

Grove CID Board of Director Meeting
April 12th, 2021 at 11:00 AM
at 4512 Manchester, St. Louis, MO 63110

Board Members Present: K. Kenter, G. Slay, J. Oliver, T. Telnikova, C. Schloss, K. Spencer, D. Bellon, N. Griffin, J. Mueller

Board Members Absent: S. Myers, F. Mohammad

Others in Attendance: Alayna Graham, Ashley, Johnson, Abdul Abdullah (Park Central Development), Chris Saracino (Campbell Security), Ron Coleman (Neighborhood Improvement Specialist), Gerry Connolly (St. Louis Resident), Tom Boldt, Jack Baumstark (Grove Property Owners)

1. Call to Order:

- a. K. Kenter called the meeting to order at 11:01 AM.

2. Approval of March 8th, 2021 Minutes:

- a. T. Telnikova motioned to approve the minutes. G. Slay seconded the motion. All in favor, motion approved.

3. Chairs Report & Announcement of the Order of Business: Nothing to report.

4. Public Comments and Questions: J. Baumstark and T. Boldt expressed their concern that the banner design is not inclusive.

5. Committee Reports:

- a. Safety and Security Committee: C. Saracino gave an update on patrols.
 - i. C. Saracino scheduled another shift on the weekend and a QR code to Gramophone.
 - ii. J. Mueller noted there is a gap in communication and there needs to be quicker access to camera footage from the NSI.
 - iii. K. Spencer asked C. Saracino about the times for when the vehicle break-ins happened at Gramophone.
 - iv. T. Telnikova noted that the businesses are closing around midnight and they are expecting to have extended hours soon. She asked if there is a phone number that the merchants can call to contact the security providers. The numbers are 314-745-8199 and 314-600-6152 for each vehicle.
- b. Executive & Finance Committee: J. Oliver gave an update to the Board on the finances.
 - i. A. Graham noted a drop in revenue deposits recently.
 - ii. A. Graham stated she would call the Department of Revenue to get the Sales Tax information sorted.
 - iii. There were no questions on the financial statements.
- c. Marketing Committee: T. Telnikova gave an update to the Board about the Marketing Committee initiatives.
 - i. T. Telnikova asked A. Graham to share the statement the Marketing Committee had put together about the banner design. A. Graham noted that the statement is an official statement from the Grove CID that needs Board approval before it is sent out to the community.

- ii. T. Telnikova gave a brief overview of the statement, emphasizing that it is directed towards marginalized communities who have historically not been welcome in all communities. She also noted it incorporates many different flags, including aspects of the City of St. Louis flag.
- iii. D. Bellon shared his concerns that the banner misrepresents the Grove as a gay community. He believes a banner like this will prevent visitors from coming to the Grove. He does not want to take a political standpoint.
- iv. G. Slay stated that there is nothing political about being gay, Black, transgender, or a person of color. He stated the most political statement on the banner is the integration of the City of St. Louis flag, because that is run by a political body. He gave background on the different types of people who invested in the Grove and underlined the importance of signaling a welcome environment to marginalized people.
- v. K. Spencer emphasized her investment and commitment to the Grove is largely due to the welcoming of marginalized communities.
- vi. D. Bellon recommended doing several different banners, including gay, City, police, etc. instead of one banner that represents a limited amount of people.
- vii. T. Telnikova spoke about the guests at her business who have more recently voiced their concerns that they don't feel as welcome anymore.
- viii. R. Coleman asked if the business owners had been polled. A. Graham stated she sent the image out with some other announcements to get feedback. She also sent it out to the Neighborhood Association as part of her updates.
- ix. K. Kenter suggested the Grove CID come up with guidelines that discuss how long banners stay up, who is allowed to hang banners, etc.
- x. R. Coleman gave some background on the current process, and he will check with BPS to see if they will officially include the Grove CID as part of the process.
- xi. A. Abdullah stated that the Alderperson will need to approve any banners that are installed in the Grove CID.
- xii. K. Kenter stressed the need for a policy before the banners are approved and installed. J. Oliver agreed.
- xiii. D. Bellon motioned to table the conversation until there is a draft of banner guidelines, G. Slay seconded the motion. All in favor—motion approved.
- d. Public Services Committee: G. Slay presented the Public Services Committee updates.
 - i. A. Graham stated that the contract with Pirois is ongoing. She contacted Pirois to see if they have any questions or comments for the Board and they sent nothing in return.

6. Administrator's Report:

- a. A. Graham presented the CWE Small Business Grant Program to inform the Grove CID Board on how they could run a grant program. She stated the PCD will administer the program free of charge to benefit the neighborhood.
- b. K. Kenter asked the Board if they were interested in a program like that.
- c. D. Bellon voiced his concern that the impact wouldn't be enough.
- d. K. Spencer emphasized that she believes that any amount will help small businesses. G. Slay agreed.

- e. T. Telnikova wanted to get clarification on whether the funds would come from the Grove CID or if PCD will collect donations to create this program.
 - f. K. Kenter stated he envisioned funds coming from both the CID and private donations.
 - g. K. Kenter proposed the Executive Committee put together a program to present for full Board approval. The Board of Directors were in agreement for that plan.
 - h. A. Graham presented the status of the Grove CID Expansion. The signatures should all be collected by the July meeting.
- 7. Other Business:** T. Telnikova asked about the trash issues that were brought up in an email to the Marketing Committee. A. Graham forwarded the image to R. Coleman to get the City's involvement.
- 8. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 12:12 PM.

APPROVED