

TNT Downtown and Lakefront Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2022

Facilitator: Bill Lee

Attendees: Calvin Bordas, Lieutenant Bowering, Neil Burke, Alyssa Dearborn, Jim Emmons, Jeffery Gorney, Brianca Hill, Kahssia Hills, Bill Lee, Linda Llewellyn, Robbie Lewis, Angana Mahapatra, Rahul Mahapatra, Anthony Pham, Derrick Pratt, Conor Rockhill, Eric Saxton, Sharon Sherman, Natalie Stetson, Christina Tyler, Tina Zagyya

Bill Lee welcomed everyone and introductions commenced. He reviewed the meeting Ground Rules.

Draft meeting minutes January 19, 2022: Eric Saxton motioned to approve the minutes, Bill Lee seconded, all were in favor.

Issues for District Representatives/Elected Officials/City Departments:

Lieutenant Bowering has been appointed as the quadrant supervisor. He gave a brief recap of his experience and a crime report. Part I crimes are down significantly from last year but he advised that car thefts and things taken from cars are up, primarily due to people leaving keys in the car or belongings in view, enticing someone to break in. Bottom line: lock your car and don't leave the keys in it. Businesses can request extra property checks if owners are going to be away. He will see about getting crime information on Franklin Square for future meetings.

Presentation: Syracuse Redistricting Commission

Colleen Lathey reported on the newly created independent redistricting commission for the City of Syracuse. Every ten years after the national census redistricting is evaluated and recommendations are made but Syracuse will be one of the few cities in the country to use an independent commission. Community input is important and is the next step in the process. Everyone is encouraged to weigh in on redistricting at public forums. Interested people can contact the Syracuse Redistricting Commission in several ways:

syrredistricting@gmail.com

(315) 448-8595

Instagram @citysyracuse_rc

Facebook: City of Syracuse Redistricting Commission

Upcoming public meetings include: March 18 at ITC High School, March 26 at PSLA @ Fowler High School, April 7th at Henninger High School.

Downtown Special Projects: Four projects were presented for funding and eligible meeting participants voted in favor of or opposition to funding using electronic, anonymous polls. Projects 1,2, and 3 were approved for funding. Project 4 was not approved for funding.

Project 1: Tour the Towpath Erie Canal Cycling Initiative

Requested Amount: \$2,000

Erie Canal Museum

Project 2: Planter Barrier Project

Requested Amount: \$1,900

Hanover Square Association

Project 3: Custom Downtown Bike Rack

Requested Amount: \$850

Conor Rockhill: Downtown Syracuse Foundation, Inc.

Project 4: Poster Panel at Mitzpah Tower

Requested Amount: \$1,210

James Emmons: Poster Project

Lakefront Special Projects: Four projects were presented for funding and eligible meeting participants voted in favor of or opposition to funding using an electronic, anonymous poll. All four projects were approved for funding.

Project 1: Poster Panel Onondaga Creek Walk

Requested Amount: \$1,700

Jim Emmons: Poster Project

Project 2: Plum Circle Improvement

Requested Amount: \$2,050

Linda Llewellyn

Project 3: Franklin Square Park Beautification

Requested Amount: \$1,704

Linda Llewellyn

Project 4: Tree Plaques

Requested Amount: \$86.44

Robbie Lewis

City-wide Update: Neil Burke reported that the financial outlook is improving and that the Council is poised to approve large format art in the “City as a Canvas” initiative. The Delavan Center has already donated funds and a wall for a mural. TNT will be instrumental in this project. Tina Zagyva invited people to submit ideas of where murals should be placed to TNT. Funding for the City as Canvas project comes from the American Rescue Plan 2021 and is designated specifically for the arts. Local artists will have an opportunity to design the murals and the community will decide where the murals are placed. <http://www.tomorrowsneighborhoodstoday.org/city-as-canvas>

Announcements:

The Downtown Committee shared that Dining Week will begin March 1 and that fifty-one restaurants are participating.

Bill Lee noted that the next meeting will be April 20. He adjourned the meeting at 6:50 pm.

Submitted by Linda Llewellyn