

Business Loop Community Improvement District

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

601 Business Loop 70 West #128

Thursday, June 18, 2020, 8:00 am

Via Zoom

Present:

James Roark-Gruender

Ryan Euliss

Linda Schust

Karen Geotz

Michele Batye

Crystal Garza-Matthews

Rae Adams

Carrie Gartner

Pat Fowler

Roark-Gruender opened the meeting and welcomed new First Ward Councilwoman Pat Fowler. Fowler introduced herself and offered to take comments and questions. Geotz asked about City/County Health Department rules governing bars and restaurants. Euliss commented on the lack of regular communication from the city. Fowler offered to bring the concerns to the city manager. Gartner offered to set up a meeting with Health Department Director Browning and Loop businesses for a Q & A.

Schust moved to accept the minutes, Geotz seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Euliss and Gartner presented financials and explained the ongoing impact of COVID-19. Euliss motioned to approve financials, Batye seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Etsy Committee

Schust gave a quick update on recent progress, including a website in development and a new CoMo makers brand.

Old Business

FY2021 Budget

Euliss and Gartner presented the FY2021 budget, with updates based on board input at the May meeting. The board recommended adding \$40,000 from the fund balance to cover legal costs. Euliss moved to accept the budget with that change, Schust seconded. Motion passed unanimously. FY 2020 projects that had been placed on hold are now moving forward.

New Business

Board Statement

Gartner presented a draft statement highlighting the organization's work to lower barriers for Black-owned and other minority businesses with the shared kitchen and other shared spaces, and verbalize support for a welcoming and diverse street. Board members offered edits and Gartner will revise. Schust offered to reach out to a collection of Black leaders to discuss our major projects and to gain input.

Director's Report

Boone County Emergency Plan

Gartner gave an overview of her work on the Boone County Emergency Plan - Economy Committee and presented the preliminary recovery plan currently being drafted by the committee.

New Website

Gartner presented the new Loop website with improved business listings and SEO.

Commercial Kitchen Update

Gartner updated the board on the progress of the kitchen, now back on track after the COVID-19 closure. She also shared the kitchen working group's plan to name the small kitchen after Annie Fischer, a Black woman and entrepreneur in Columbia known for her nation-wide biscuit mail-order company.

IDA Webinar

Gartner will be giving a webinar presentation to the International Downtown Association on shared spaces, in particular, the shared commercial kitchen.

Public Comment

There was no additional public comment.