

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
SOUTH GRAND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
December 14, 2023**

ATTENDANCE

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Bay Tran, David Bailey, Matt Ghio, Lorenzo Andrade, Natasha Bahrami, JoJo Prapaisilapa, David McCreery, Rachel Presley, Kyla Pollard, and Max McCreery **ABSENT:** Tim Boyle
STAFF: Rachel Witt **GUEST:** Alderwoman Alisha Sonnier, Chelsea Méрта, and Rick Gratza

1. **Call to Order:** Ms. Bahrami called the meeting to order at 11:05am

2. **Minutes and Executive Director Report** Presley moved to approve the minutes for October 12, 2023, and the Executive Director's report. Bailey second the motions. The board approved the minutes and Executive Director's report.

3. **Treasurer's Report:** Ms. Witt reported the balance sheet as of November 30, 2023, is \$270,259.45. Sales Tax collected thus far \$54,861.07. Payment has not been received from two property owners totaling \$23324.06. Ghio moved to approve the treasurer's report. Presley seconded to motion. The board approved the treasurer's report.

4. **Administration**

A. **Audit:** Gratza presented to the board the FY23 audit. Documents attached. Findings: Witt will create internal controls for the South Grand Cultural Alliance as well as shred policy for documents.

B. **Amended budget:** Witt presented to the board the FY24 amended budget to include deferred revenue in the income that will be used for projects as well as the expenses for the projects in expenses. Witt added the cost for uplighting, landscape architect, engineering firm for drawings, wayfinding firm and PR consulting firm. Presley moved to approve the amended budget. Andrade seconded the motion. The board approved the amended budget. Witt will update the profit and loss statement for the next board meeting.

C. **Wayfinding Proposals:** Ghio moved to approve Arcturis proposal in the amount of \$5700. Bailey seconded the motion. The board approved hiring Arcturis to create wayfinding for the district. Witt will verify the proposal can have alternative locations besides on the light poles.

D. **Jasper Paul Update:** Witt presented Year to Date Analytics from Jasper Paul. The district only gained 342 new followers on Instagram and 75 on Facebook. The board was very disappointed with these numbers for the contract fee the district has been paying to assist with our PR. Witt will reach out to Jasper Paul Marketing Firm to discuss having a month-to-month contract instead of signing off for another year.

5. **Public Safety**

A. **Ritz Park Ordinance:** Witt provided an update on steps she has been taking to ensure the safety of the Ritz Park to visitors. Double sided lock was purchased and installed only allowing the businesses behind the trellis to enter and exit. She also met with the SLMPD, St. Louis IT as well as Will Electronics to reestablish the connection of the Ritz Park camera. A new camera and nodes were purchased and will arrive for installation shortly. The City of Saint Louis and the SLMPD-Real Time Command Center will have 24/7 access. Witt also placed dedicated switches for the electrical outlets. Alderwoman Velazquez attended the Greater STL Inc. focus group where concerns of the Ritz Park safety were addressed. The businesses brought up changing the curfew from 10pm to earlier. A miscommunication amongst the group and Alderwoman Velazquez preempted a board bill to be placed to change the curfew to 6pm until March 31 and 7pm after March 31. Any ordinance proposed for the South Grand CID is to be brought to the board of directors to discuss and vote. The board of directors unanimously by consent

moved for legislation to be pulled. The Board of Directors will have Witt form a committee to study public safety in the Ritz Park and invite stakeholders and community members to join.

6. Maintenance

A. SWT Design: Witt met with SWT Design via Zoom to discuss their findings from the soil testing. The PH levels were high but workable for natives. They proposed three layouts and Witt selected two that would be the most affordable. SWT Design will provide sample plantings that would go best based on sun and shade per rain garden and rainscaping locations.

8. Other Matters Appropriate to Come Before the Board

9. Adjournment There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Ghio
Secretary
South Grand CID