



## August 9, 2023, Board Meeting

3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Hofbräuhaus

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### In attendance:

**SAIC Board:** Dan LaGuardia, Karen Perkowski, Alex Ragon, Antonin Robert, and Ashley Ross

**Staff:** Emily Dahnert and Mark Lammon

- I. Welcome & Overview of Meeting Layout Mark Lammon
- II. Welcome/Call Meeting to Order Karen Perkowski
- III. July Board Meeting Minutes Karen Perkowski
  - a. **There is not a quorum present for the SAIC board meeting, so the July board minutes cannot be approved.**
- IV. Financial Report Antonin Robert
  - a. Conflict of Interest Statement
    - i. The Conflict of Interest Statement is the standard form that is used every year. Any questions can be directed to Antonin Robert or Mark Lammon.
- V. Operations Report Dan LaGuardia/Antonin Robert
  - a. DCA Clean & Safe Services
    - i. The SAIC board discussed Downtown Cleveland Alliance (DCA) at a special board meeting on July 27, 2023. The board decided to continue contracting with DCA for the time being.
      1. The board still wants to keep a close eye on the services provided. However, conditions have improved with Karen Perkowski's advocacy and data and reporting have been restored. The SAIC also does not have many other options since DCA already owns the necessary maintenance equipment, and there are very few other vendors that offer similar programs. The SAIC could contract directly with Block by Block but would not have access to DCA's equipment.
    - ii. A question is raised about submitting work orders and documentation electronically. In Mark Lammon's experience, other cities can, but we cannot at this time. Some customers have forward-facing apps that can be integrated into work orders.
    - iii. There is approximately \$445,000 in the SAIC account right now. Next year, there will not be such a surplus since property owners were charged for two years of assessments at once during the COVID-19 pandemic.
      1. Dan LaGuardia raises the idea of researching equipment costs to form our own version of Block by Block. Antonin Robert thinks that this is a good idea but emphasizes the importance of maintenance costs and looking at costs long-term.
      2. Other options include investing in lighting, landscaping, murals, etc. The SAIC board can form a task force to come up with three or four ideas, have people research them, and then present back.

- iv. Karen Perkowski proposes forming focus groups as a potential action item. She wants to get more input from organizations like Distillata, Electrical Workers Local 28, and others who have demonstrated engagement through quarterly business meetings but not board meetings.
  1. The SAIC can add more board members at the annual meeting in December and send out a property owner satisfaction survey at the same time.

VI. Placemaking Report

Mark Lammon

- a. Mural Program Update
  - i. The goal is to complete one or two murals this year.
    1. The initial thought is to try to cluster them along St. Clair Ave. around East 24<sup>th</sup> Street. The SAIC can then have Tom Starinsky assess the entire Campus District for possible mural locations.
- b. Banner Program Update
  - i. The hardware has been ordered and artist submissions of artwork were reviewed by the Placemaking Committee.
    1. The goal is to have the banners hung along Superior Ave. and East 25<sup>th</sup> Street to connect Tower Press and Lake Affect Studios by the time of the Welcome Back to the Neighborhood event in September.
- c. Lighting
  - i. Mark Lammon met with a lighting vendor. They can provide a free assessment of the buildings along Superior Ave.
- d. Welcome Back to the Neighborhood Event
  - i. Dan LaGuardia shared a Google Drive of promotional materials with board members.
    1. The website is up and running, and the official flyer went up today.
    2. Lake Affect did its first ad buy today. They are purchasing \$2,000 in total ads this year, as opposed to only \$700 last year.
    3. Cleveland State University is engaging with the event this year.

VII. New Business and Announcements

Karen Perkowski

- a. Tom Yablonsky ran a Take a Hike program for the Superior Arts District over the summer.
  - i. The program engaged 15 or 20 people each week through June and July. Antonin Robert encourages folks to take part in the future. Karen Perkowski would be willing to host open houses at Tower Press during the tours.

VIII. Adjourn

Karen Perkowski

- a. **The meeting is adjourned.**

**Board packet includes:**

- July 27, 2023, SAIC Special Board Meeting Minutes
- SAIC Financial Statements
- May 2023 Clean and Safe Report
- June 2023 Clean and Safe Report
- July 18, 2023, Placemaking Committee Minutes
- SAIC Proposed Mural Locations
- Superior Block Party Call for Vendors
- Superior Block Party Promotional Opportunities