



WEST SEVENTH STREET / FORT ROAD FEDERATION

882 7th St W Suite 6, St Paul, MN 55102 • 651.298.5599 • fortroadfederation.org

D9 Fort Road Federation Board of Directors Meeting March 11, 2024

This meeting will be held at the West 7th/Fort Road Federation Office.

- I. Call to order – 7:04 pm** by Meg Duhr, Board President

- II. Introductions** (name and neighborhood) - [Digital Sign-In](#) for guests
 - A. Board Members Present**
 1. Meg Duhr, President
 2. Bill McMahon, 2nd Vice President
 3. Ruthanne Atkinson, Secretary
 4. Andrew Greenlee, Treasurer
 5. Paul Hardt, Area 1 Coordinator
 6. Maggie Rock, Area 2 Coordinator
 7. Kelsey Peterson, Area 2 Coordinator
 8. Tanya Beck, Area 3 Coordinator
 9. Sara Fleetham, Area 3 Coordinator
 10. Seth Smiglewski, Area 3 Coordinator
 - B. Community Members Present**
 1. Colman L
 2. Jane McClure
 - C. Staff Members Present**
 1. Julia McColley, Executive Director

- III. Community**
 - A. Public Comment/Open Floor**
 1. State of the City address - Julia will send link to the Board after the meeting.

- IV. Old Board Business**
 - A. Treasurer's Report** by Andrew Greenlee
 1. Program expense of \$1,000 and donation of \$1,000 - Transportation museum donated money for us to pay for a Justus Ramsey brochure. The way this looks on the balance sheet will be fixed next month. Expenses looking good so far.

Motion to accept the February financials by Maggie Rock
Seconded by Paul Hardt



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Motion passes.

B. Secretary's Report by Ruthanne Atkinson

1. Need to remove the land acknowledgement at the beginning
2. Update to say 2 streetcar routes, arterial bus rapid transit, and the current 54 bus route.

Motion to approve the February Board meeting minutes with edits on streetcar language and removing the land acknowledgement by Sara Fleetham

Seconded by Paul Hardt

Motion passes.

C. Community Outreach & Fundraising Committee Update by Maggie Rock

1. Neighborhood Profiles - still trying to track people down
2. Board Info Session - First one was at Wildflyer.
3. Spring cleanup on April 20 - will collaborate w/ Little Bohemia Neighborhood Association
4. Garden Tour - Scheduled for June
5. St. Paul Foundation Grant - submitted for operational expenses
6. Fundraising - Working on an idea for some sort of invitation event; more to come soon.

D. Transportation & Land Use Committee Update by Paul Hardt

1. Paul has joined a group of other T&LU Chairs from around the City. Revisioning I-94 may affect all. All have similar concerns around street maintenance and pedestrian safety.
2. No T&LU meeting in March due to a MNDOT public meeting for the mill & overlay project on W 7th. No big changes; some refining of the design.
3. Policy Advisory Committee made it very clear that they wanted reconstruction of W 7th for all 3 Riverview Corridor options (2 street car options and arterial bus rapid transit).
4. Julia met w/ a member of Planning and Economic Development who is very invested in interim pedestrian safety improvements.

E. Annual Meeting Update by Tanya Beck, Sara Fleetham, and Maggie Rock

1. April 23rd from 6-8 at Summit - \$5 beers!
2. Sean Kershaw from DPS is coming; Julia made handouts
3. Food! Pizza from Skinners, desserts from Brake Bread, some sort of food from Jerry's
4. Need help with children's area
5. Will debut a nomination form for the community award

F. Riverview Corridor Policy Advisory Committee Meeting Update by Meg Duhr



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1. Want to see more in-depth, strategic, and comprehensive public engagement and communication. Need to simplify and make it easier to understand for average people, ex: a one sheeter
2. Need to understand why people are against it to better understand and represent our community.
3. Questions:
 - a) How are they engaging w/ people who will engage w/ it the most (people who work at airport, MOA, etc)
 - b) Is there a connection to the Green Line?
 - c) How will it affect the cultural life of W 7th? Parades, events, etc.
 - d) If there's no parking, how will that affect accessibility? Can people stop on the street and let people out w/o stopping all traffic?
4. Economic development analysis - projections for our neighborhood are extremely high. Need to be aware that to hit growth projections, current buildings will need to be leveled and replaced.
5. Can we explore making W 7th an economic development area/cultural district with rules and guidelines for development?
6. Paul will take ideas back to CAC and will talk to Rebecca Noecker about economic development area idea.

V. New Board Business

A. Board Resignation

1. DJ Devan is resigning.

Motion to accept DJ's resignation by Sara Fleetham

Seconded by Paul Hardt

Motion passes.

B. Letter of Support for Traffic Calming/Pedestrian Improvements @ Jefferson & Osceola

1. There was another bad crash. This is an ongoing issue.
2. Could be an opportunity for the CIB grant
3. There are no crosswalks - this would be a good starting point. Community ultimately wants a roundabout.
4. There is no stop sign cadence like there are on other side streets and the street is very wide so the stop sign is slightly out of your line of sight.

Motion to write a letter in support of the Jefferson and Osceola neighbors for traffic calming there and other spots along Jefferson by Meg Duhr

Seconded by Kelsey Peterson

Motion passes.



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C. Capital Improvement Budget (CIB) Community Proposal Application

1. Grant for crime prevention through environmental design
2. Ideas
 - a) Traffic calming on Jefferson, Smith
 - b) Bathrooms at Victoria Park
 - c) Lighting on Shepherd
3. Will create a small committee to work on a proposal. Maggie, Kelsey, and Meg volunteered.

D. President's Report by Meg Duhr

1. Meeting next week w/ City about potential funding for Justus Ramsey House
2. Spoke with Rebecca Noecker about changes with Keg & Case and Rathskeller. Will explore a zoning change so it will remain a public space/community asset.

E. Executive Director's Report by Julia McColley

1. STAR grant applications open April 5th - encourage businesses to apply if they need capital improvements. Some district councils do small grants through STAR - they receive an amount and can award to businesses in their district. Julia will reach out for initial information.
2. W 7th Business Association - They've been on hiatus but have an executive meeting coming up. Will have informational meeting to see what interest there is - need new energy to start up again. Offered FRF to support/partner where it makes sense.
3. Discussed district council system w/ Council President Jalali. Hiring a district council coordinator at the City. Discussed potential for additional funding for DCs.
4. 19 of 27 plots are rented. Hoping to do more in terms of connecting the gardeners there.
5. Our group policy is ending. Gathering more quotes on insurance. City sets requirements for what we need to carry.

VI. Adjourn – 9:00 pm

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Sara Fleetham

Seconded by Andrew Greenelee

Motion passes.