



**CSMC Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, June 16th, 2021**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Commissioners: Becky Holt, Linda Magoon, Jeff Nick, Lorre Tucker, Erik Monsen, Buddy Singh, and Mark Bouchette

Members of the Public: via Zoom

Staff: Kara Alnasrawi - Executive Director, Julia Chalmers - Marketing Coordinator, Samantha McGinnis – Events and Project Manager

City Council: Mark Barlow

**INTRODUCTIONS:**

- Kara shares Jed and Sarah have been reappointed to the commission
- Kara requests an addendum to the agenda to include a vote on e-bike racks
  - Motion: Linda, Second: Lorre. Unanimous approval.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** May 19, 2021

- Motion: Becky, Second: Buddy. Unanimously approved.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

- Kelly Devine – Kelly shares that the Mayor has decided to override the commission's vote to lower the DID funds in order to continue to fund 2-hour free parking. Kelly shares concern over the precedent this may set for future votes and shares her plan to hire an attorney to review the charter and discuss this with the Mayor.
  - Discussion ensues over the funding provided from DID and what is possible.

**MARK BARLOW INTRODUCTION:**

- Mark is the newest member to the City Council and introduces his background and goals
- Mark shares his love for the Marketplace and belief it is a core part of Burlington's identity and economic vitality
- Mark speaks to and asks questions about the DID taxes

**TREASURER'S REPORT:**

- Buddy shares that we are on track with the budget and should end the year in the black
- He praises Kara's fiscal management

**EXECUTIVE REPORT**

- All emergency orders have been lifted both state and municipal and the commission will begin meeting in person with an opportunity for the public to join virtually as well
  - Linda requests guidelines are set for unvaccinated guests
- The graffiti removal team has started full-time
- Jazz fest was a huge success and received positive feedback from shops and restaurants

- Kara is working with the Flynn to make sure a second stage is returned to the top block for next year's event
- The marathon is returning on October and will reroute to run twice on the Marketplace
- Kara assisted in setting up 2 pop up vaccine tents that were successful
- Food Network filming on the Marketplace was a success and the show will air in August
- Kara is working with the Police Dept to better address quality of life and ordinance issues on the Marketplace
- The budget process is moving smoothly
- The owners of Burlington Town Center are requesting for an abatement of their Marketplace fees which make up 10% of the Marketplace budget alone
  - There is no precedent for requesting an abatement of fees for vacant buildings
- Kara received a call from Leahy's office requesting more information on the grant proposal submitted by the Marketplace for funding to repair the bricks
- Kara updates the commission on the American Rescue Plan Act funding and her role to lead the distribution of these funds
  - Kara highlights that use of funds for the tourism industry which could include the downtown business district

#### **SAFETY SURVEY**

- Kara shares the results of the safety survey
  - 55% of people usually feel safe downtown
    - Only 6% always feels safe downtown
  - 42% of people feel unsafe downtown at night
  - 51% of people shared they or their employees have been a victim of crime or harassment downtown over the past 12 months
- Lorre shares she is not surprised by these results and feels more people coming downtown, better lighting, and trained professionals are needed to improve the safety on the Marketplace
- Councilor Barlow asks how the survey was distributed and would like to expand on the results that 51% of people shared they or their employees have been a victim of crime or harassment downtown over the past 12 months

#### **BOLT**

- BOLT, an electric bike company, would like to add new bike racks to the Marketplace
- They are set to automatically turn off when on the Marketplace
- Linda makes a motion to add the bike rack to the Marketplace, second by Lorre. Unanimous approval.

#### **CHAIRS REPORT**

- Jeff addresses his concerns with retail theft on the Marketplace
- Jeff suggests that the State's house speaker joins a future meeting to discuss what can be done to address this crime.

#### **ADJOURN**