

# **VEHICLE PARKING DISTRICT ADVISORY BOARD**

*Meeting Minutes – February 15, 2024, at 8:00 AM*

## Call Meeting to Order

Connie Geary called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Geary informed the public about the location of the current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room and accessible to members of the public.

Roll call found the following Board members present: Connie Geary, Pat Carney (alternate), Stephanie Bates, Tracy Kaczor, and Doug Stebbing. Members Absent: José Nuño, Steve McNally (alternate).

Guests: Kara Weander – Gaster, Mikah Wheeler, Amy Renter, Scott Adams,

## Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Tracy Kaczor and seconded by Pat Carney to approve the agenda. Ayes: Connie Geary, Pat Carney (alternate), Stephanie Bates, Tracy Kaczor, and Doug Stebbing. Nays: None.

## Approval of Minutes

Pat Carney made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Doug Stebbing Ayes: Connie Geary, Pat Carney (alternate), Stephanie Bates, Tracy Kaczor, and Doug Stebbing Nays: None.

## D. Financial Report

See attached.

## E. New Business

- Snow removal budget
  - So far \$6,900 over budget at this point. Candice says the board can decide which other line item to use money for snow funding. It was decided to use funds from the advertising funds line item. Motion from Stephanie Bates and seconded by Doug Stebbing Ayes: Connie Geary, Pat Carney (alternate), Stephanie Bates, Tracy Kaczor, and Doug Stebbing. Nays: None.
- Introduction to Kara Weander-Gaster with the River Point Creative District
  - She provided background of her career. She is meeting with different organizations to collaborate on powering the local creatives. The desire was expressed to add to the Downtown Norfolk website information on the Creative District designation and explain what the means. The possibility of bringing entertainment to the Farmer's Market was discussed.
- DNA report by Scott Adams
  - Approved Scott Bus with an 18-week contract. It's good to have him on for the planning and organizing events. Three mayoral candidates have presented to the DNA Board. An email came through on trash in the terrace along East Norfolk Avenue. It is being addressed and is the property owners responsibility for picking up trash in the terrace.
- Façade improvement grant update
  - Candice Alder directed the board to the Norfolk City website where there is a link for the Downtown Norfolk Revitalization grant. Alder indicated the proposed guidelines are listed there. The grant limit has been increased from \$10,000 to \$25,000 for façade

improvements. This is because we received more grant funding this round. This grant will also be used to make the midblock crossing handicap accessible. The city staff is currently working with the State of Nebraska and Northeast Nebraska Economic Development District (NENEDD) on the administration of the grant funding. This will be presented at the March City Council, April will be educational meetings for contractors and property owners, in May a review committee will review the applications. This committee was made up of Vehicle Parking District members. The last time we were rewarded with these funds. The boundaries of qualifying properties are determined by the blight and substandard designation in the downtown.

F. Old Business

G. Other Business

**H. Adjourn.**

Stephanie Bates made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Doug Stebbing. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

The next VPD meeting will be Thursday, March 21, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. at the City of Norfolk Administration building at 309 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Norfolk, NE.