

Downtown and Lakefront TNT Meeting Minutes  
January 17, 2024 via Zoom

Present: Chris Bonner, Neil Burke, Steve Conrad\*, Lt. Dominick, Jim Emmons, Michael Giannattasio, Paul Harvey\*, Maren King, Bill Lee\*, Robbie Lewis, Linda Llewellyn\*, Alex Marion, Matt Micheletti, Meg O'Connell, Stephanie Pasquale, Eric Saxton\*, Gail Vanderlinde, Josh Wilcox

\*Sector facilitators

Bill Lee called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm. He welcomed everyone and reviewed Ground Rules for online sector meetings.

Eric Saxton motioned and Bill Lee seconded approval of the November meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

**Concerns for City Officials:**

- Lt. Dominick (SPD) urged residents not to start cars and leave them unattended. Kias and Hondas are targeted but are not the only ones at risk. Auto theft devices help. There was a burglary at the Preserve that has not been solved.
- Josh Wilcox (Parks Department) reported that the fountain repairs are done and it is ready to be picked up in Alabama. The City needs to repair the fountain's base before the reinstallation. Community input will be sought for improvements at Hanover Square and it will be assessed by a landscape company. Some concerns were expressed by a meeting participant over the renovation of the bridge near the Preserve. Everyone agreed that it is important to maintain the integrity of architectural elements when existing bridges (and parks) need repairs. The trails Coordinator is evaluating the overgrown rain gardens along the Creek Walk. Residents wondered if Parks might organize a rain garden renovation for Earth Day—this would promote community engagement with the gardens.
- Alex Marion introduced himself as the new City Auditor. He welcomed people to contact him and looks forward to working with people in the TNT sectors.

**Facilitator Elections:**

Bill Lee and Eric Saxton were elected for the Downtown sector.

Steve Conrad, Paul Harvey, and Linda Llewellyn were elected for the Lakefront sector.

**Guest Speaker: Meg O'Connell, Executive Director of the Allyn Family Foundation**, gave some historical background about the foundation, which has been around for about seventy years. She went on to describe key initiatives including SEED (Social Equitable Economic Development) and Blue Print 15, which focuses on vibrant neighborhoods. She provided information on the development of Salt City Market and the concept of a world food hall that began in 2018. Success of Salt City Market has led to other initiatives. Mixed income apartments are an important facet of the Market and the development of the Chimes Building, with 1/3 of the apartments priced at 80% of Area Median Income (AMI), 1/3 of the apartments

priced at 80-120% of AMI, and 1/3 of the units priced at market rate. The apartments are identical so that there is no difference among the units in the different price tiers which are primarily 1-2 bedrooms with a few three bedrooms planned. Diversity and inclusion are priorities in the Allyn Family Foundation projects and it is in partnership with Access CNY. To assist in planning the Chimes Building a developer in residence and SU interns surveyed the community, met with people in person at the bus station, and held focus groups, gathering 600 responses, to find out priorities for the development. Some ideas that came from the community include a diner (with workforce skills development like Provisions in Armory Square had), entertainment like a golf simulator or duckpin bowling, a movie theater in the old TV studio, a vintage clothing store, and a salon loft. Construction of the Chimes building will begin in July 2024 with completion scheduled for December 2025.

**City-Wide Director Update:** Home Headquarters will report to the Board quarterly, not monthly this year, the SCSD continues to need help with literacy efforts and people are encouraged to become Reading Buddies, and there have been some changes to allowable special project expense guidelines so be sure to read the guidelines carefully. TNT has asked the county for \$75,000 more in mural funding. Tina Zagya may have found a location for the Lakefront City as Canvas mural: Parallax Training Studio located at 871 Van Rensselaer.

**Special Projects Update:** The City-Wide Board will review projects at the end of January and sectors will present their proposals in February. Voting for the projects will take place in March.

**Announcements:** TNT no longer has a physical office and has a new phone number: (680) 867-1552, and mailing address: 300 S. State Street 7th floor.

The meeting adjourned at 6:09 pm. This is a special meeting to present Special Projects.

The next meeting is February 21 at 6:34pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Linda Llewellyn