conducted roll call the following Board Members were present:

Present: Theresa Bonner, Tony Brokeborough, Iris Frank, Kevin Sluka, RanD Pitts, Mike Kerwin

Late: Alison Masick

Excused: Sejal Sharma, Ed Rebenack

Approval of July Meeting Minutes

Kevin Sluka made a motion to approve the July Meeting Minutes. RanD Pitts seconded same.

Yea: Theresa Bonner, Tony Brokeborough, Iris Frank, Kevin Sluka, Rick St. Pierre, RanD Pitts, Mike Kerwin

Nay: None

Recuse: None

Abstain: None

Chairman Remarks

Mike appreciates the board's flexibility to have an August meeting. Mike thanks Natalie for her dedication and service to Downtown Somerville.

Executive Directors Report

Old Business

Increase in Assessment Revenue

The DSA Assessment Revenue has gone up to about \$770,000.



Update on Call with Warby Parker

A contact at Warby Parker will be reaching out to set up a time to do a walkthrough of Downtown Somerville.

Update on ARP Funding and Public Art Plan

The county approved our RFP for \$120,000 for our public art installation on the county lawn. Natalie had a follow up call with Weingarten Art Group to hopefully get something on the lawn by the end of the year.

Vote to Accept 2021 Audit

Auditor did note that some line items should be titled / organized as the line items written in our budget. Natalie will speak with our bookkeeper to ensure this is done moving forward.

Rick St. Pierre made a motion to accept the 2021 audit and authorize the 990. Kevin Sluka seconded same.

Yea: Theresa Bonner, Tony Brokeborough, Iris Frank, Kevin Sluka, Rick St. Pierre, RanD Pitts, Mike Kerwin

Nay: None

Recuse: None

Abstain: None

Vote to approve Streetscape Capital Plan Proposal from Arterial Streets

Kevin Sluka made a motion to approve the Streetscape Capital Plan from Arterial Streets. RanD Pitts seconded same.

Yea: Theresa Bonner, Tony Brokeborough, Iris Frank, Kevin Sluka, Rick St. Pierre, RanD Pitts, Mike Kerwin

Nay: None

Recuse: None

Abstain: None



Update on NJAM Water/ Sewer Sale

Mike suggests we should give the businesses owners and property owners the opportunity to learn more about the sewer sale. Whether it is an in-person or virtual event.

Contract must be affirmed by the public.

NOTE* Allison Masick joined the meeting.

Mike Kerwin made a motion to approve the DSA backing the sewer sale. Rick St. Pierre seconded same.

Yea: Theresa Bonner, Tony Brokeborough, Iris Frank, Kevin Sluka, Rick St. Pierre, RanD Pitts, Mike Kerwin

Nay: None

Recuse: Alison Masick

Abstain: None

Comments from the public

No public on the zoom.

Approval of Executive Director Search

Rick St. Pierre made a motion to approve the search for a new executive director. Kevin Sluka seconded same.

Yea: Theresa Bonner, Tony Brokeborough, Iris Frank, Kevin Sluka, Rick St. Pierre, RanD Pitts, Mike Kerwin

Nay: None

Recuse: None

Abstain: None



Approval of Contract with Ink Creative Strategies

Mike Kerwin made a motion to approve the contract with Ink Creative Strategies. Kevin Sluka seconded same.

Yea: Theresa Bonner, Tony Brokeborough, Iris Frank, Kevin Sluka, Rick St. Pierre, RanD Pitts, Mike Kerwin

Nay: None

Recuse: None

Abstain: None

NOTE*

- Natalie's last day will be Sunday, September 11th
- Iris Frank left the meeting at this point

Mike Kerwin made a motion to approve Natalie's resignation/ last day. Kevin Sluka seconded same.

Yea: Theresa Bonner, Tony Brokeborough, Iris Frank, Kevin Sluka, Rick St. Pierre, RanD Pitts, Mike Kerwin

Nay: None

Recuse: None

Abstain: None

*Rick made a comment regarding the DSA's contract with CDS.

- For the amount we pay, we are not getting the promised work. Many details go unattended and unfortunately the work done by the staff is not up to promise standard.
- Natalie informed the board that she has a meeting with COO Jerry to discuss the issues at hand. CDS has hired a third staff member that we request to be strictly part of cleanup and NOT an ambassador as the season is over.

*Our contract with our camera on Division Street is up. We will be contacting the company to remove the camera.



Payment Authorizations

Rick St. Pierre made a motion to approve the payment authorizations. Theresa Bonner seconded same

Yea: Theresa Bonner, Tony Brokeborough, Iris Frank, Kevin Sluka, Rick St. Pierre, RanD Pitts, Mike Kerwin

Nay: None

Recuse: None

Abstain: None

Adjournment

Mike Kerwin adjourned the meeting at 7:35pm on August 11, 2022.