

**THE CWE BUSINESS
COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION**

April 15, 2025

The April meeting of the CWE Business Community Improvement District was called to order at 10:00 A.M. The meeting was held at the CID office at 412 B North Euclid Ave.

PRESENT: Commissioners: Kyle Bozoian, Jim Dwyer, Ken Fowler, Debra Hunter, Trip Straub; Kate Haheer, Executive Director, and Nina Emerson, Marketing and Communications Specialist for the CID; Amy Ruffner, new General Manager of The Chase Park Plaza Royal Sonesta

MINUTES:

Trip Straub called for a motion to approve the March 2025 meeting minutes. Kyle Bozoian moved to approve. Debra Hunter seconded. Minutes approved.

OTHER

Kate informed the Board that Paul Filla had retired. She introduced Amy Ruffner, the new General Manager of The Chase Park Plaza.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

Financial Review

Kate Haheer presented the March financials. She shared that the tax receipts from March were low, with \$64,341.47 collected in sales and use tax, and that revenue is now tracking behind the projected budget for the year. She noted that the businesses on McPherson opening later than planned, and additional closings are impacting tax revenue.

Financial Position

Kate shared the March Financial Position and noted that there was still over \$500,000 in reserves.

2025-26 Budget Review

Kate presented the proposed 2025-26 budget and stated that, given current budget information, she recommended leaving the projected revenue the same as the current fiscal year at one million dollars.

Kate stated that there were two areas in the proposed budget for additional savings, the shuttle line item and safety and security. She noted that the CID does not spend the full amount budgeted for safety due to lack of staffing, and suggested reevaluating the shuttle at the end of the year.

Trip suggested increasing the snow removal budget. He also suggested keeping the revenue at one million instead of increasing it.

Kate noted that she increased the programming budget from \$30,000 to \$45,000 due to an increase in smaller events like Gallery Nights, Valentine's Day, etc. She added that she is working with Frances Thompson on a potential fashion show at Maryland Plaza in September that would involve formal and casual wear businesses.

Kate stated that she would make the changes and final approval would be made at the May meeting.

Audit

Kate reminded the Board that the CID does a full audit every three years, and a full audit was planned for this year. She stated that she would have the proposal at the May meeting.

STREETSCAPE

Landscaping

Kate informed the Board that the new project manager left Brake Landscaping and Dave Turner has taken over as the project manager for the CWE. She noted that, despite the multiple transitions, Brake has done a good job. She said that an RFP had gone out for other bids and would be presented at the May meeting.

McPherson Project

Kate shared that she received one proposal from LanDesign for \$100,000. She reminded the group that she had not received other bids and that the project would be a cost share between the CID and the North SBD. She proposed moving forward with the bid.

Trip moved to approve the proposal. Ken Fowler seconded. Proposal approved.

Euclid Lot

Kate stated that the landscaping at the Euclid lot was complete and reminded the Board that the cost was shared with Pete Rothschild and came in under \$1,500.

Griffin Light

Kate explained that every few years the Griffin lights are repainted, and it is time to repaint. She said she received two proposals, for \$10,600 and \$11,200, and recommended moving ahead with the proposal for \$10,600.

Ken moved to approve the \$10,600 proposal. Jim seconded. Proposal approved.

MARKETING & EVENTS

Kate shared that there was rain during Back in Bloom, which had a negative impact, but that the Gallery Night event the following weekend was very successful.

Kate said that the Cocktail Party planning is in motion and that there had been a good meeting with potential vendors. She informed the Board that Luxco is sponsoring again this year.

Kate said that she is working on a new event that would be a margarita walk and stated that businesses are interested in participating.

Kate reminded the Board that Rose Day will take place on May 3. She shared that Rick Ruderer is retiring and is interested in potentially passing the event on to the CID.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES DWYER, SECRETARY