



Board of Directors' Meeting

Via Zoom

Thursday, November 16, 2023, 10:00 am

MINUTES

In attendance: Tom Yennerell, Bonny Andrews, Jessica Martin, Mary Perry, Neomi Lauritsen, Ted Cody, John Bond, Kelen Beardsley, Christian Craig, Peter MacGillivray, Jeff Mobus, Chuck Wise

1. Call to Order-at 10:02 by Tom Yennerell, President
2. October 2023 BOD minutes approved Mary P/Ted C, unanimous
3. Requested Agenda Changes
 - a. Tom Y requested to add possible new board member Chuck Wise in New Business
4. Ex Officio Update:
 - i. MARC-none
 - ii. SRCOC-Jessica for Taylor "Local Loyalty Program" to begin at Thanksgiving and we are collaborating on the "Downtown Holiday Program on 12/1/2023
 - iii. SRDC-Jessica for Bob The electric bus at the Parks & Woolson Building has been removed

- iv. TOS-Jeff M states that Phase II of Parks & Woolson work should begin in Dec 2023; 43 Park Street is being cleaned out and environmental concerns will be addressed; Town is busy with budget season and hopes to keep increases to 4% or less
 - 1. John Bond discussed the possibility of removal of the upper wall in front of Town Hall; states Cole Lewis gave a \$3K or less estimate for wall removal; would like to install black metal fence that was removed from Comtu Cascade Park where wall was removed; discussion followed; tabled to Jan 2024 BOD agenda

5. Committee Reports

a. Organization

i. Treasurer's report-Jessica gave for Chris

- 1. Second quarter funding from the Town received
- 2. Membership drive status at \$7,900.00
- 3. Taxes are up to date
- 4. Woolson Block Building tenants received notification that lease renewal is due on/before 12/31/2023
- 5. State of Vermont has changed non-profit business exemption for unemployment tax so this cost will begin next year
- 6. Christian C/Mary P, unanimous

ii. Executive Director's report

- 1. Vibrancy Fund-Building and Business Inventory is completed and thanks to Nikki Murray for her help; looking to complete the required Business and Consumer Survey in December, Christian C and Suzanne S are assisting
- 2. "Rollin' On The River" youth event economic impact-VT Beer Makers' sales increased 32% during event
- 3. Downtown Holiday Program, 12/1/2023-all hands on deck
 - a. Store front window judging on 11/30/2023-have four judges to help

b. Economic Development/Promotions Committee

- i. SAPA-TV-Aimee Parnell and Johnny Gifford will be sharing ED and Promo work with SOM; SAPA-TV will also be running our “Stories with Santa” throughout December again this year
 - ii. Website updates almost complete-Jessica working with Indelible
 - iii. Business/consumer survey (Christian, Suzanne, Jessica)
 - iv. Also discussed the proposed auction Spring 2024 and that Design would need help; funds to be dedicated to possible structure in the Comtu Cascade Park
- c. Design/Beautification Committee
 - i. Adna Brown Mural info panel-Ted Cody assembled frame and stained-thank you; hope to have HB Energy install in November
 - ii. Week of Nov 27-downtown decorating begins; Jessica will see how weather is on 11/26 and rally the troops on either 11/27/ or 11/28 to hang wreaths; thank you Bonny, Ted, Kelen, Tom, Peter, Christian for offering to help out
 - iii. 2024 Proposed projects-
 - 1. auction-dates to be considered of May 11, 2024 or May 18, 2024 and possibly at CPCC; funds to be dedicated to possible structure in the park; John B asked if we could consider Odd Fellows and it was decided against pursuing; looking for possible auctioneers
 - 2. Sandy’s memorial bench-granite, possible back but will depend on cost; family wants in Comtu Cascade Park; Mary and Peter will connect with Tribute Artistry (Aaron Fitzherbert) about bench; looking to complete in 2024
 - 3. Mary stated that Barbara S wants to fund an additional small plaque to be put on Alan’s memorial stone-would state the year of dedication-thank you, Barbara

6. Old Business

- a. Spring fundraiser/auction-already discussed
- b. Donations in memory of Alan Pinders-\$985.00; board voted to use this funding to replace the plaques on the downtown decorative benches; Mary P/Bonny A, unanimous

7. New Business

- a. Chuck Wise was confirmed to the board; John B/Mary P, unanimous
8. Next meeting Thursday, January 18, 2024 at 10:00 am via Zoom
9. Adjournment at 11:02 Christian C/Bonny A, unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,

Neomi Lauritsen