



East Sprague Parking and Business Improvement Area (PBIA) Ratepayer Advisory Board Meeting

Date: January 18, 2023 Time: 12:00 to 1:30 PM

Meeting Minutes

Quorum met

Officers: Chris Venne - President (Chair), Amy Vega (Vice Chair), Dana Reinke – Secretary, Board Treasurer - Tresa Schmautz, Members: Sam Mace, City of Spokane Representative – Amanda Beck, Ratepayers: Jim Hanley, Bruce Gage, Bob Mauk, Darryl Reber, Melody Miethe, Jessie Cron, Doug Miller, ESBA Executive Director – LaVerne Biel

- President Chris Venne at 12:00p.
 - Introductions
- 12.21.22 Minutes (Dana/Jim) minutes approved as written
- Financial Reports – Tresa Schmautz
 - 2022 went well and within the budget (noting the depreciation for the year)
 - Additional funds came through from prior years due to the online portal and amnesty program that ended 10/31/22. Additional funds came in through from prior years. The unpaid invoices have been turned over to collections.
- City Staff - Amanda Beck –
 - There are a couple areas that could help the ratepayers and City Staff time when there is a conflict over residential or non/commercial properties. Amanda and Teri Stripes are developing a step-by-step process for the property owners to take the incentive to make those changes permanent (until the properties are developed or sold). Amanda sent the outline to LaVerne and the DSP for review and input. This will be added for discussion at future Board meeting. One idea is to add a code enforcement button onto our website for ratepayers to report neglected or problematic properties. This would notify Amanda, Teri, and LaVerne of the problem. City staff cannot report code enforcement issues. Reporting must be done by someone else.
 - ESBA's 2023 Management Contract is going before The Spokane City Council on Monday night at 6p for approval. There have been no concerns or issues reported.
- Neighborhood Beautification – Amy Vega/Bob Mauk

- Amy will check (once again) for the Garden Club Reimbursement for the plants. If we don't hear from them the cost has already been booked into the 2022 financial year.
- The grasses along Sprague 1900 block overextend to the sidewalk about 3 or 4 feet. The BID would like to know if they could be replaced. We also need to know the expected life cycle of the plants. What is the recommended plant and tree list for the City?
- Clean and Green – LaVerne Biel
 - We have been collecting garbage/trash/litter on a weekly basis. The BID pays Sumac to do that and the BID also pays for the dump fees. The BID is responsible for garbage/trash/litter dumped in the alleys and sidewalks. 311 can be called for City assistance to help with large trash areas.
 - We need to replace several of our garbage receptacles and purchase additional ones that were not included in the streetscape project (TIP) initially.
- Safety and Security – Darryl Reber/Chris Venne
 - The Madelia viaduct continues to have illegal campers. The Downtown Sit and Lie Ordinance does not apply to our District. The BID can consider asking a City Council Representative to participate. (Note: Michael Cathcart participated prior to the redistricting). It is something to consider. There was a question about abandoned vehicles that the residential neighborhood is experiencing. The Business District has escaped that so far.
 - We briefly talked about the difference between low barrier housing and no barrier housing and the problems that no barrier housing causes in the surrounding areas.
 - Property values around some of the Homeless areas are dropping and insurance premiums have been cancelled.
 - We discussed the Ventrac repair. It was also mentioned that the Ventrac driver needs to be mindful to apply ice melt heavily on the south side of Sprague. The ice build up is dangerous to pedestrians trying to navigate the sidewalks.
- District Branding and Marketing – Dana Reinke/Sam Mace
 - A group is gathering information and dates to reboot the “on the Ave” events.
 - Spring on the Ave – is tentatively scheduled for March 18th
 - Summer on the Ave – discussion
 - Fall of the Ave – discussion
 - Holiday on the Ave – discussion
 - We talked about coordinating the Flags with those events

- Amy asked about using the Flag poles for corporate/community focus events that could be privately funded. The estimated cost to install the flags is: \$550 per time. The cost to remove them: \$550 per time.
- We are tentatively looking at March 15th to install the flag brackets.
- Jim will get a count of the wood poles that are in our District (East and West) to add more flags which will give a greater visual impression of the area
- Administration – LaVerne Biel
 - A suggested Sumac schedule for 2023 will be drafted to clarify expectations

Meeting adjourned at 1:30p

DRAFT