



East Sprague Parking and Business Improvement Area (PBIA)

Ratepayer Advisory Board Meeting

Date: June 17, 2026, Time: 12:00 to 1:30 PM

Ratepayer Meeting Minutes

Quorum was present

Officers: Chris Venne (President), Dana Reinke (Secretary), Tresa Schmautz (Treasurer), Board Members: Darryl Reber, Jim Hanley, Ratepayers; Guests: Cyndi Lane, Chanta Rosenstock, LaVerne Biel – BID Executive Director

President Chris Venne opened the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

May 20, 2026 minutes (Jim/Chris) were approved as written.

- Financial Reports – LaVerne Biel
 - Finances are on track and as expected.
 - No major issues or unexpected changes for April.
 - Ensure that the ~\$12,000 from the City is reflected in the numbers.
 - The June invoice has been submitted to the City.
 - It's impressive that 93% of the ratepayers have paid in 2026.
- CSO Tank Discussion – Chris Venne
 - Conduct a community survey for the park naming
 - Discussed sponsorships and fundraising opportunities
 - The City is clarifying who will be responsible for electricity costs if we move forward with the grant for lighting and lockable electrical pedestal.
- Flags – Dana Reinke
 - Darryl and Dana will gather information regarding restrictions and policies related to corporate sponsorships by blocks.
 - Dana gave a report that the lilac and holiday flags faded and shredded and needed replacement. Dana and Tom will review the flags and flag poles that we are currently using.
 - It was determined to review the pricing structure to pursue pricing for sponsorship
 - An idea was brought forward to emphasize and capture community interests into our flag program (i.e., mental health awareness, domestic violence awareness, cancer awareness, human trafficking, etc.) It would make it easier for the businesses, individuals, to rally around a cause. It would give our flag program a higher level of civic engagement.
 - Tom is working on replacing the flag poles. He is looking for a better, stronger solution.
- Events – Dana Reinke
 - Dana confirmed upcoming events as follows:

- Summer on the Ave – August 22, 2026 – finalizing the event to include pirates and mermaids. Dunk tank with sidewalk sales. Walking entertainment with District branding and a possible cornhole tournament.
 - Holiday on the Ave – December 5, 2026
 - The Longest Table – Dana will apply for the grant for \$2,500 for 150 people for community event.
 - The event committee is working on a marketing and outreach plan for both events, including sponsorship packages.
 - It was brought up that there is an event at Liberty Park on the same day and to coordinate cross-promotion opportunities for advertising efforts.
- Hanging Flowers – LaVerne Biel
 - It was brought up that color combination is a very colorful.
 - We have 7 remaining hanging flower baskets available.
- Clean & Green – Dana Reinke
 - There is nothing unusual going on currently.
 - We briefly talked about concerns and obligations regarding the SUD garbage maintenance, and monitoring needs.
- Safety and Security – Darryl Reber
 - All the viaducts have remained clear since our last meeting.
 - RVs located along 2nd Avenue still exist.
 - Law enforcement indicated that RV occupants who are complying with applicable laws and regulations will generally not be subject to enforcement action.
 - Discussed limitation on RV removal efforts, including the high cost of towing and impoundment, estimated at approximately \$2,000 per RV.,
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- ESBCA Non-Profit Report
 - Grant ideas
 - Continuing to look for grant ideas and funding opportunities.
- Walking Tour –
 - No report
- CSO Tank – Amanada Beck
 - No report.
 - LaVerne received an email stating that they hope to be done by the end of July.
- BID Expansion – Chris Venne
 - Discussed the potential for BID expansion and communicating the value proposition to property owners and businesses.
 - Emphasized the importance of demonstrating what stakeholders receive in return for their investment.
 - Jim Hanley stated that “Life is Better in the BID”
 - The BID focuses on beautification, cleanliness, safety, public art, community events, and district branding as key components of enhancing community pride.

The meeting adjourned at 1:24 p.m.