

Downtown and Lakefront TNT Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2023 via Zoom

Present: Jim Emmons, Paul Harvey*, Bill Lee*, Linda Llewellyn*, Conor Rockhill, Eric Saxton*
*Sector facilitators

Bill Lee called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm and welcomed everyone.

Participants introduced themselves and Bill reviewed Ground Rules for online sector meetings.

Bill Lee motioned and Conor Rockhill seconded approval of the May meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Concerns for City Officials:

- Discussion included residents' concerns about the increasing amount of graffiti Downtown and in the Lakefront. The Syracuse Police Department is trying to crackdown on it and has asked that people report new graffiti as soon as it happens through 911 or the non-emergency number so they have a better chance of catching the culprits.
- The Creekwalk is closed from Plum Court to Maltbie Street near The Preserve for the next three months. There will be a second phase of work from the Inner Harbor Amphitheater to Bear Street.
- Jim Emmons suggested that we discuss graffiti at a future meeting—the difference between vandals and some possibly uplifting works. We could also explore valid areas for graffiti.

Facilitator Nominations:

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

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

Downtown and Lakefront will host a fall social on October 18 from 5:00-7:00 at Board and Bar on Water Street. There will be a cash bar and TNT will provide some light hors d'oeuvres. Eric will get the information to the Downtown Committee so they can help publicize the event. We will ask people to RSVP to help with planning food.

City-Wide Director Update—Special Projects: There will be an increase in funds this year and money specified for the arts can be used for visual and/or performing arts. Matt is working on documents for the next round of projects and will get them out soon. There are concerns that some vendors and individuals have not been paid for this year's projects yet.

Announcements:

Jim Emmons announced the Poster Project's annual call for poetry and artists. They have teamed up with the Onondaga Historical Association to identify 10 characters from history to base poems on this year. The poetry deadline is the end of September and artists must register by October. Details are on the website.

Conor Rockhill reported that it has been an active summer with many new business developments including:

- Nobody's, a classy Wine Bar opened at 222 Walton Street.
- LM Social, an expansion of Le Mélange, opened in the former Lemon Grass location.
- Downtown's first Cannabis dispensary, FlynnStoned Cannabis Company, opened.
- Gong Cha Bubble Tea and Mojo Mochi Donuts have opened at Franklin and Walton.
- J. Luxe Salon opened in Smith's Restaurant Supply.
- Abbiocco, a rebrand of A Mano, opened.
- The Downtown Farmer's Market will continue on Tuesdays through October 10th. There is music each week and a more diverse product mix than in previous years. .
- The Fall Progress Breakfast will be held on October 18.
- The Syracuse Newspaper has shrunk its footprint in the Post Standard building and other businesses have taken up the space they vacated.

The next meeting is November 15 at 5:30.

The meeting adjourned at 6:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Llewellyn