

Downtown and Lakefront TNT Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2024 via Zoom

Present: Chris Bonner, Captain Bowering, Neil Burke*, Steve Conrad*, Jim Emmons, Shanzeh Farooqui, Charlie Giancola, Michael Giannattasio, Paul Harvey*, Maren King, Bill Lee*, Linda Llewellyn*, Angie Malhotra, Matt Micheletti, John More, Stephanie Minarek, Conor Rockhill, Eric Saxton*, Drew Shoup, Sarah Thompson, 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. Participants introduced themselves.

Eric Saxton motioned and Conor Rockhill seconded approval of the January meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Concerns for City Officials:

- Captain Bowering (SPD) reported that Lakefront crime numbers are down significantly in almost all categories. Vehicle theft (primarily Kias) is still a problem and Kia owners can get a free locking bar from SPD. Bike patrols will begin soon and SPD is looking at some options for helping with the traffic problems around the park during prom season.
- Stephanie Minarek (Trails Coordinator) said that her department has scheduled Earth Day activities for April 13, 20 and 27. If Lakefront would like to work on renovating rain gardens on the creek walk, it will involve clearing the gardens and replanting them with pollinators and native plants. Linda will turn in the required form.
- Josh Wilcox (Parks Department) reported that Hanover Square renovation is in process and involves the community input and professional consulting. The old concrete planters will be replaced with self-watering planters.

City-Wide Director Update: Next meeting is in April. There is no update on lead initiative.

Special Projects Voting:

Downtown approved: Utility Art Box, Posters at the Landmark, Hanover Thursdays, the Skate Park event, and Walt Sculpture Restoration. The Wayfinding proposal was tabled.

Lakefront approved: 690 Underpass Art, Beautification of Franklin Square Park IV, the Community Garden, and Meals on Wheels. The Wayfinding proposal was tabled.

Announcements:

Conor Rockhill reported for the Downtown Committee:

- April 20th Earth Day Clean-up Events are listed on the Downtown Committee website.
- The Spring Progress Breakfast will focus on dining and is sold out.
- It's been a vibrant start to the new year.
- The Flower Skate Shop on Walton is open.
- Taphouse on Walton is open.

- Eclipse events will take place at the MOST on April 8.

Jim Emmons announced that the 2024 Poster Project unveiling will take place at the Atrium Galleries (formerly City Hall Commons) at 6:00pm.

Josh Wilcox updated the group on the Franklin Square Park fountain. It is back in Syracuse but the stone base is cracked and the City is waiting on estimates for new granite. We still hope to get it reinstalled by the end of April.

Linda Llewellyn shared that new iconic lanterns for Franklin Square have been ordered and when they arrive in 10-12 weeks, will be installed. Sensors for some lights along the Creek Walk are in and will be installed soon.

Josh Wilcox updated the group on the Lakefront City as Canvas project. There were no suitable buildings available and the mural will be painted on five 4' x 10' concrete panels located adjacent to the Parks Department on Spencer Street. The panels will allow for a two-sided mural project.

The next meeting is May 15 at 5:30 pm

Bill Lee adjourned the meeting at 6:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Llewellyn