



CHURCH STREET MARKETPLACE

Church Street Marketplace District Commission Meeting Minutes Wednesday, July 17, 2024

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners: Mark Bouchett, Becky Holt, Linda Magoon, Sam Tolstoi, Romeo von Hermann, Chris Haessly (arrived late), Erik Monsen (arrived late), Sarah Beal (zoom), Cara Tobin (zoom)

Staff: Kara Alnasrawi – Executive Director, Stephanie Shohet – Administrative Assistant, Samantha McGinnis – Assistant Director, Andrew Bacher - Church Street Marketplace Coordinator, Aida Washburn - Project & Events Specialist, Jessica Dudley - Marketing Manager, Isa Paredes - Marketing Specialist

Public: Tor Dworshak, Deb Miller & Susan (no last name identified) on zoom

9:06 Meeting comes to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

- Motion to approve: Romeo. Second: Linda. Approval is unanimous.

APPROVE MINUTES

- Motion to approve: Linda. Second: Romeo. Approval is unanimous.

PUBLIC FORUM – GENERAL

- None

ELECTION OF OFFICERS - CHAIR, VICE-CHAIR, SECRETARY, TREASURER

a. PUBLIC FORUM FOR ITEM

b. VOTE NEEDED

- Linda nominates Mark Bouchett for Chair. Sarah seconds. Approval is unanimous.
- Linda nominates Becky Holt for Vice-Chair. Romeo seconds. Approval is unanimous.
- Sarah nominates Linda Magoon for Secretary. Becky seconds. Approval is unanimous.
- Linda nominates Sam Tolstoi for Treasurer. Romeo seconds. Approval is unanimous.

CHAIR'S REPORT

- Mark acknowledges his appreciation for board members serving on this commission.
- He would like to see Robert's rules of order continue to be followed.
- He announced that the past weekend was beautiful and busy on the Marketplace, giving him hope for the weeks ahead.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Sam reports on the FY24 budget that ended on June 30, 2024.

- He explains that although not all of the revenue has come in yet, we are in good shape at 94%.
- Kara reports that there are still expenses to come from that budget as well, and that we will update him again at the end of July.

Chris arrives at 9:18 am.

CRITERIUM BIKE RACE

a. PUBLIC FORUM FOR ITEM

- Tor Dworshak, director of the Criterium, speaks about the race.
- This 4th stage of the Green Mountain Stage Race has included the Marketplace for the last 20+ years, and it brings in lots of racers and fans for this Labor Day event.
- This year, due to construction, the path will need to be different.
- Marketplace and City staff present 2 options for bike race routes, depending on the state of construction projects on race day.
- Discussion follows about the exact routes, keeping the street to parade width, and how biking on the Marketplace makes this part of the race special.

Erik arrives 9:22 am.

b. VOTE NEEDED

- Linda makes the motion to accept staff recommendation, Sam seconds, and approval is unanimous.

CANCELANATION OF AUGUST MEETING

a. PUBLIC FORUM FOR ITEM

- Commission has often canceled the August meeting.
- There are no comments.

b. VOTE NEEDED

- Romeo makes a motion to cancel the August meeting. Linda seconds, and approval is unanimous.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Kara introduces new staff members: Aida Washburn, Event Coordinator and Isa Paredes, Marketing Coordinator.
- She tells about the City's successful Juneteenth event on June 15th, as well as Homeport's 40th anniversary event on July 13.
- She reminds Commission about Summer on the Marketplace events that are just beginning, including Music on the Bricks, Unplugged, and Imagination Station.
- She explains that we now have a community food cart on the street, sponsored by M & T Bank, in partnership with Micro Mobile Kitchen, Business & Workforce Development, and CVOEO.

- She updates commission on the progress of the brickwork, paid for by the \$1 million Leahy congressionally directed spending.
- Kara also gives updates on the Great Streets Main Street construction progress and the marketing campaign that will help direct customers to downtown businesses during the project.
- She reports that the FY25 budget passed unanimously.
- Kara gives updates on downtown safety and security, and says the Mayor has received the report from her community safety committee.
- Discussion follows about unsafe conditions in the Marketplace Garage, particularly at the entrance, and ideas about attracting attention to businesses during construction.
- Linda requests a regular report about new businesses on the street, and Kara brings commission up to date on the status of business openings and changes.
- Discussion follows about theft, police coverage, trespass notices, and how the media presents Burlington in an unfavorable light.

MEETING IS ADJOURNED