



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

Date: February 15, 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, City of Spokane Representative – Amanda Beck,
Ratepayers: Jim Hanley, Darryl Reber, Jeff Rhodes, Barbara Woodward (ESBA President – non-voting Member), ESBA Executive Director – LaVerne Biel

- President Chris Venne at 12:00p.
 - Introductions
- 1.18.23 Minutes (Dana/Amy) approved as written
- Financial Reports – Tresa Schmautz
 - Financial income and expenses are operating as expected.
 - There was a question whether the BID was accumulating interest on the money held by the City of Spokane throughout the year. The answer was no.
 - The Board recommended that Tresa and LaVerne talk with George about establishing a business savings account for the BID.
- City Staff - Amanda Beck –
 - Amanda is working with the County Assessor’s office to get the information updated from residential to commercial or visa versa.
 - We discussed properties of concern and how to report it. Call 311. We will build a more comprehensive list to bring marginal properties into compliance consisting of several steps.
 - Amanda handed out a draft document that offers a process for property owners to move off of the BID assessment roles. This will be the same procedure for the Downtown BID.
 - The BID would need to keep track of the properties in question for progress and changes.
 - Please contact Amanda if you have any questions, recommendations, or concerns.
 - BID Board Recommendations:

- Send a letter introducing the BID – (goes out annually in the December mailing) welcoming them to the neighborhood
- Outline the services that we provide (outlined in the December letter)
- BID Expansion
 - South UDistrict is a possibility
- CSO Site behind Zips – Contact Terraine or who can we partner with to schedule an event at this site. LaVerne will contact Terraine again. Ask the South UDistrict if they would like to partner with us for an event. The CSO Site could replace the “My Place” park that WADOT removed. Dog Park, Food Trucks, Antique cars show, etc. There are lots of ideas on how to use this space.
- District Branding and Marketing – Dana Reinke
 - April 15th has been scheduled for “Spring on the Ave”.
 - August 26th – “Vintage the Ave” is in the works
 - Dana requested that the sidewalks be cleaned around the first of April.
 - Posters are being made
 - LaVerne is working on an online event map that outlines participating businesses and events
 - There will be pop-up shops
 - Seed packet giveaways
 - Scavenger hunt
 - Advertise on our facebook page and public websites
 - There has been good business participation so far
 - Considering closing side streets down or sections of Sprague. (Dana will work with Amanda on this)
 - Dana asked for additional funding for this event. \$1,100 and \$500 for printed materials is needed. (action item that needs follow-up)
 - We talked about coordinating the Flags with those events (reminders)
 - 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
 - Jeff Rhodes would like to order a flag to fly at his business (Zone 3)

Meeting adjourned at 1:30p