

MINUTES
U City Loop Special Business District Board Meeting
Via Tele Conference
Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

Attending Board Members: Derek Deaver, Mohammed Qadadeh, Dan Wald, Michael Alter, Steve Stone, Mary Gorman, Kumar Satish.

Absent Board Member(s): All in attendance.

Others on the Call: Mayor Terry Crow, Assistant City Manager Brooke Smith, Captain Dana Morley, Captain Fredrick Lemons, Jessica Bueler, Ryan Griffore, Audrey Jones, Ben Daugherty, Joe Edwards, Marla Stoker Ballenger, Suzanne Schoomer, and Reese (no last name provided).

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order as per Board Chair Derek Deaver at 10:02 a.m. and attendance was taken for those on the call.

Public Comments: Deb Henderson expressed concerns about the Saturday events proposed by the LSBSD for 2022 and asked to have them moved to Sundays to help benefit the University City Farmers Market. Deb would prefer that Leland Ave remains open for through traffic.

Joe Edwards requested to have the parking barricades for the expanded patio dining to be removed to increase parking street side on Delmar. Joe also requested that the free parking be removed to eliminate business employees from taking up parking spaces on the street.

LSBD Board Election: Derek Deaver volunteered for the position of LSBSD Chair with no other volunteers. Mary Gorman nominated Derek Deaver for the position of LSBSD Chair with Mohammed Qadadeh seconding the motion. With no further discussion or objections, the motion was passed. As of 10:12 a.m., Derek Deaver is acknowledged as the new chairman of the LSBSD for 2022.

Derek Deaver nominates Mohammed Qadadeh for the position of Vice Chair. Dan Wald seconds the motion. Without any further discussion or objections, the motion passed. As of 10:13 a.m., Mohammed Quadadeh is acknowledged as the Vice Chair of the LSBSD for 2022.

Dan Wald nominates Kumar Satish for the position of LSBSD Treasurer. Derek Deaver seconded the motion. Kumar Satish respectfully declined the nomination as he announced he will be resigning from the LSBSD in 2022. Mohammed Qadadeh nominated Dan Wald for position of LSBSD Treasurer. Mary Gorman seconded the motion. With no further discussion or objections, the motion was passed. As of 10:18 a.m. Dan Wald is acknowledged as the Treasurer of the LSBSD for 2022.

Approval of the Minutes: Mary Gorman made a motion to approve the January 11, 2022 minutes, Derek Deaver seconded the motion. Without any further discussion the board members voted to approve the January minutes.

City Hall Updates: Mayor Terry Crow congratulated Michael Alter on the article showcasing Fitz's 75th anniversary for the Fitz's and also to Joe Edwards for the 50th anniversary of Blueberry Hill in the Delmar Loop. Mayor Crow informed the LSBDB Board that they have been granted a seat on the Visioning Committee for University City. Mary Gorman volunteered to assume the position previously held by Wendy Harris. Mayor Crow shared that the upcoming election and Fire Tax would be on the ballot with regards to the Uniform Pension Fund which is currently underfunded.

Mayor Crow stated that University City has allowed the expanded outdoor dining barriers to remain in due to the request made by the LSBDB Board. If any University City Loop business is for or against the expanded outdoor dining, they should let the LSBDB know or contact the Mayor directly.

Steve Stone asked for the Mayor's input on the St. Louis City Mayor's request for business input on the Loop Trolley issue. Mayor Crow indicated he had healthy conversations with the St. Louis City Mayor and expressed that the local businesses were tired of being taxed for this project and that a new system needs to be created for running the Loop Trolley. Mayor Crow recommended if the LSBDB had any more questions to contact Mayor Tishaura Jones or her office.

Assistant City Manager Brooke Smith announced that the EDRST board met and approved funding for three of the traditional entities that request funds and that the EDRST Board will resume quarterly meetings.

Security Update: Captain Morley asked the LSBDB to remind local businesses and customers to please not leave their running vehicles unattended. Captain Lemons suggested that business owners recommend to their employees to walk in numbers and to remain safe. Captain Lemons requested that Loop Members, employees, and residents complete the survey on city services at ucitysurvey.com.

Mary Gorman recommended the creation of an Annual Appreciation event to honor the police, fire, and the first responders where the LSBDB could offer an appreciation breakfast. Kumar offered to get involved as needed. Derek Deaver suggested different restaurants participate and that the LSBDB would discuss scheduling this event in the future.

Green Dining Alliance: Ben Daugherty from the Green Dining Alliance introduced himself to the LSBDB and he plans to sit down with local restaurants to review their sustainability initiatives and how they can improve through events and resources. Ben shared that the Loop has been a Green Dining District for the last 6 years and that 25% of the restaurants are needed to remain a Green Dining District. Ben asked for the LSBDB's support in enrolling new restaurants and to remove as much Styrofoam from these establishments as possible. Jessica

Bueler thanked Ben for attending the meeting and introducing himself and that she would work with him to reach out to the LSBDB businesses and all of the University City businesses on this initiative.

2022 Loop Calendar of Events: Jessica Bueler discussed the tentative calendar of events for 2022 for the University City Loop and shared a proposal that hosted a reoccurring outdoor festival on the last Saturday of the month. Jessica indicated that the permits and requests had been submitted to University City, By-State, and the Loop Trolley Company. The Loop Trolley Company replied to the LSBDB request to close Delmar Blvd and denied the request. Mayor Crow stated that he would assist the LSBDB by responding to the Loop Trolley Company to support this request and to get this permit request for April 30, 2022 approved.

Jessica Bueler thanked Superintendent John Gates from University City Streets Department for his assistance in helping to create a safe plan to close Delmar Blvd for upcoming events. In those discussions, it was determined that the LSBDB will need to plan to pay the University City Streets Department for their time and assistance to close the street for future events.

Steve Stone updated the LSBDB on the website and social media outline sent by the East Loop CID and that it fell short of the LSBDB's expectations. Steve indicated that the LSBDB should expect a draft before the next meeting and that a closed session meeting would be recommended to review that draft.

Restaurant Week: Pending the permit approval from the Loop Trolley Company this event is still being planned for April 30, 2022.

Mary McCabe requested that the LSBDB goes into closed session during the next meeting to discuss the website and social media issue with the East Loop CID. Derek Deaver explained that once we receive the new draft, we can discuss setting up a closed session to discuss those details.

Derek Deaver recommended having guidelines for the expanded outdoor dining to make the area more attractive to people visiting the Loop. Brooke Smith suggested submitting those parameters to her and the city so they can review this on how it can be implemented.

Mannequins on the Loop: Audrey Jones shared details on the Mannequins Project that the kickoff will be held on Saturday, April 23, 2022 and the Mannequins will be on Display from May 21 through June 12, with the Finale Sunday June 12, 2022.

Digital Illuminated Directories: Derek Deaver reviewed the proposal, costs and timeline on the installation of Digital Directories. Mary Gorman made a motion to approve the \$11,000 down-payment on the Digital Boards. Mohammed Qadadeh seconded the motion. Without further discussion or any objections, the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: There was no old business to discuss.

New Business: Dan Wald announced that the “Making History – Rise of the Gay Rights” travelling exhibit will be showcased in the Loop through February 28, 2022 at the corner of Delmar and Westgate.

Announcements: Jessica Bueler announced that the next LSBSD board meeting will be held on March 8, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. If you have any business events, sales, promotions, please email jessica@exploreucity.com to be included on the website, social media postings, and weekly email blasts.

Since there was no quorum of LSBSD board members, a motion to dismiss was disregarded. The meeting concluded at 11:23 a.m.