

**BRIDGEPORT DOWNTOWN SPECIAL SERVICES DISTRICT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
January 15, 2020
Meeting Minutes**

The DSSD Board of Commissioners Meeting took place at the offices of the Bridgeport DSSD, 938 Broad Street, Bridgeport, CT 06604. In attendance:

Commissioners

Phil Pires, C & W Associates II, Chair
Kim Morque, Main State Ventures, Vice Chair
Eric Gross, John Broadcannon, Treasurer
Bob Schneider, Jimmy's A & N, Secretary
Karolyn Egbert, Trefz Corporation
Justin Goldberg, Goldenvaal Investments
David lassogna, People's United Bank
Philip Kuchma, Kuchma Corporation
Max Pastor, Bordentown DB

Staff

Lauren Coakley Vincent, DSSD President
Harold Hassel, DSSD/Block-By-Block

Guests

Paul Antinozzi, Antinozzi Associates
Vinnie Brand, Stress Factory Comedy Club
Jorge Cruz, Bridgeport City Council
Michael Curreri, Block by Block
Kathy Maher, The Barnum Museum
Matthew Meyer, Crestwood Management
Vincent Mobilio, City of Bridgeport
Daniel Roach, City of Bridgeport
Denese Taylor-Moye, Bridgeport City Council

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pires called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

II. RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

Mr. Pires opened the meeting by welcoming Paul Antinozzi of Antinozzi Associates, Bridgeport City Council Members Jorge Cruz and Denese Taylor-Moye, Michael Curreri of Block by Block, Kathy Maher of The Barnum Museum, Matthew Meyer of Crestwood Management, and Vincent Mobilio and Daniel Roach from the City of Bridgeport.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Morque made a motion to approve the Minutes of the December 11, 2019, DSSD Board Meeting, as presented. Commissioner Egbert seconded the motion. Chairman Pires abstained and the minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. TREASURER REPORT

Treasurer Gross provided an explanation of the November 2019 financial report as provided by the bookkeeper. The Bridgeport DSSD ended the month of November 2019 with \$108,185 in assets, of which \$133,277 was cash spread across two bank accounts. Liabilities totaled \$43,012, most of which were Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses. Net Assets at the end of the month totaled \$50,674. The accrued revenue was \$273,519 – primarily City of Bridgeport tax payments. Expenses for the same period totaled \$276,096 – primarily related to streetscape maintenance and administration of the organization (\$213,654). Accrued expenses for the period exceeded revenue by \$2,577. Commissioner Goldberg made a motion to approve the November 2019 financial report. Mr. Morque seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

V. REPORT FROM THE CITY

Mr. Roach presented Vincent Mobilio, the new project manager taking on oversight of the Water Street Intermodal Transportation Center project. Mr. Mobilio shared brief updates on the status of the project, noting that a bid was expected to be sent out on Phase One improvements within the next few months.

Mr. Roach shared information about opportunities for sustainability project funding through the PSEG Environmental Task Force. He also took questions and comments about the recent increase in quality of life incidents in the Downtown.

VI. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

DSSD President Lauren Coakley Vincent reported out on the success of the Colorful Bridgeport mural fundraiser. Ms. Coakley Vincent noted that the closing reception for the Pop of Color vacant storefront art installation series would be held the following week. She asked the Commissioners for input on a letter to be sent to Mayor Ganim requesting a meeting with the DSSD.

Block by Block Regional Vice President Michael Curreri introduced himself to the board, and shared his plans for oversight of the district account. Mr. Curreri provided insight into the hiring process for the new operations manager, as well as preparations for the first day of the peak cleaning season in May. Councilmember Cruz asked about different types of medical and health trainings for the Ambassador team. Ms. Coakley Vincent noted that a training had been scheduled with the Bridgeport Police Department's Homeless Outreach coordinator had been scheduled for the end of the month.

VII. REPORTS OF STANDING & SPECIAL COMMITTEES

A. Chairman/Executive

Mr. Pires reported on the Executive Committee meeting that was held on Wednesday, January 8, 2020. The Committee discussed priority issues to raise when meeting with Council Members and in the letter requesting a meeting with Mayor Ganim. The Committee also set the agenda for the January board meeting. Mr. Pires announced that all Commissioners needed to sign the updated conflict of interest form before the next board meeting.

B. Finance, Budget, and Taxation

Mr. Pires reported on the Finance, Budget, and Taxation Committee meeting that was held on Wednesday, January 8. The Committee set the timeline to draft the fiscal year 2021 budget, as well reviewed current spending against the revised fiscal year 2020 budget.

C. Physical Conditions

Mr. Goldberg reported on the Physical Conditions Committee meeting that was held on Friday, December 27. The Committee reviewed the Ambassador performance report for the month. The Committee discussed the state of the sidewalks after Rizzo Electric's work on the traffic lights, beautifying Bank Street, and focusing on tree beds in the next peak season.

D. Public Safety

Commissioner Iassogna reported on the Public Safety and Security Committee meeting that was held on Friday, December 27, 2019. The Committee reviewed Downtown crime statistics shared by the Bridgeport Police Department. Lt. Johnson provided updates on recent quality of life crimes and available preventative programming options.

E. Special Events and Marketing

Mr. Morque reported on the Special Events and Marketing Committee meeting that was held on Tuesday, January 7, 2020. The Committee reviewed the progress and new content of the Colorful Bridgeport campaign, discussed the Color It In mural fundraiser, and reviewed the list of planned events for the 2020 calendar year.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Pastor raised the issue of food trucks parking directly in front of existing brick and mortar food businesses. Council Members Cruz and Taylor-Moye said they would look into the issue of permitting, ticketing, and enforcement.

Downtown business owner Vinnie Brand addressed the group and spoke about the need for better lighting in the district, both at the street level and in vacant buildings. He referenced other items he would like to see included in a Downtown action plan.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Pires called for the meeting to be adjourned at 4:57 p.m.