



Minutes of Tuesday September 26, 2023 – Special Meeting

Location: Zoom

Time: 6:30 PM

In Attendance:

Masum Hossain (Chair), Peter Kalamaris (Secretary/Treasurer), Olumide Olatoye, Suri Weinberg-Linsky, Omar Warsame, and Audrey Swartz (Coordinator)

Regrets:

George Kalamaris (Vice Chair), Sylvio Rodriguez, Councillor Nunziata Ward 5, York South-Weston

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order with quorum at 6:38 PM.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the results of the community benefits survey. The various project ideas listed were compiled from suggestions from the BIA, WVRA and WHS. Around 225 respondents their thoughts on the ideas (Strongly appealing, Appealing, Neither, Unappealing, Strongly Unappealing) The results sheet is ranked based on appeal.

Some ideas in Audrey's opinion aren't feasible or appropriate for community benefit funds; highlighted the ones she thought were most appropriate. Tomorrow will meet with the other organizations and Councillor to review the results. The findings are just a tool and data, doesn't mean we need to follow it.

Items that the BIA wanted are rated low; possibly because our projects are not done for residents but for business community and majority of respondents were residents. Highest rated of ours was improvement to the lighting, which we are also considering the remaining 300K section 37 monies.

Keeping in the spirit of the survey and idea to come together in consensus of projects, we may have to compromise on the projects approved. Some ideas seem to be more appropriate to be done by the City as they involve Parks & Rec. Interconnected green corridors was in our masterplan, and restaurant corridor is great but is something for developer to do. Our lighting can provide infrastructure for a night life, make it a priority and perhaps use section 37 for other projects.

Raise the question about similar projects having widely different responses ie. Art installation vs large art piece. Possible that the description including BIA might have swayed peoples vote. Audrey asked Jason to clarify if the survey could be taken by someone more than once, they are finding out. Responses should be taken with a grain of salt because many suggestions are not constructive or have already been done.

Masum had discussion with Audrey, and she suggested that security is important like putting security cameras. Also the LED community board can be good and also an income generator.

Omar left the meeting at 7:15pm.

Motion: To prioritize lighting, security cameras, gateways, and community sign.

Moved By: Peter Kalamaris **Seconded by:** Olumide Olatoye

Carried 09-26-01

Everyone on the meeting confirmed they will attend the meeting on the 27th, other board members should be encouraged to attend.

For the 300K, Gino wasn't specific on when we could get this money but said they want to have it allocated before the end of the year. Audrey working on collecting the quotes to make the proposal.

Lighting supplier explained that use of solar lights would also mean we'd need a backup generator because the current technology doesn't have storage, and large buildings may block the sun so LED was recommended. Audrey is meeting with the stresscrete supplier on Thursday, and we will discuss what can be done north of King. Find out if a thinner pole can be used for lighting, or just flower/banner, that would fit into ROW. Keep in mind the cost to run electrical will be high vs a non-electrified pole.

Getting a lighting audit of the area done might be helpful to build the case for more lighting.

We need to clarify who maintains the assets put in by developers. Use the 300K to upgrade our current poles, and community benefit in-kind to extend to expansion.

Masum provided a quick update the landlord is asking for additional \$100/month for 2024 lease. Masum is asking them to add an option to renew at same rent.

Meeting Adjournment: Masum called the meeting to a close at 7:38 PM.

Minutes Approved By:


Chair, Masum Hossain


Secretary/Vice-Chair,

Oct 11 / 2023
Date

Oct 12, 2023
Date