

IOWA CITY DOWNTOWN DISTRICT

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date: November 19, 2014

Voting Members Present: George Etre, Ritu Jain, Joni Schrup, Catherine Champion, Mark Ginsberg, David Kieft, Karen Kubby, Patty McCarthy, Bill Nusser, Naftaly Stramer

Non-Voting Members Present: Steve Boyd, Jeff Davidson, Kate Moreland

Voting Members Absent With Notice: Kent Jehle, Steve Pajunen, Mark Weaver, Kevin Digmann

Staff Present: Nancy Bird, Betsy Potter, Maggie McClelland

Member Guests: Marc Moen

1. **Call to Order**

President George Etre called the meeting to order at 2:05. A quorum of 8 of 14 voting members was present. George announced that each attendee was receiving a Downtown District travel mug with ICDD Parking Perks as a thank you for their service over the past year.

2. **Member Open Forum**

Bill Nusser complimented the Special Events Committee on the expanded Holiday Events happening downtown this year. He congratulated Nancy and the District on being awarded a \$4000 grant from the Community Foundation of Johnson County for new Downtown Welcome Banners.

3. **Approval of October 22, 2014 Meeting Minutes**

Patty McCarthy moved to approve the October board minutes with no amendments. Bill Nusser seconded.

Motion passed 10-0

4. **Finance Report**

Financials were reported by George Etre for October. George noted that \$10,000 was placed in a restricted fund designated for Special Projects which include the Northside and October Fest. George reported that a Dining Guide was in process.

Karen Kubby moved to approve the financials for October. Bill Nusser seconded.

Motion passed 10-0

5. **Executive Committee Report**

George asked Nancy and Betsy to leave the room to facilitate a discussion of Nancy's yearly review. George explained that the Executive Committee recommended that Nancy receive an increase in salary effective December 1, 2014. Discussion followed with agreement that the Board wants to show our commitment to Nancy for the excellent job that she is doing now and

going forward with the re-authorization. It was agreed that in order to sync her review with our fiscal year, a review will again be performed in June 2015. Mark Ginsberg moved to accept the recommendation of the Executive Committee. Naftaly Stramer seconded.

Motion passed 10-0

Staff returned and were informed of the Board's decision.

6. Executive Directors Report

Nancy reminded the Board that Conflict of Interest Policy must be signed.

Nancy then reported on her communication with Ed Fischer who was asking the ICDD for support to preserve the Senior Center. The Executive Committee had discussed this issue and felt that the ICDD can offer support but not direct involvement. Discussion followed with the Board deciding that if needed we could host a forum, but that our regional Economic Development partners should be alerted of the issue.

7. Ex-Officio Updates

Kate Moreland offered that ICAD is supportive of the ICDD re-authorization and offered any assistance that ICDD might need.

Jeff Davidson of the City reported that a proposed portable sign ordinance change is in process. Jeff mentioned that there was good participation for the Comprehensive Plan open House hosted by the City.

Steve Boyd reported that the Chamber's Buy Here Holiday Blitz is going forward and thanked the ICDD for their sponsorship of this program.

David Kieft of UI reported that there will be considerable construction at the intersection of Riverside and Grand that will disrupt traffic for approximately 18 months.

8. Announcements/Reminders

Nancy issued an invitation to the ICDD Board, Film Scene, SoTA, City of Literature, and the Englert Boards of Directors for a Holiday happy hour December 12 at Clinton Street Social Club. Bill Nusser announced that Hans Breder will present a lecture on Friday November 20, 2014 at the ICPL as part of the Public Art.

Bill Nusser moved to adjourn, seconded by Ritu Jain.

Motion passed 10-0.

An **Extended Discussion** of the ICDD's Reauthorization process followed the Board of Director's meeting. The general consensus of participating ICDD members was that the ICDD should not extend into Riverside Crossing's area but should look to "right size" the boundary around what the community feels is naturally part of Downtown Iowa City and that the City of Iowa City, new UI Art Museum and School of Music should be within the Downtown District boundaries.