

Iowa City Downtown District
Board of Directors Meeting
Meeting Minutes from August 24th, 2023

Voting Members Present:

Wendy Zimmermann, Jason Paulios, Greg Turner (virtual), Tony Branch, Charlie Nusser, Jeet Saini, Kristen Mondanaro, Kevin Felker, Josh Immerfall, Nina Lohman, Sophie Donta, David Kieft, Macy Krall

Non-Voting Members Present:

Abby Restko (virtual), Austin Kornis, Cady Gerlach, Monica Nieves, Noah LeFevre

Staff Present:

Betsy Potter, Christopher Hunter, Joe Reilly, Katie Carpenter

Guest:

John Koch (virtual), Anna Schmoll (virtual)

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Wendy Zimmermann at 9:01 am.

Approval of July Meeting Minutes (pgs. 1-3) (vote)

- No discussion
- On a motion by Charlie Nusser, seconded by Nina Lohman, the July minutes were unanimously approved.

Approval of July Financials (pgs. 4-10) (vote)

- Greg turner reviewed notable July financial pointing out ICDD projects line from the balance sheet that included an overage carried over from previous fiscal year of \$18,242 that reflects a balance over \$35,000 for the July balance sheet. On the profit/loss side income reflected for Farm to Street, Oktoberfest, and Taste of Iowa City ticket sales, as well as University of Iowa contribution of \$100,000. No particular notes on the expense report. Budget coming as expected thus far.
- Betsy provided additional comments regarding the payment process for power washing from City of Iowa City. Instead of payment following each instance of power washing, the city has paid the contribution in full at the beginning of the fiscal year. That \$30,000 contribution was received in July. Betsy provided some details regarding wired transaction for the winter Bunny Installation and hiccups with the process between Midwest One Bank and the financial institution in Australia. This reflected in an inaccuracy in the actuals for projects. The inaccuracy has been addressed and the balance are now accurately reflected.
- On a motion by Kristen Mondanaro, seconded by David Kieft, the July financials were unanimously approved.

Block by Block Presentation

- John and Anna presented a high-level overview of the Block-by-Block services. Block-by-Block is being explored by City of Iowa City in partnership the Downtown District as a possibility for enhanced and expanded cleaning contract.

Staff Updates

- Iowa Ave Repaving Updates
 - Project is on schedule and might come under budget a bit. Some business owners are hopeful to organize efforts to maintain cleanliness of the alley. Some challenges with alternate locations of the dumpster in the some of the street side parking spots. It is likely those temporary spots will need power washing after the dumpsters return to their locations in the newly paved Iowa Ave. alley.
- Placemaking Efforts
 - Black Hawk mini park multi-use recreational surface (pickleball, shuffle board, hopscotch) has been ordered and should arrive at the beginning of September.
 - Linn St. on street dining area is going well, and is operating and functioning as best as it has previously.
- Council Interviews
 - Joe provided an overview of the City Council candidates questions developed by the legislative committee.

Ex-Officio Updates

- **University of Iowa – David Kieft**
 - UI Campus Police/Public Safety moving into visible part of Old Capitol Town Center.
- **Iowa City Business Partnership/ICAD – Austin Korn**
 - 2023/24 CLP cohort is expected to be revealed next week.
 - Women Entrepreneurship Lunch in collaboration with Welcoming week happening Friday September 15th
 - Business start-up series on business admin basics at Merge September 20th.
 - Iowa Workforce Development doing their bi-yearly survey for their labor shed report in the coming weeks.
- **Think Iowa City – Monica Nieves**
 - Fry fest coming up Friday September 1st, celebrating Herky's 75th birthday. 25 mascots from around the state and region coming to take part in the celebration
 - Sport Commission is hosting their 1st golf outing September 15th is also a drive for sports equipment (used or new) that will go to community youth in need of sports equipment.
 - Partnering with Hancher for Welcome Back concert on the Hancher Lawn Friday August 25th 6pm.
 - Women's Wrestling Academy happening September 23rd proceeds go to the Hawkeye Womens wrestling club.
 - Youth Community Leadership Program start September 21st

- **UISG – Noah LeFevre**
 - Fall semester back in session
- **Better Together – Cady Gerlach**
 - Raising money for the Youth Community Leadership Program through Community Foundation of Johnson County
 - Welcoming week is planned, festivities include World Cultures Festival happening Saturday September 9th on the Ped Mall to kick off the week and other event throughout the week to help welcome immigrants and refugees to our community. Proclamations are going to various municipalities in the area.
- **Summer of the Arts – Abby Restko**
 - Friday night concerts extended an additional month in this year format made possible by the generosity of Graduate Hotel and McGrath of Iowa City.
 - Currently doing applications for the Holiday Thieves Market. This year will be doing a silent auction as part of the market (welcome any donations for the auction).

Other Updates

- Taste of Iowa City was rescheduled due excessive heat warning and will now take place on Tuesday August 29th. Pre-sales are still open
- Octoberfest on the Horizon.

Adjourn:

On motion by Nina Lohman, seconded by Kristen Mondanaro, the meeting of the Board was adjourned at 10:13am.